

Montreal Convention Update!

MONTREAL



MARSHA LUSTIGMAN

Librarians, scholars, authors and poets have sent in proposals from all over the world, and we have put together a full programme to both enlighten and enrich our members. But I can assure each and every one of you we will have time to do what is most important at conventions – schmoozing together!

I invite all of you to learn more about the cultural diversity/cultural mosaic of our beautiful and historic city by choosing from among the optional tours which our local team has organized. Information about times, transportation and tickets is available on your registration forms.

Historic Walking tour of Downtown and Old Montreal

Downtown/Centre-ville is the heart of Montréal and one of the most vibrant and cosmopolitan area of the metropolis. Follow your guide and you will discover the area, its history and evolution. We will also take you to Carré Dorchester and Place du Canada, a green oasis surrounded by skyscrapers such as the Edifice Sunlife Building. You will also explore the birthplace of Montréal, the Old Port. This interesting walking tour leads you through a maze of cobblestone streets and historic buildings including the Montreal Courthouse and the Marché Bonsecours.

- 2.5-hour guided walking tour
- From 1:00pm to 3:30pm
- Departure from the Hotel at 1:00 pm
- Cost: \$20

Language: English

Walking Tour of Historic Jewish Montreal

Discover the Jewish roots of Montreal on foot. A bus will pick you up at the hotel and take you to the Plateau Mont-Royal, an area that once housed Jewish delicatessens, grocery stores, synagogues. The early Jewish immigrants to Montreal concentrated in the narrow streets north of the Montreal harbour, particularly along Boulevard St-Laurent (The Main) This tour will walk you through the social, cultural, religious and literary heritage from Duluth, to Mont-Royal, and Esplanade to the Main. 2.5 hour bus and walking tour

- Departure from the Hotel at 1:00 pm
- Cost: \$25 (Limited spots available)

Language: English

International Yiddish Theatre Festival

Come join us for an evening of musical comedy on Monday June 20 at 8pm when the Yiddish Theater of Israel performs *The Megillah of Itzik Manger* at the Segal Center.

- Monday June 20 at 8pm at the Segal Center
- Cost: \$40 for ticket and return transportation to hotel
- For more information about the play go to: [International Yiddish Theatre Festival](#)

Visit the Grande Bibliothèque (National Library and Archives of Quebec)

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ) invites you to take a guided tour of the Grande Bibliothèque to appreciate the richness of its collections and better understand the on-site and remote services provided. Participants will also learn about the institution's history and its mission.

- 75-minute tour
- Departure from the Hotel at 1:00 pm
- Cost: \$6 (Public transit cost)

Language: English

Convention Information continues on page 12

AJL Online



Visit the AJL Web site at <http://www.jewishlibraries.org>.

To subscribe to Hasafran, AJL's electronic discussion list, send the message: "sub hasafran [your first and last name]" to: listproc@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu.

AJL is now on [Facebook](#). Become a fan.

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The AJL Newsletter (Irene Levin-Wixman z"l, founding editor) was published in print from 1979 to 2010 by the Association of Jewish Libraries to inform members about association activities and issues related to Judaica libraries. As of January 2011 it is split into two separate electronic publications – the AJL News and the AJL Reviews. Receipt of these publications is one of the benefits of membership. Annual dues are \$50 for individuals or institutions.

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AJL News
February/March 2011
Volume I, No. 1
ISSN forthcoming

Dear *AJL News* Readers,

This issue is our first digital issue of the newly created AJL News. It replaces the news section of the printed edition of the AJL Newsletter. Although the format has changed, the content has not; in this issue you will find all previous sections such as chapter chatter, 'have you heard,' and news about recent and future events. The main item is an interview with our colleague Linda Silver on the occasion of her newly published book *JPS Guide: Best Jewish Books for Children and Teens*. Other items include a preliminary program of the Montreal convention (including registration forms) and preliminary data from the AJL Survey done by RAS and SSC presidents.

I know that for some of you it would take some time to get used to the new format. Please don't hesitate to email me with any comments or suggestions at general-editor@jewishlibraries.org.

Enjoy!
Uri Kolodney

Dear AJL Colleagues, Exhibitors and Conference Attendees,

We invite you to the 46th Annual Convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries! The Montreal Committee has planned an incredibly rich program. The keynote speaker is noted Harvard professor and Yiddish scholar Ruth Wisse. Our sessions range from fundraising to how to manage a library without a budget; from Jewish books for tweens and teens to highlights from the Sydney Taylor book award; from teaching library skills using Judaic materials to Judaica classification schemes. And – as always, we will have our Awards dinner. There are sessions on archives, on digital collections and on the internet.

Montreal is well represented in the sessions, including a visit to the Montreal Jewish Community Campus to visit the Jewish Public Library and the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Center. Montreal authors are also well represented. There is an option to buy a ticket to attend a performance at the Montreal International Yiddish Theatre Festival.

The beautiful city of Montreal is an exciting backdrop to this thought-provoking opportunity to meet and network with old friends and new acquaintances. I hope that you will spend time in learning new ways to make your connection to the field of Judaic librarianship both personally and professionally satisfying.

On behalf of the entire Executive Board and Council of the Association of Jewish Libraries, I extend best wishes and appreciation to everyone who has worked so diligently to make this convention a success, and wish everyone an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

I look forward to seeing you in Montreal!

Sincerely,

Jim Rosenbloom

Jim Rosenbloom
President, Association of Jewish Libraries

RAS Spring News

RACHEL LEKET-MOR, RAS PRESIDENT

Shalom and welcome to the first electronic edition of AJL News!

I would like to thank all the members who took part in the AJL Survey and provided us with data upon which informed decisions are made. Thank you for taking your time to help AJL figure out current trends in Judaica libraries, thank you for leaving insightful comments, thank you for helping us lead the way to a better AJL. Thank you! A big thank-you is also due to the Survey Committee and SSC President Joyce Levine, with whom I had the honor and pleasure to work on the Survey project.

While the full report, including many figures and full text of all comments, is too long for this forum, it will be released soon and be made available via the member-only section of the AJL new website. In the meantime, I'd like to share some interesting details regarding the RAS Division.

The good news is that the education level and professional experience of RAS respondents are spectacular: 73% earned MLS or MLIS degree, and 60% hold another graduate degree. As far as acquaintance with Hebrew goes, 46% read the language fluently, 30% can read with some comprehension, and 20% can read some – only 4% of RAS respondents don't know any Hebrew. 23% have less than 10 years of professional experience in Jewish Studies librarianship, while 28% worked between 10-20 years in the field; however, the majority of respondents (41%) accumulated over 20 years of experience – and almost 30% of them are over 25 years in the profession.

The not-so-good news stems from the very same figures: 65.5% of RAS respondents are over 50 years old, and 39% are over 60. About 12% plan to retire within 3 years, while another 24% plan to do so in the next 4-10 years: this data suggests that 36% will leave the profession before 2021.

Drawing energetic members to our profession and to AJL activities is essential. Although participation rates in annual conventions in the last 5 years is pretty high among RAS respondents (65%), it is not enough. There are many other ways to participate: taking an active part in AJL chapters and national committees, being involved with AJL on the web (Facebook, Blog, podcast) and sharing your professional wisdom on the Wiki. Additional ideas for rejuvenating AJL and creating new leadership opportunities will be discussed at the 2011 Annual Convention, in a special session about leadership introduced by SSC President Joyce Levine and myself – we hope to see you there!

Another way to revive our aging association is to recruit new, younger members. I am happy to report that a new work group chaired by RAS secretary Michelle Chesner was established. This group is charged to develop curriculum for concentration studies in Judaica librarianship and to organize an active outreach program to MLIS students. Preliminary report from this group will be available at the annual convention.

