

Association of Jewish Libraries

NEWS

November/December 2015

Volume V, No.4

אחרי החגים

Dear AJL members,

With the High Holy Days behind us, and almost five months after our successful and stimulating Jubilee conference in Silver Spring, MD, it is time to inaugurate the next busy season, a.k.a. : "ahare ha-hagim" (אחרי החגים).

Growing up in Israel, one got initiated very quickly into the concept that once these sacred days are over, so are procrastination and postponement. No more excuses – back to work וגמרו and that's it.

Luckily for us, AJL is enriched by people who work on behalf of the Association all year round, making sure that continuity exists, new programs are created, and AJL moves on driven by the next good idea that would benefit you, the next level of transparency, and the next stage in our Strategic Plan.

So what have we accomplished for you and by you since June, you ask...?

Danielle Winter, our PR Chair, is starting a "Day in the Life" series on our blog to showcase YOU. We want to get to know you, and to show you off to other members as well as the patrons, library directors, and other community members who may read our blog.

Member Relations Chair Debbie Feder initiated and worked with our Past President, Heidi Estrin, on the virtual component of a new book discussion group, **AJL Reads**. We held 2 successful discussions, one at the last Conference, and a call-in session this past October 18th. And in the spirit of promoting reading of Jewish books on all levels, Heidi posted a first reading challenge with #Readukkah during Hanukkah, December 6-14, 2015 on our website at <http://jewishlibraries.org/blog.php>.

Heidi is constantly updating and adding content to our website, while Joyce Levine, our Publications Chair and Elena Gansler, our Proceedings Chair, completed posting the latest conference proceedings on line. And Rachel Leket-Mor is on the publishing production line as well, always compiling the next issue of *Judaica Librarianship*. The publication committee lead by Joyce Levine is also working on the revision of the book *How to organize a Jewish library*. It is a valuable guide for beginner synagogue, school or center volunteer or librarian. .

Jackie Ben-Efraim is guiding the Strategic Plan's progress, while Nancy Sack, our Secretary, Fred Isaac, our Development VP, and Amalia Warshenbrot, our VP/President Elect are working on creating the framework for fundraising.

Haim Gottschalk, our Education Chair, is working on planning and creating webinars that would cross cultivate skills of SSC members with those of our RAS member. It will be a welcome addition to the valuable conference sessions, especially to people who cannot attend.

Shoshanah Seidman is tirelessly working on our June 19-22, 2016 Conference in the charming Charleston, SC, and Jim Rosenbloom, our National Conference Chair is looking for a local chapter that will plan and support our 2017 Conference. The Call for Papers for 2016 is also published on our web site.

Rachail Kurtz chairs the accreditation committee. Receiving accreditation means that your library is

AJL Online



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

To subscribe to Hasafran, please see instructions at <http://lists.service.ohio-state.edu/mailman/listinfo/hasafran>

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

meeting the high standards set by AJL. Applications can be found on our website at <http://jewishlibraries.org/content.php?page=Accreditation>. SSC members who receive the certificate have a proof that the librarian is qualified and able to manage an up-to-date collection, and that the accredited library staff knows the institution's needs and achieve them.

Sheryl Stahl, our Membership VP, is diligently working on bringing you back into the fold. She tells me that renewals are trickling in, and currently just over 300 members renewed their financial commitment to AJL. If you haven't done so already, please consider doing so NOW. Our fiscal well-being depends on all of us. Without your generous support we will not be able to do any of it.

Much, much more is taking place as I am writing this, and I apologize to all the committee chairs and volunteers that were not mentioned this time, but I do want to end on a bitter-sweet note:

As some of you may know, Judy Cohn, a long-time member of AJL and a past President of AJLSC, passed away in May of this year. Judy bequeathed \$10,000 to AJL in her will, and this week we have received the money. We will recognize Judy's generosity and legacy at our next Conference. May her memory be a blessing to all of us.

Please feel free to contact us anytime at the addresses/phone number below, check in with us if you want to make it personal, but most of all – be generous with AJL with your time, your skills and your financial support. We just turned 51! How about making it to 120???

Wishing us all a year of joy and curiosity, personal and professional growth, and health.