With all my best wishes,
Rachel

SSC Spring News

JOYCE LEVINE, SSC PRESIDENT

Shalom! I've been swept up in the intricate workings of AJL since taking the position of SSC President, and I'd like to thank my SSC Vice-President Sara Ravid and Secretary Kathe Pinchuck, as well as my predecessor Marsha Lustigman for all their help. It's a pleasure working with them and with AJL President Jim Rosenbloom and VP Heidi Estrin. So much effort goes into running the organization and this was certainly evident at the Board and Council Midwinter meetings in New York in January.

Many exciting developments have been taking place within the SSC Division. The AJL survey has great potential in pointing us toward future AJL decisions. RAS President Rachel Leket-Mor and I will be discussing the implications of the survey in a workshop on leadership at the upcoming Montreal Convention. A quick summary of SSC respondents reveals that 62% work in synagogues, 40% in schools and 5% in community centers. (Yes, many work in more than one institution!) Age, salary, experience and educational levels also differ among the various branches of SSC. Detailed statistics and feedback from the survey will be available soon on the new website. Many thanks to all who participated in the survey, and to my wonderful Survey Co-chair Rachel Leket-Mor.

The Accreditation Committee, under the chairmanship of Amalia Warshenbrot and Leah Moskovits, has been busy collecting applications for both new and renewed library accreditations. The Sydney Taylor Book Awards Committee headed by Barbara Bietz, and the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Committee headed by Aileen Grossberg, did a wonderful job selecting this year's winners.

SSC has started an initiative to form relationships with and publicize AJL among other related organizations. This follows the lead of Suzi Dubin, Immediate Past President of AJL, who helped us achieve affiliation with the American Library Association. We plan to reach out to various synagogue movements and attend their conventions, demonstrating the value of Jewish libraries to those institutions and their leaders, including rabbis and administrators. We will also be making connections with educational and technology groups. This month, Suzi will represent us at the National Conference of Jewish Day Schools in Los Angeles. Each of us needs to stress the importance of the work we do and the continued support we obtain from AJL. If any of you have personal or professional relationships with relevant organizations, please let me know.

There will be so many interesting and relevant sessions at the upcoming Montreal Convention. I look forward to seeing many of you in person this June!

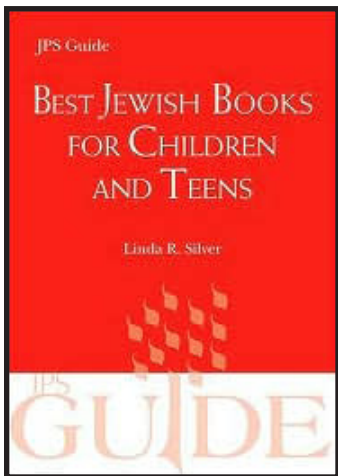
Best wishes,
Joyce Levine SSC-President@jewishlibraries.org

Breaking the Rule of Silence

Ellen Cole Interviews Linda Silver about her new book

Ellen: You have a new book hot off the presses! Tell us the story behind the book.

Linda: When Norm Finkelstein, an AJL colleague and a talented writer of Jewish non-fiction, retired from his day job as a school librarian and became the editor of The Jewish Publication Society's *Guide Series*, he convinced JPS that a guide to Jewish children's literature was necessary. He asked me to write it. After a slow start, that's what happened. Working with Norm, JPS's superlative copy editor, Janet Liss, JPS editor, Carol Huppung, and their publicity director, Laurie Schlesinger could not have been a better experience! *Voilà! JPS Guide: Best Jewish Books for Children and Teens.*¹



Ellen: What is the Rule of Silence?

Linda: The rule of only saying something nice about children's literature when so many books for children are – to put it nicely – not good. This is the reviewers' challenge – to be critical and not merely polite.

Ellen: How do you define 'best'?

Linda: In terms of Jewish books for children and teens, a "best" book has strong Jewish content, expressive and engaging writing, and imaginative, original artwork. It says something important about being Jewish and about being human to readers and says it in a way that speaks to a child's intellect, emotions, and spirit. A best book usually raises more questions than it answers, it is authentic in that it approaches its subject or theme honestly, and it is written with energy, passion, and conviction. A best book takes readers from where they were when they began the book to a different place by the time they finish it. On the other hand, a "best" book is never trite or commercially vulgar; it doesn't encourage materialism or narcissism, and rather than pandering to young readers' more infantile impulses, it helps them confront the challenges of growing up to become committed Jews.

1. Editor's note: see Kathe Pinchuck's review of this title in issue No.1 of *AJL Reviews*, February/March 2011.

Ellen: How did you choose the titles in your book?

Linda: By reading, reading, reading. If it had been a while since I read a book I was considering, I re-read it. Some of the research and teaching I had done previously on Jewish children's literature was helpful, especially the continuing education course I taught at an AJL convention and the yearly bibliographic essays written by Jewish children's literature specialists in the now-defunct *Jewish Book Annual*. I consulted bibliographies, notable book lists, websites as *The Jewish Valuesfinder* and the *Children's Literature Comprehensive Database*, and books about books including Bruno Bettelheim's *The Uses of Enchantment*, Sharon Elswit's *The Jewish Story Finder*, Penny Schine Gold's *Making the Bible Modern*, and Jonathan Sarna's *JPS: The Americanization of Jewish Culture, 1888-1988*. AJL colleagues with whom I consulted were generous with their time and suggestions. There is a dearth of writing about Jewish children's literature, so I hope my book makes a contribution to a field that still needs considerable exploration.

Ellen: Did you find "kidlit" blogs helpful?

Linda: Generally, no. With a few exceptions, for example Barbara Krasner's excellent *The Whole Megillah*, I find blogs to be almost as inane as the cutesy term "kidlit". It's fine for book lovers or writers to enthuse about books they love – that's their right – but this type of writing isn't very salient to an in-depth approach to the subject and some (most?) bloggers have only a superficial knowledge of Jewish children's literature. Call me elitist, but I'm not much interested in knowing what a blogger gushes is a good read – excuse the expression – or what books are superlative because a blogger's children like them. This fan's approach isn't one that I take; I don't think it does the thoughtful consideration of children's books by specialists any good at all.

Ellen: Did you find children's literature criticism written by academics helpful?

Linda: Not usually. A lot of writing by academics is burdened by misapplied theorizing. For example, is it really useful to "de-construct" the classic Babar stories to reveal Babar's communistic tendencies or, on the other hand, to expose his alliance with the ruling class? This and far sillier has been done! This sort of criticism has little relevance, in my opinion, to the more down-to-earth yet much more interesting questions about books and readers that librarians discuss all the time in book reviews, at meetings and conferences, over lunch with one another. The writing of June Cummins, an academic, is a refreshing exception to most so-called scholarly writing that I've read. It's informed by theory, but not overwhelmed by it and it addresses issues that illuminate and clarify books for young people.

Ellen: How can your book help librarians?

Linda: By helping them choose books to buy in order to

build a collection that is balanced among subjects, age levels, and institutional curricula. By using it in combination with reviews of new books in the *AJL Newsletter*² and *Jewish Book World*, librarians can develop collections, no matter what the size, that include books that every Jewish child should read – and will want to read – before growing up.

It's also useful as a guide to librarians' own reading. The more Jewish children's books they read, the more successful they will be in finding the right book at the right time for the right reason (your apt phrase, Ellen) to recommend to children, parents, and teachers. *Best Jewish Books for Children and Teens* is useful for program planning, story hours and book talks, for compiling bibliographies and for curriculum connections on particular topics that teachers need. The chapters are clearly labeled by subject; there are several indexes to help find books on a particular topic or for various age ranges. Many of the individual book annotations direct readers to other books on the same subject or by the same author. If in my own experience as a librarian I found that particular books were especially good for reading aloud or had some other special resonance with children, I mention that in the annotation.

Librarians' skills are enhanced, I believe, by knowing something about the history or context in which Jewish children's lit developed and they can learn some of it by reading the introductions to each chapter and by reading some of the works cited in the *Notes*. Personally, I love notes in books and often pursue them, adding to insights or knowledge that I've already gained from the book's content.

Ellen: Is Jewish children's literature on solid ground? If not, what does it lack?

Linda: I'm not sure that any literature written in book form is on solid ground. I suspect within a generation or two, most "books" will be read on electronic gizmos. To lovers of the physical book like me, that's not good news.

More important, however, is the content. So long as that's available, all is not lost! The content of Jewish children's literature has become more eclectic with more subjects other than holidays. It reflects a wider variety of Jewish experience, from the secular to the frum, and it is less obviously aimed at teaching a lesson. Some of it even aims at humor, a quality that's in short supply in Jewish children's books. That's all good.

However, a few recent trends are worrisome. One is the proliferation of illustrated books about the Holocaust aimed at young children. Most of these books trivialize the Holocaust as they aim to reach readers who not only have no historical background, but who do not need to know about the Holocaust in a period of their lives when innocence should be protected. Another is the substitution of national narrative for historical truth. This is often the case in books about Israel and the Palestinians and I deplore how some authors exploit children's lack of historical knowledge and political perspective to advance a point of view that is based more on distortion, delusion or wish-fulfillment than it is on truth, accuracy, or balance.

2. Editor's note: the defunct Newsletter is now published electronically as *AJL Reviews*.

Another thing is Jewish children's book awards. It's really important that members of the award committees have deep knowledge of the literature and a firm grasp of what makes an outstanding book. The reluctance of some of AJL's best children's book reviewers to volunteer for the Sydney Taylor Book Award committee means their expertise is not being shared. Being a mere fan of books is not enough of a qualification for an award committee member. Without critical expertise, judges can't be counted on to choose books that truly merit awards. This diminishes the stature of the award and over time will relegate Jewish children's literature to marginal status.

Ellen: How does co-editorship of the AJL Children's section inform your writing?

Linda: Co-editing the *Newsletter's Reviews for Children and Teens*, first with you and now with Anne Dublin, has been a wonderful experience. We aim for comprehensiveness in what we review so I've had to be ever alert to new Jewish or potentially Jewish books. We aim for well-written, professional quality reviews so I work constantly at refining my own writing skills as well as helping our volunteer reviewers refine theirs through good editing. It's been gratifying to see how reviewers have grown in insight, writing ability, versatility, and enthusiasm. I don't read all of the books that come to the Newsletter for review, but I read many of them. I do read *all* the reviews! I've gained knowledge of each year's crop of books and an overview of the entire field of Jewish publishing for kids that I probably wouldn't have gained in any other way.

Ellen: Can you name some of the people who have inspired you?

Linda: My library school teacher, Dorothy Broderick, who never met a controversy she didn't like. The Coordinator of Children's Services at Cuyahoga County Public Library, Margaret Skiff. Lillian Gerhardt when she was editor of *School Library Journal*. William Strunk and E. B. White, the authors of *The Elements of Style*, with its command: "Omit needless words." Marcia Posner, for her encouragement of my writing. You, Ellen, for as long as I've known you and admired your intelligence, your wit, your distinctive style. Anne Dublin for her inner strength, lucid writing, and good judgment. Andrea Rapp for her intelligence, ahavas Yisroel, and integrity. Rachel Kamin and Kathe Pinchuck, who are both accomplished and promising and give me hope that the future of AJL is in good hands. And always, my AJL-Greater Cleveland Chapter friends whose support has never wavered, especially my former co-worker and dear friend, Bonnie Shapiro, a true *eshes chayil*.

Ellen: Linda Silver's resume is outstanding, too long to fully recount here, as her insightful answers prove. I note high lights of her career since her MLS: 20 years of leadership offices of AJL national and her local Cleveland chapter; over 45 years as a Librarian, 20 of these as a Judaica specialist; and author of many publications especially two recent books: *The Jewish Values Finder* (Neal-Schuman) and the above noted *Best Jewish Books for Children and Teens* (JPS). December 22, 2010

3,548 Library Lovers Celebrate Jewish Library Snapshot Day

ETTA GOLD, PR CHAIR

The People of the Book really do love libraries! In November 2010, during Jewish Book Month, 30 Jewish libraries participated in Library Snapshot Day. The event, sponsored by the Association of Jewish Libraries, was created to let all types of Judaic libraries record what happens in a day in the life of a library. Across North America, libraries in synagogues, day schools, community centers and universities picked one day during the first two weeks of November to hold the event. Collectively, participating libraries served 3,548 patrons on Library Snapshot Day.

The Feedback

Every participating library reported overwhelmingly positive feedback from its community. Common themes included praise for the library as a quiet, peaceful environment in which to read and work, kudos for the hard work of librarians (many of whom, apparently, “rock”), and appreciation for the many print and digital resources provided. A patron at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School in Great Neck, NY said “The library is a great place to study and clear your head. I always feel relaxed and very welcomed when I come to the library, and I love the

librarian.” A sixth-grader at the Sheila Sporn Library at Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, CA said “Libraries are important because they let people who don’t have enough money get books to read.” A patron of the Brenner Library at Temple Emanuel in Denver, CO drives 150 miles from the mountains to make use of the facilities. Perhaps the general sentiments of library users are best summed up by a patron at the Feldman Library at Congregation B’nai Israel in Boca Raton, FL, who said “The library helps us to continue to be the People of the Book!”



The Activities

From Jewish hubs like Chicago, IL to smaller Jewish communities like Tulsa, OK, from sunny Miami, FL to chilly Montreal, Quebec, Jewish libraries held author visits, study groups, literary and computer quizzes, artist receptions, book discussions, book sales, scavenger hunts, craft projects, parenting programs, charity drives, and children’s story times. Eleven of the participating libraries shared their circulation statistics, revealing that at least 745 books were checked out during Library Snapshot Day.

The concept of Library Snapshot Day originated with the American Library Association, of which AJL is an affiliate. Please feel free to share this news on your site or via social networking.

The Snapshots

Library Snapshot Day captured the diversity of services offered by Jewish libraries and underscored the importance of libraries in Jewish life. “Libraries and librarians often fly under the radar in their communities,” said Association of Jewish Libraries Vice-President, Heidi Estrin. “We are thrilled that, on Library Snapshot Day, over three thousand people expressed their love of Jewish libraries. We hope that the event will encourage even more people to use these amazing resources year-round.”

A slide show of selected photographs submitted by participants may be viewed on AJL’s blog “People of the Books” at www.jewishlibraries.org/blog.

Chapter Chatter

TOBY ROSSNER

News from the Chapter Relations Committee

A note from your editor, Toby Rossner

On behalf of the Chapter Relations Committee, I want to thank Irene Seff, who has recently resigned as the Chapter Relations Co-chair. I was the chair of this committee when Irene formed the New York Westchester Chapter and Irene hosted me when I traveled to Westchester to meet the area librarians and educators who would become the chapter's charter members and to encourage their active participation. The moment that I met Irene I could tell that she was an efficient and dynamic leader who would surely become an AJL National leader. I recommended her for the position of Chapters Chair when I moved on. Rather than tackle the job single-handedly, Irene recruited a nation-wide working committee that included the Chapter representatives on AJL Council. We know that she will approach her new projects with the same enthusiasm, dedication and skill that she invested in AJL's Chapters.

Southeast Region

Submitted by Amalia Warshenbrot

The Southeast Regional Chapter's inaugural meeting of North and South Carolina library chapters will take place at Temple Beth Meyer in Raleigh on April 3, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Marc Bregman previously of HUC in Jerusalem, and husband of AJL-member Sara Friedman-Bregman will give a talk on the early history of Hebrew books. All local librarians are invited. For more information please contact Amalia Warshenbrot, AJL Southeast Regional Representative at amaliaima@att.net; (704) 365-3313. More information will be posted on Hasafran.