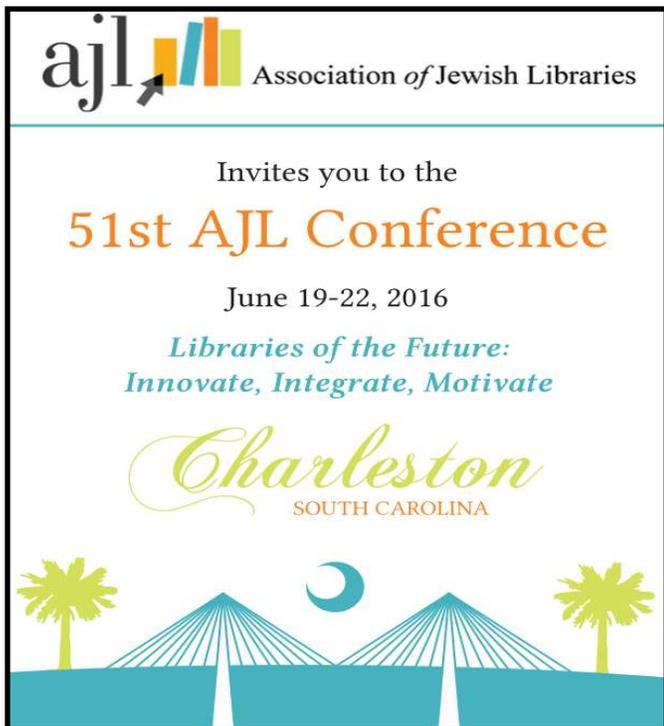
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Amalia Warshenbrot, VP/President Elect amaliaima@att.net - 704-365-3313

WELCOME TO THE 51ST ANNUAL AJL CONVENTION!



We are excited to invite you to beautiful Charleston, South Carolina for our Association of Jewish Libraries convention, to be held June 19-22, 2016. The city is rich both in general and Jewish history and culture. The modern, comfortable [Marriott hotel](#) is located in downtown Charleston, with easy access to many restaurants, shops, museums, and other venues. It will be the setting of a variety of interesting workshops, stimulating conversation, networking and camaraderie.



Our special focus this year is reflected in our conference title: *Libraries of the Future: Innovate, Integrate, Motivate*. Specifically, how can we learn for the future by promoting our libraries? After all, Jews are known as "The People of the Book" (in whatever format!). So whether you are from the RAS or the SSC group, each of your libraries offers extra value for your institution. Our professional learning and sharing will help you enlighten and promote your unique contributions and usefulness to your community, whether clergy, congregants, administrators, staff, or students. Led by experts in their field, the Charleston conference's workshops and networking will inspire you with visionary conversations, as well as practical ideas to take home with you.

Association of Jewish Libraries Charleston 2016 - Call for Papers

The Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) will hold its annual conference entitled “Libraries of the Future: Innovate, Integrate, Motivate” at the [Charleston Marriott](#) in Charleston, South Carolina from Sunday, June 19 to Wednesday, June 22, 2016. Librarians, archivists, scholars, educators, authors, and others will meet to share their interest in Judaica librarianship, Jewish history and culture, and related topics.

AJL is soliciting proposals for papers and presentations on all aspects of Judaica librarianship as it pertains to libraries, archives, museums, schools, synagogues, and related institutions. Past topics have included: collection management, programming, reader advisory services, special and rare collections, cataloging and classification, digital and electronic resources and emerging technologies. Current research topics related to Judaica studies and local Jewish history would also be of interest. The 2016 conference will introduce a professional development track devoted to practical aspects of librarianship. Submissions dealing with topics in organizational development, institutional administration, vendor relations, job retention, etc. are especially welcome.

Submissions should include the following:

Presenter’s name, address, affiliation, telephone and email contacts.

- Brief biography
- Title of proposed presentation
- Summary of proposal
- Specific technology or equipment requirements, if any

All submissions must be received by November 30, 2015. Please submit proposals by e-mail (PREFERRED) to: sseidman@northwestern.edu

or by mail to: Shoshanah Seidman, Northwestern University Library, 1970 Campus Dr.
Evanston, IL 60208

Proposals will be reviewed by the Program Planning Committee, which is composed of national and AJL members. Notification will be made in January 2016.

Note: An individual may give only one paper or presentation. If an individual submits more than one proposal, the committee will choose between them based on what topics best fit the conference program. Someone who presents a paper may participate in a second session as a moderator.

Keep Up to Date with Hasafran

Hasafran is the electronic discussion list of the Association of Jewish Libraries. It was created in 1991 to provide a forum for the discussion of Judaica librarianship. The list is moderated by Joseph (Yossi) Galron, Jewish studies librarian at The Ohio State University. The views expressed in the list are the opinions of the participants and not necessarily the views of the moderator or of AJL.