Atlanta Chapter

Submitted by Amalia Warshenbrot

Sheila Riegel, president of the Atlanta Chapter, welcomed the new chapter member from Hiller. She reported that the program at the Chapter's December meeting included discussion on these relevant topics:

- The best ways for school libraries to manage their collections to insure that students chose age-appropriate material, especially from the Holocaust collection.
- Suggestions on how to encourage middle school teachers to use the media center included attending chapter meetings, preparing bibliographies based on the school's curriculum, and hosting speakers on topics related to the curriculum.
- The pros and cons of relying exclusively on on-line periodicals.

Sheila notes that the Chapter is recruiting members from the local synagogue librarians. There is no membership fee.

Greater Cleveland Chapter

Submitted by Andrea Davidson

The Greater Cleveland Chapter enjoyed our annual Jewish Book Month Tea (a community-wide event) at Park

Synagogue East. The speaker was Dr. Abraham Socher, editor of the new Jewish Review of Books. Dr. Socher, an associate professor at Oberlin College, explained his goals for the Journal, how he obtained funding, and how he secures such excellent contributors.

As in other years, the chapter compiled lists of the year's best books of Jewish content for adults and for children and teens. This year the lists were produced in electronic format, which saved printing costs and enabled us to compile longer lists with more titles and more detailed annotations. Books included on the lists were displayed at the tea. The Cleveland Chapter's lists can be found at www.greaterclevelandjewishlibraries.wordpress.com. The next chapter meeting is in March.

Florida West Coast Chapter

Submitted by Sylvia Firschein

Our Chapter has a new member, The Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center, where a committee has been organizing a library. The members of Florida West Coast Chapter are saving our duplicates and other books for their collection. Our Chapter held a luncheon meeting at the Sun City Center Synagogue on January 27.

South Florida Chapter (SFAJL)

From the Minutes of the December 2010 Chapter Meeting

The December meeting of the South Florida Chapter, hosted by Sue Kirschner, was held at B'nai Torah Congregation, Boca Raton. Sue introduced the attending members to the history of her library.

Sue, Heidi, and Lorelei participated in AJL's Library Snapshot Day, and they discussed how the program went at their libraries. Heidi gave some background on the program* and handed out copies of the press release (which can also be found on the chapter's website at www.sfajl.org). Heidi encouraged everyone, whether they participated or not, to use the results to promote Jewish libraries to "the powers that be." (Please see the article on Library Snapshot Day on page 6 of this issue of *AJL News* for more details.)

Sue asked the attending members to discuss their publicity efforts.

- Her own example was how she used the library's tenth anniversary as a milestone to promote the library. The library committee was honored with an aliyah during services, an article on the library was published in the temple bulletin, and a commemorative plaque was hung, not in the library, but in the hallway where it would be visible to the entire congregation. She also noted that many classes meet in the library — another excellent way to increase visibility.
- Walter related that Anshei Shalom named their library after a major donor and held a special presentation in that person's honor at services. The librarians also sit in on meetings of Sisterhood, Men's Club, and other committees in order to promote the library.
- Lorelei said that at Dor Dorim the librarians display books on upcoming holidays or curriculum themes to help the teachers locate timely books for their curriculum. They also write book reviews for the temple bulletin.

- Rita said that the B'nai Torah library has established a Frequent Readers Program for adults, giving certificates to top readers. This friendly competition inspires lots of reading. They also promote the library to new members.
- Jerry Glantz reported that he is at the final stage of writing his novel, a thriller about a terrorist who learns that he's not Muslim after all. He will be happy to do presentations at AJL libraries once it's finished.

Sue asked about book sales.

- Walter's library has a table at the temple's holiday bazaar.
- Sue includes a used book sale table in the school's book fair.

They both agreed that holding a book sale at the same time as another large temple event brings more traffic and more shoppers. Heidi discussed the idea of setting up a low-key ongoing used book sale in a corner of the library or in some higher-traffic area like a lobby or office.

Southern California Chapter (AJLSC)

From the AJLSC Website

AJLSC held a program *Know from Whence You Came* on February 7 at the Los Angeles Family History Library. Speakers were Richard McBride, Director of the LAFHL; Barbara Algaze, Librarian for JGS-LA; and Sandy Malek, President, JGS-LA, who reviewed the major genealogical resources within the Los Angeles area, gave sources for locating records on your ancestors, and talked about how librarians can guide and assist others in genealogical searches.

Lisa Silverman* has published "It's Christmas Time for Chanukah Books" in *The Jewish Journal* (December 3-9, 2010, print edition, p. 39, and in the *Journal's* online edition.) In the article, she reviews two new Chanukah picture books and lists ten more Chanukah picture books (with annotations) – some take place in Israel, in the Antarctica, in Valley Forge.

*Lisa is Director of Sinai Temple Blumenthal Library in Los Angeles, and Children's Editor of *Jewish Book World Magazine*.

Long Island Chapter (LI-AJL)

Submitted by Wendy A. Marx, Chapter President

Fall highlights of the Long Island Chapter include two visits to synagogue libraries. One of them was to Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation, where we shared ideas as to get more traffic into our libraries. Taken from a cue from AJL, both meetings were entitled Library 102. Some suggestions included: keep the library open on Shabbat, introduce a photo contest for books read, display an interactive bulletin board, hold board meetings in the library, encourage rabbi/cantor/school principal schedule meetings in the library. To encourage reading and a life-long passion for books, a representative from the PJ Library program explained how this wonderful program works. PJ stand for Pajamas; for further information go to www.pjlibrary.org.

We are pleased to welcome new members, including Sara Ronen, who wrote *The Price of a Passport* (www.sararonen.com) and Tobi R. Innerfeld, Director of Congregational Learning at Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation, who shared how she set up her synagogue's children's library complete with a SMART Board.

We were unable to arrange for a chapter bus up to the Eric Carle Museum to see its exhibit *Monsters and Miracles: A Journey through Jewish Pictures Books*; only two of us managed to get there! What a treat! As a *lagniappe* (an unexpected or indirect benefit), we got to visit author Richard Michelson's (*Across the Alley, As Good as Anybody*) fabulous art gallery in nearby Northampton, Mass. (www.rmichelsongalleries.com)

We hope to run another bus trip to Amherst in the summer, including visiting the National Yiddish Book Center. Before then, we are busy planning our annual Public Librarian's program, where our members review books with Jewish values content that are suitable for public libraries.

Looking forward to Montreal!

San Antonio Chapter

Submitted by Marlene Reynolds, coordinator

San Antonio Chapter will meet for a Pot-Luck dinner and make plans for the New Year. We will also discuss any problems and share information.

New York Metropolitan Area (AJL-NYMA)

Submitted by Rita Lifton

NYMA's kickoff event for the academic year was the Fall Conference, organized by Roz Friedman, NYMA President, and held at the Center for Jewish History in New York City. The program opened with "Spinning Straw into Gold: A Twenty-First Century Library Transformation" (Sheila Beck and Devin McKay, Queensborough Community College). Queensborough Community College serves a population of over 12,000 students. When it became apparent that the two floor library was not adequately meeting student needs, the decision was made to create an environment conducive to both collaborative learning and individual study. Through a process of reallocation and redesign, a new space was created with a vibrant student centered atmosphere.

The second part of the conference, "Foundation to the Future: Construction of the North Instructional Building and Library at Bronx Community College" (David Koenigstein, Bronx Community College), was a discussion and presentation of the visual history of Bronx Community College, from its beginning as the University Heights campus of NYU and whose campus includes the landmarked Gould Memorial Library, up to the present day and the construction of the new Information Commons.

Optional tours of the Center's concurrent exhibits followed the presentation portion of the conference. These included "Looking Back: Jewish Life in Morocco" (American Sephardi Federation); "The Art of the Book: Illustration and Design" (Leo Baeck Institute); "Oyf di Khurves/On the Ruins: A Chaim Grade Memorial Exhibit" (YIVO); and "Yiddish Schools in Poland: Creating the Culture, Awakening the Spirit" (YIVO).

NYMA's Reference Workshop was held on January 18th at the New York Public Library. The Program: "Evaluating

the Usability of Digital Information" (Dr. David Walczyk, Pratt Institute); "Staying on the Cutting Edge: Jewish Studies Research in a Digital World" (Michelle Chesner, Columbia University); and "Future Developments in AJL" (Jim Rosenbloom).

Our Cataloging Workshop was held on February 9th, Temple Emanu-El, 5th Avenue @ 65th Street. The program is "RDA and the RDA Test: Hebraica Perspectives" (Dr. Joan Biella, Library of Congress); "Religion Genre/Form Revision Project" (Barbara Kemmis, Erica Treesh, American Theological Library Association).

Our School Workshop will be held on March 9th.

Judaica Librarians Group (Israel)

Submitted by Yaakov Aronson

Since the last report from November 2010, three additional issues of the Judaica Librarians' Group (Israel) *Alon* were published online. All issues can be accessed at <http://safranin.wordpress.com>. The editor is Rabbi Avishai Elboim, Director of the "Rambam Library" - the Torah Library of the Tel Aviv Library System. The *Alon* contains short articles about interesting items, problems, etc., encountered during the daily work of Judaica librarians. Librarians from abroad are cordially invited to submit articles appropriate to the publication in Hebrew or English. They should be sent to Rabbi Avishai Elboim at rambam1@gmail.com. Comments on published articles or suggestions are also welcomed at this email address.

The sixth issue includes articles in Hebrew about the appearance of the Ramban in a dream of the Hatam Sofer by Rabbi David Aronovsky, Director of the library at Yad haRav Herzog; A traveler's diary: Report on the AJL Convention in Seattle by Rachel Misrati, Archivist at the National Library of Israel; An item "found" as the result of a lecture presented at the 3rd Study Day of the Judaica Librarians' Group (Israel) by David Ben-Naim, Curator of the Rare Book and Manuscript Collection at Bar Ilan University.

Articles in the seventh issue deal with a definition of the term "information literacy"; examples of the importance of a wide knowledge of available sources, electronic and printed, in answering Judaica reference questions, and a critique of the Library of the University of Amsterdam's online site reproducing the works published by of Menashe ben Israel.

The eighth issue focuses on an exhibition of Hebrew books containing representations of angels held at Bar Ilan University's Wurzweiler Central Library. An opening ceremony included short presentations on the subject and two of them are reproduced in the *Alon*.

David Benayem, Rare Book and Manuscript Curator at Bar Ilan and the exhibit's curator, addressed the question "Why angels disappeared from the title pages of Hebrew books and lost their importance in Jewish theology". Prof. Meir Bar Ilan of the Bar Ilan Jewish History Department spoke about *The Graphic Representation of Angels*. A PowerPoint presentation of items in the exhibition is also included.

A third article by Nahum Zitter, Head of the library

at Yeshivat Kerem BeYavne (KBY) and a member of the Hebrew Cataloging Department at the National Library of Israel wrote a critique of the Internet site Hebrewbooks (www.hebrewbooks.org).

A study day about rare books was held by the Judaica Librarians' Group on November 3, 2010. Hosting the day was the National Library of Israel (NLI) in Jerusalem. Over 60 librarians from fifteen institutions attended and the program was chaired by Haim Levy of NLI, Chairman of the Judaica Librarians' Group.

Yitzhak Yudelov, retired director of the Institute for Hebrew Bibliography at NLI, spoke about *What Makes Incunabula an Incunabula*. He mentioned a few special characteristics of incunabula, differentiating them from later printed books: they have no title pages, but include colophons like manuscripts; the pages are not numbered; printers had a personal "relationships" with the works produced (an example given from a colophon was an apology by the printer for mistakes that crept into the work when he was sick and again when he was away at his daughter's wedding).

David Ben-Naim, Curator of the Rare Book and Manuscript Collection at Bar Ilan University talked about *How to Define a Rare Book*. A number of criteria were mentioned, an interesting one being that though when talking about rare books one usually thinks about something old, if only a few copies of a newer edition of a certain work exist it might be rare and the older edition not.

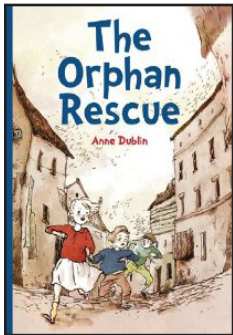
Dov haCohen of the Ben Zvi Institute discussed *Identifying Unknown Authors of Books in Ladino*. One familiar with the entire milieu of an era can find hints to the author's name or can correct previously incorrect information relating to an item. To demonstrate this, an example was drawn from a Ladino work published in the Ottoman Empire. The publisher was thought to be S. Salim. Preceding the "publisher's" name on the title page was a four letter abbreviation which, to those with an extensive knowledge of the period, would know meant approximately: Published during the reign of the Sultan Salim.

Closing the day was a panel discussion titled "Is a Rare Book Collection Important in the Era of Digitization". Panel members were David Ben Naim, Dov haCohen, Prof Elhanan Adler (who holds too many positions in his retirement to mention here) and Orly Simon, Director of Public Services at NLI. Orly Simon opened the discussion by raising the question: which digital "publications" does a library collect? Prof. Adler added the comment that all are "rare" because only one copy of each exists. The discussion raised issues such as the importance of variations in different copies of the same work which are not available from a digitized copy; unclear pages in the original which may be reconstructed by seeing it in the original; the question of watermarks, ruling, etc., all of which can't readily be discerned from a digitized copy. And of course there's the different feeling one gets from holding a printed book, which in itself might be an artistic creation, as opposed to seeing the material on a computer screen or even reading it from a computer generated copy.

On the business side, at a meeting of the group's Steering Committee a discussion was held about sponsoring a Rabbinic cataloging course for non-professional librarians who are in charge of the libraries at yeshivas, ulpanot, Beit Ya'akov schools, etc. At present a canvass of these institutions is being made to determine if there is sufficient demand to justify such a course.

Have you heard?

Anne Dublin's historical fiction book, *The Orphan Rescue*, has been named a finalist for the 2010 National Jewish Book Award for Children's and YA Literature.

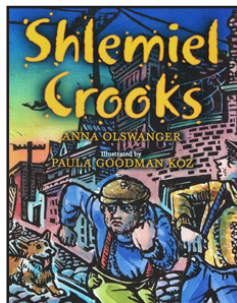


Anne Dublin has created a teacher's guide for her historical fiction book, *The Orphan Rescue* (Second Story Press, 2010). The guide contains a summary of the plot, questions for each chapter, extension activities (reading and writing, speaking, research, art, music, drama, cooking, and media literacy), and a short biography of the author. To see the guide, go to: http://secondstorypress.ca/system/files/17/original/The_Orphan_Rescue_Teacher_s_Guide.pdf

On Sunday, April 10, 2011, the Poppy Seed Players at the Kaufman Center in New York will present a world premiere of *Shlemiel Crooks*, a new musical based on two books by AJL member Anna Olswanger: *Shlemiel Crooks*, a modern-day Passover folk tale, (which AJL designated a Sydney Taylor Honor Book), and *Chicken Bone Man*, the story of a young blues pianist. In this modern-day Passover musical, the ghost of Pharaoh tries to sabotage Passover by stealing the wine from Reb Elias's kosher wine store. Narrated by Jerry, the family dog, and featuring a couple of dimwitted crooks named Burt and Ernie, this hilarious but warm-hearted new musical about the importance of family loyalty and the need to follow your dream features songs by Scott Ethier and Clay Zambo and a script by Sean Hartley and Bob Kolsby.

For information about the musical, please visit: <http://kaufman-center.org/merkin-concert-hall/event/poppy-seed-players-shlemiel-crooks>.

More information about the book at: ShlemielCrooks.com.



Constitutional changes suggested and approved at the January 2011 Council

Respectfully submitted by Joy Kingsolver, Parliamentarian

At Midwinter, January 2011, Council voted to shift beginning of the membership and fiscal years from July 1 to October 1. There were several reasons for this. As our treasurer, Sheryl Stahl, explains:

Every year, a huge chunk of our expenses occur during the two months before convention and continue for the month or two after convention. Since the convention is held at the end in June (or July), this makes it very difficult to close the books and prepare the budget. It would make much more sense to have the convention be more in the middle of the budget year so that all the income and expenses relating to it will be more easily "caught" in the budget."

The membership year and the fiscal year coincide to facilitate record-keeping and avoid confusion. In addition, Yossi Galron, membership chair, explains that many institutions work on an academic year and that many membership renewals are delayed until the school year has started.

Our treasurer also notes that this will have no effect on our tax year, which runs from June 1-May 31. The tax year is not connected to the fiscal year or the membership year, and is not specified in the AJL constitution and bylaws.

Below are the passages from the bylaws which contain proposed changes. Existing language has been crossed out and proposed language written in. A vote will take place at the General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, June 22, 2011. All members in good standing will be eligible to vote at this meeting.

AJL Bylaws

ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section 2. Members whose dues are unpaid on ~~November 1~~ February 1 of each year and who shall continue such delinquency for one month after notice of the same has been sent, shall be dropped from membership. Lapsed members may be reinstated upon payment of dues for the current year.

Section 3. Membership year of the Association shall be ~~July 1-June 30~~. October 1 - September 30.

Section 4. Dues remitted after ~~April 1~~ July 1 shall be applicable to the following year.

ARTICLE V - FISCAL POLICY

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall be ~~July 1-June 30~~. October 1 - September 1.



Scholarship Fund

Prepare another for a livelihood...

Our Talmud in the Tractate Kiddushin tells us that a father is obligated to teach his son a trade. It is incumbent upon each of us to help prepare a student for a profession and, at the same time, promote Judaica librarianship. We can do this by supporting our scholarship awards. **Remember, any amount is appreciated.**

The AJL Scholarship Fund awards two scholarships of \$1,000.00 each year to talented library science students who show an interest in pursuing a career in Judaica librarianship. For each gift, an acknowledgment card is sent to the appropriate person. It is a very meaningful way to recognize simchas, send donations in memory of a deceased, or make a donation for a speedy recovery. Send your contributions with the appropriate information. Please remember to include the address of the family of those honored or remembered in order that we can notify the appropriate individuals.

Please complete the form below and send it, along with your donation, to Sarah M. Barnard, Serials Librarian, Hebrew Union College-Klau Library, 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220.

A thank you goes to each and every donor!!

By Ellen Share

Recent Donations to the AJL Scholarship Fund July 14-Dec. 2010

From Sarah Barnard	In memory of Laurel Wolfson's mother. In memory of Irene, wife of Allan Satin.	From Bob and Joan Schoettler	In memory of Mr. Jerry Lavinski.
From Ellen Cole	In honor of Libby White's outstanding tenure as editor of AJL's newsletter. In honor of Linda Silver's vision and talented tenure as co-editor of reviews for children and teens. In honor of Nancy Sack for many years of dedication to the AJL Newsletter as editor of copy and layout.	From Ellen and Stuart Share	In memory of David Weisman. In honor of Barbara Widem for AJLCAC award. In honor of Carol B. Witt for her dedication as a librarian.
		From Yaffa Weisman	In memory of her parents Ginah and Simcha Weisman.
		From Laurel S. Wolfson	In memory of Yaffa Weisman's father.

AJL Scholarship Fund Donation Form

Name of Donor:

Address of Donor:

Donation made in honor/memory of:

Name of Person(s) to receive card:

Address of Person:

Notes:

Attache ta tuque!

Get ready! Fasten your seat belts! (Literally: Pin your tuque on your head because things are going to get crazy). Over the next few months the Montreal Convention committee will be helping to prepare you for your trip to Montreal. Here is the first installment prepared by Karen Biskin of the Jewish Public Library.



The Montréal bagel, in its chemical breakdown:

JOE SCHWARCZ. "The secret life of bagels: Why the Montreal variety still ranks as the best in the world." *The Gazette* 27 May 2001 (www.montrealgazette.com). This text also appears in Dr. Swarcz's book *That's the Way the Cookie Crumbles: 62 All-New Commentaries on the Fascinating Chemistry of Everyday Life*, Ecw Press, 2002 (9781550225204).

"Montreal is the centre of the bagel world, because here we do it right. For just 180 calories and virtually no fat, you get splendid flavour, unique texture and a dose of history. To make this gustatory and health marvel, you don't start with just any flour; you use flour rich in two proteins - glutenin and gliadin. These long, coiled, tangled molecules unfold and line up in long strands when kneaded with water. They also forge cross-links with each other, building a network of proteins known as gluten, which gives dough the elasticity it needs to rise as yeast generates carbon-dioxide gas.

A small amount of sugar is added to the dough to serve as food for the yeast, and a little egg for colour and flavour. The kneading technique is critical because it creates the air pockets into which the carbon dioxide will expand. The number of these

air cells will contribute greatly to the final texture. Furthermore, oxygen in the air, introduced during kneading, strengthens the gluten by promoting a chemical reaction that forms sulfur, which links between adjacent protein molecules.

What makes a bagel a bagel, however, is not the flour, nor the kneading. It is immersion of the hand-formed rings of dough in boiling water prior to baking. Starch molecules in flour are coiled together in tiny granules, but hot water penetrates the granules and causes them to swell. Then the swollen granules muscle their way into and strengthen the molecular scaffolding created by the gluten proteins. A classic, chewy bagel is the result.

Furthermore, the boiling water is not just any water - it has to have a little dissolved honey. That's because in the heat of the oven, the sugars in the honey combine with proteins in the dough to form the shiny brown crust prized by bagelites. Ah, the oven. You can't make a proper bagel without a wood-burning oven. The smoke adds to the flavour, and the burning wood provides just the right temperature. During baking, gluten coagulates and starch completes its gelatinization. If the temperature is too low, the dough will expand as the volume of trapped gases increases, but will then collapse because the gluten and starch have not set. If the oven is too hot, the setting takes place too soon and the dough does not gain enough volume.

It's a touchy business that needs an expert hand. A Montreal hand."



46th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES CONVENTION
Marriott Montréal Château Champlain
Montréal, Quebec, Canada
June 19-22, 2011
REGISTRATION FORM

Please print:

Name _____ Date _____

Home Address: (Street, City, St. Zip code) _____

Home e-mail _____ Home phone _____

Work Address: Institution _____
 (Street, City, St. Zip) _____

Work e-mail _____ Work phone _____

Before the convention contact me at _____ Home _____ Work _____

May we include the above information on the secure, members-only portion of the website? _____

Badge information: *Please print clearly exactly what you want on your badge*

Name _____

Institution _____

City _____ State/Province/Country _____

AJL Position _____ Chapter _____

Check the correct response.

Are you an AJL Member? Yes No Is this your first AJL Convention? Yes No

Division: RAS (Research, Archives & Special) SSC (Synagogue, School & Center)

Are you a member of a Chapter Yes No

Do you need Shabbat home hospitality? Yes No

Are you a registered student in a School of Library/Information Science? Yes No

Are you a presenter? Yes No Are you an exhibitor? Yes No

Please fill out the following sections that apply:

I. Full Registration

Fees include all sessions and glatt kosher meals from Sunday dinner through Wednesday breakfast with the exception of Monday night dinner. A kosher box lunch may be purchased for Wednesday lunch.

Forms postmarked: **before April 10** **after April 10** **Amount Due**

AJL Member/Spouse/Partner	\$495	\$540.00	\$
AJL Nonmember	\$560.00	\$585.00	\$

Do you require vegetarian meals? Yes No

Please inform us of any **serious** dietary restrictions or allergies _____

The Association of Jewish Libraries promotes Jewish literacy through enhancement of libraries and library resources and through leadership for the profession and practitioners of Judaica librarianship. The Association fosters access to information, learning, teaching and research relating to Jews, Judaism, the Jewish experience and Israel.

II. Per Diem Registration

Fees include sessions, breakfast and lunch on the day for which you are registered.

Circle: Monday or Tuesday @ \$250.00 each day. Per Diem Total \$ _____

III. Meals Only: For those who are not Full Registrants or per Diem registrants but wish to join us for certain meals. Please indicate the meals you will be attending.

Sunday Dinner.....	meal(s) @ \$115 _____
Monday Breakfast.....	meal(s) @ \$55 _____
Monday Lunch.....	meal(s) @ \$85 _____
Tuesday Breakfast.....	meal(s) @ \$55 _____
Tuesday Lunch.....	meal(s) @ \$85 _____
Tuesday Banquet.....	meal(s) @ \$115 _____
Wednesday Breakfast.....	meal(s) @ \$55 _____
* Wednesday's Kosher Box Lunch must be ordered by June 1	meal(s) @ \$50 _____

Total for a la carte meals \$ _____

Do you require vegetarian meals? _____ Yes _____ No.

Please inform us of any **serious** dietary restrictions. _____

IV. Optional Events

Monday June 20 - Yiddish Theatre Festival Play: *The Megillah of Yitzhak Manger* at the Segal Center. Come see the Yiddish Theater of Israel in this wonderful musical comedy at 8pm. Play tickets and return transportation to hotel. \$40

V. Optional Tours - Wednesday, June 22, Tours Depart at 1:00 from the hotel. **Circle the Tour**

Option A: Local Jewish History. Learn the history of the Montreal Jewish community in a guided walking tour. Bus from hotel to the old Jewish neighborhoods with AJL member Ron Finegold as your guide. 2.5 hours. Limited to 21 people. \$25

Option B: Walking Tour of Old Montreal/Vieux Montréal. Learn about the history of Montreal and Quebec with knowledgeable guides while wandering through the beautiful cobbled streets of Old Montreal. Walking from hotel. 2.5 hrs. \$20

Option C: Bibliothèque nationale du Québec/National library of Quebec. A 75-minute guided tour of Montreal's central library, which is also a depository of all Quebec publications and an archival center. By Metro from the hotel. \$6 for metro tickets.

VI. REGISTRATION SUMMARY

Please summarize and total your convention choices from sections I through VI.)

I. Full Convention Registration	\$ _____
II. Per Diem Registration	\$ _____
III. Meals Only	\$ _____
IV, Optional Event	\$ _____
V. Optional Tours	\$ _____
VI. Donation to AJL	\$ _____
TOTAL DUE	\$ _____

The Association of Jewish Libraries promotes Jewish literacy through enhancement of libraries and library resources and through leadership for the profession and practitioners of Judaica librarianship. The Association fosters access to information, learning, teaching and research relating to Jews, Judaism, the Jewish experience and Israel.

Make all checks payable to **Association of Jewish Libraries Convention 2011**. For Canadians mail your check along with your liability form and the completed registration form to **Chaya Goldman 5700 Wentworth Avenue Cote St. Luc, QC H4W2S1**.

All other members mail your check along with your liability form and the completed registration form to: **Ronda Rose 11257 Dona Lisa Drive Studio City, CA 91604**. **Keep a copy of this registration for your records.** Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

Refund requests must be submitted in a signed letter prior to May 20, 2011, and are subject to a \$100 cancellation fee. Refunds will be processed and mailed after July 15, 2011. Please send refund requests to Ronda Rose at the above address.

Liability Release for All Related Events and Excursions – Everyone must complete this form

I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, next of kin, personal representatives, and assigns, do hereby release and discharge the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL), 2011 Convention Committee, the officers of AJL, and AJL volunteers for any and all liability claims of damages, actions and cases of actions whatsoever, in any manner arising out of or relative to any loss, damage, or injury that may be sustained by the undersigned or any property of the undersigned while participating in the event. I hereby represent that I will observe all applicable rules and generally conduct myself in a safe and prudent manner.

I hereby consent to and permit emergency treatment in the event of injury or illness while participating in this event. I certify that I have read this waiver and release and understand its significance.

Signature (Release form 061001) _____ **Date** _____

To become a member of the Association of Jewish Libraries, see the rates on our website <http://www.jewishlibraries.org> please send **\$50 (US)** membership dues (\$30 for retirees and students) payable to AJL and send to: VP for Membership, P.O. Box 3816, Columbus, OH 43210-0816.

Do not send membership dues with this registration.

For registration information contact: Ronda Rose: rfrose@sbcglobal.net

For conference information contact: Chaya Goldman: goldraph@gmail.com

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Hotel reservations are not part of this registration form.

Please make your own reservations by calling the toll-free number below.

Marriott Montréal Château Champlain

1050 de la Gauchetiere West

Montréal, Quebec H3B 4C9 Canada

Telephone: 1-800-200-5909

FAX 1-514-878-6761

Website: www.marriottchateauchamplain.com

Reservations must be received by the Marriott before May 20, 2011. Convention rates are,

Single or double occupancy..... \$199.00 + tax
Triple occupancy..... \$229.00 + tax

Reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

CATERING

All cooked and served food at the convention will be catered Kosher by Tradition. Special dietary needs must be requested on your registration form as we will not be able to make changes or substitutions at the convention.

We will be collecting tzedakah for *Mazon* at the Banquet.

The Association of Jewish Libraries promotes Jewish literacy through enhancement of libraries and library resources and through leadership for the profession and practitioners of Judaica librarianship. The Association fosters access to information, learning, teaching and research relating to Jews, Judaism, the Jewish experience and Israel.

Preliminary Program for AJL Convention 2011

SUNDAY June 19

9am	Board Meeting (9 - 12) <i>Viger</i>	Hospitality Suite Open 8:30-3:30						
10am	Registration (10-5) <i>Foyer</i>							
12pm	Board & Council Meeting (12 - 3) <i>Viger</i>			Freshman Seminar (12-2:30) <i>Huronie B</i>				
3:00			SSC Meet & Greet <i>Hospitality Suite</i>		RAS Digitization (2:30 – 3:30) <i>Huronie B</i>		Exhibits set up <i>Salle de Bal</i>	
3:30			Newcomers <i>Hospitality Suite</i>		RAS Cataloging <i>Huronie B</i>			
4.30			Mentor Mingle <i>Huronie A</i>		OCLC webinar <i>David Whitehair</i> <i>Huronie B</i>		Exhibits open <i>Salle de Bal</i>	
6:00	Welcome Reception with Exhibitors <i>Salle de Bal</i>							
7:00	Keynote Speaker & Dinner <i>Salle de Bal</i>							
8:30-10:00	Chapter Relations <i>Salon 401</i>	Accreditation <i>Salon 402</i>	Library Science Certification <i>Huronie A</i>	STMA <i>Habitation</i>	STBA <i>Huronie B</i>	JL <i>Salon 403</i>	Conventions Outreach <i>Salon 404</i>	Exhibits <i>Salle de Bal</i>
9:00-12:00	Hospitality Suite Open							

MONDAY June 20

6:00 am	Morning Walk	6:45 Orthodox Minyan (need Torah) <i>Huronie A</i>		6:45 Egalitarian Minyan (need Torah) <i>Huronie B</i>		
7:00 am	Breakfast <i>Salle de Bal</i>					
8:00-1:00	EXHIBITS OPEN <i>Salle de Bal</i>					
<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Huronie AB</i>	<i>Viger C</i>		<i>Viger A</i>		<i>Viger B</i>
8.00	Sephardic Research Comes of Age <i>Schelly Talalay Dardashti</i> Sephardim of Quebec <i>David Bensoussan</i>	YIVO Encyclopaedia of Jews in Eastern Europe: from print to digital <i>Joyce Rappaport</i> Price Library of Judaica Digitization Project <i>Rebecca Jefferson</i> Digitization in the Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, Amsterdam <i>Rachel Boertjens</i>		SSC School Libraries Roundtable <i>Joyce Levine and Karen Ulric</i>		Synagogues/Centers Roundtables <i>Lisa Silverman</i>
9.30	Exclusive Exhibits Time <i>Salle de Bal</i>					
10.15 – 11.45am	Hasidim and the Internet <i>Stephen Lapidus</i> Halakhic Concerns of the Online Environment <i>David B. Levy</i>	Hip-Hop Music in Israeli Popular Culture <i>Daniel Scheide and Sharon Benamou</i> From the Sewers of Tel Aviv to the National Water Carrier <i>Zachary Baker & Anna M. Levia</i> Indoctrination and Imagination in Early Israeli Children's Literature: the case of HaSaMBaH <i>Yaffa Weisman</i>		Meet Montreal Jewish Writers <i>Seymour Bliker, Glen Rotchin, Robyn Sarah, David Solway, et. al</i>		What Makes a Book Jewish (or Not)? <i>Anna Levine, Leah Larson, Joni Sussman, Deborah Kertel, et. al</i>
12-1:00pm	LUNCH <i>Salle de Bal</i>					

Preliminary Program for AJL Convention 2011

MONDAY June 20, continued

1 – 1.30pm	Travel to Montreal Jewish Community Campus (via Metro)			
1:45- 3:15	The (Archival) Gloves Are Off! New Digital Platforms for Montreal Jewish History: Canadian Jewish Heritage Network <i>Janice Rosen/Shannon Hodge</i> Interactive Jewish Montreal Museum <i>Zev Moses</i> Jewish General Hospital Archives <i>Shiri Alon</i>	Mapping Memory: the JPL and the idea of 'public' <i>Eddie Paul</i> <i>Nes le-hitnosos bo/ A banner to be waved: The Lowy Collection at Library and Archives Canada</i> <i>Leah Cohen</i>	Rhythm, Rhyme and Storytime <i>JPL Library Staff (in the Children's Library)</i>	
3.30 – 5pm	<i>The Montreal Jewish Public Library & Children's Library</i>	<i>The Yiddish Theatre Archives at the Segal Center</i>	<i>The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Center</i>	<i>The Jewish Public Library Archives</i>
4 – 5pm	Montreal's Rabbis and their Community, 1917-1959 <i>Ira Robinson</i>	Fostering Leadership: The AJL Survey & Its Implications <i>Joyce Levine and Rachel Leket-Mor</i>		
5:00-6.30pm	JPL Reception and Award Presentations			
6:30-	Dinner Break /Free Time/Transportation back to hotel or other choices on your own			
8pm	Segal Center – Yiddish Theatre (optional event)			
10pm	Transportation back to hotel (As part of Yiddish Theatre option)			
7pm-12am	Hospitality Suite Open			

TUESDAY June 21

6 am	Morning Walk	6:45 Orthodox Minyan <i>Huronie A</i>	6:45 Egalitarian Minyan <i>Huronie B</i>	7:15 PR Committee <i>Viger B</i>	7:15 PDCE Committee <i>Viger C</i>
7 am	Breakfast <i>Salle de Bal</i>				
8:30-12	McGill Rare Books Library Tour: Saul Shapiro Collection of Anglo-American Judaica, Fishstein Collection of Yiddish Poetry/ McGill Libraries Espresso Print-on-demand Program (limited to 30 people-walking from hotel. Sign up at Registration) <i>Sonia Smith with library specialists</i>				
Rooms	<i>Viger A</i>	<i>Viger C</i>	<i>Huronie AB</i>	<i>Viger B</i>	
8.30-10am	Maskil, Kabbalist & Political Scientist: Judaica Classification Schemes <i>Vanessa Freedman</i> RDA & Hebraica <i>Joan Biella & Heidi Lerner</i>	Graphic Memory <i>Martin Lemelman</i> Judging a (Jewish) Book by its Cover <i>Steve Bergson</i>	Current Trends in Holocaust Research and Publications <i>Robert Rozett, Yad Vashem</i> Self-censorship: The Lorraine Beitler Collection of the Dreyfus Affair <i>David N. McKnight</i>	Sparks, Swords, and Siblings: Highlights from The Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee, Part One	
10-0:30am	Author Signings				
10.30am- 12pm	Modern Judaica Librarianship Meets Hebrew Books Research: A Match Made in Heaven? <i>Dr Emile G.L. Schrijver</i> Born Digital <i>Heidi Lerner</i>	Teaching Library Skills Using Judaic Materials <i>Suzi Dubin</i> Judaica Reference Sources <i>Haim Gottschalk</i>	Non-Mainstream Publications & Ephemera Roundtable <i>Gail Shirazi, Yossi Galron, Shulamith Berger, et. Al.</i>	Sparks, Swords, and Siblings: Highlights from The Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee, Part Two	
12-1.30pm	AWARDS LUNCH				

Preliminary Program for AJL Convention 2011

TUESDAY June 21, continued

1:45-3:15pm	Women in Comics <i>Steve Bergson</i> 'Hereville' Barry Deutsch Kalman at the Bat: A Webography of Jews in Baseball <i>Elliot Gertel</i>	LC Update	How to Manage a Library Without a Budget <i>Rita Saccal</i> Professional Development on No Dime <i>Sara Ravid</i>	Rare Books & Manuscripts at Bar Ilan University <i>Ya'akov Aronson</i> Destroying Jewish Books: the Rare Book Collection of Frank L. Herz the Leo Baeck Institute <i>Renate Evers</i>
3:15-3:45	Author Signings <i>Sal de Bal</i>			
3:45-5:15	Fundraising	Jewish Migration and the Archives: Records of the Ochberg Orphans <i>Veronica Belling</i> Ochberg Orphans Film	English-language Subject Headings at ha-Sifriyah ha-Le'umit <i>Elhanan Adler</i>	Beyond Pogroms & Matzo: Jewish books for Tweens & Teens in a Secular World <i>Authors Roundtable</i>
6-10pm	Reception & Awards Banquet			
10p -12am	Hospitality Suite Open			

WEDNESDAY June 22

6 am	Morning Walk	6:45 Orthodox Minyan <i>Huronie A</i>	6:45 Egalitarian Minyan <i>Huronie B</i>
7 am	Breakfast <i>Salle de Bal</i>		
8:45-10:15	SSC Divisional Meeting <i>Viger AB</i>	RAS Divisional Meeting <i>Viger C</i>	
10:15-12	General Membership Meeting <i>Viger ABC</i>		
12:15-2:15	Convention Wrap-Up <i>Etude Champlain</i>		
1:00-4:00	OPTIONAL TOURS		
	Walking tour of Old Montreal	Tour of Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec / Quebec National Library and Archives	Walking and Bus Tour of Jewish Montreal History