To subscribe to Hasafran, please see instructions at <https://lists.service.ohio-state.edu/mailman/listinfo/hasafran>

To post a message to Hasafran, send your message to: hasafran@lists.osu.edu

You will receive a confirmation message.

A keyword-searchable [archive](#) of Hasafran messages posted since June 12, 2003 is now available.

Chapter Chatter

JUDAICA LIBRARY NETWORK OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO (JLMNC)

Submitted by Joy Kingsolver

The Judaica Library Network of Metropolitan Chicago held its annual planning meeting July 19, 2015. Officers for the year were elected: Joy Kingsolver, President; Stephanie Gelb, Vice-president/President-elect; Kathy Bloch, Treasurer; Rena Citrin, Secretary. The chapter heard enthusiastic reports from several of our members who attended the AJL national convention in Silver Spring. The fall meeting was held November 15 at Am Shalom in Glencoe, Illinois. The program was a roundtable discussion on collection development. The chapter has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/JLMNC>.

LONG ISLAND CHAPTER (LIAJL)

Submitted by Wendy A. Marx, President

Our Long Island group is planning to have an author book talk/signing with a local author in November. Sara Ronen will discuss her book, *The Price of a Passport*. A list of what is new in Jewish books will also be on hand for our members, getting ready to get their Hanukkah gift buying in order.

We found that our members have formed friendships outside of our professional work. A Hanukkah lunch and learn is being organized for December.

Ontario Chapter

Submitted by Anne Dublin

The Ontario chapter of AJL supported a busy fall roster of programs. On Sun. October 25, 2015, AJL-O sponsored Anne Dublin's launch of her latest historical novel, *44 Hours or Strike!* On Sun. November 8, 2015, AJL-O also sponsored a program at the Terraces of Baycrest, Toronto. Dr. Paula Draper, historian, writer, and consultant who specializes in memory history, the Holocaust, and Canadian Jewish history, and Max Eisen, a Holocaust survivor, were the guest speakers on the topic, "Coming Back to Life: The Journey from Displaced Person to Canadian." On Wednesday, November 11, 2015, Anne Dublin gave a lecture on the topic "Uncertain Haven: Canada and Jewish Displaced Persons". The two latter presentations were part of the GTA (Greater Toronto Area)-wide Holocaust Education Week 2015 activities on the theme of "Liberation: Aftermath and Rebirth." All programs were very well attended and received.

SOUTH CALIFORNIA CHAPTER (AJLSC)

Submitted by Ellen Cole

We opened the new year with our festive dinner planning meeting at the home of our president. We scheduled programs and events for 2015-2016 and pared down the budget. Our first big program in October was a tour of Jewish artists at our city's major museum, LACMA, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Bonnie Stark, a museum docent and member of AJLSC led our Sunday afternoon tour.

The next big chapter project is preparing the two brochures for our chapter's school and synagogue libraries, for Los Angeles public libraries and for the general public in book stores to celebrate Jewish Book Month. One brochure features suggested titles for adults, the other children. These publications list books and DVD's as ideas for Hanukkah gifts and year round wonders. Once we are out in print, we will mount our brochures on line; watch for them.

Don't forget, AJLSC is on Facebook! Go to our [Facebook page](#) and "like" us. Visit our fabulous [AJLSC website](#) run by member Barbara Leff! We are current and interesting!

AJL SCHOLARSHIP

The Association of Jewish Libraries is pleased to announce a scholarship of \$1000 to a student enrolled or accepted in a graduate school of library and information science.

Prospective candidates should have knowledge of and interest in Jewish Studies, and demonstrate the potential, ability and intention of pursuing a career in Judaica Librarianship.

"In order to encourage students to train for, and enter, the field of Judaica librarianship, the Association of Jewish Libraries awards a scholarship to a student attending or planning to attend a graduate school of library and information science. Prospective candidates should have an interest in, and demonstrate a potential for, pursuing a career in Judaica librarianship."

Information about the scholarships and the application form are available on the [AJL website](#).

Scholarship Committee Report

SUBMITTED BY SARAH BARNARD, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER

Please donate to the AJL Scholarship Fund. Our donations have been down this fall. I think it is because so many organizations are competing for our donations. The fund gives up to two annual scholarships to Library and Information Studies students who wish to enter the field of Judaica Librarianship. With our greying membership, it is especially important to make efforts to attract younger librarians to our field and to our organization. Small or bigger donations help to fund these scholarships and, by extension, to help our profession as a whole. In addition, it is a good way to honor or memorialize someone since we will send a tribute card to the person of your choice.

If you know of anyone who might want to apply for a scholarship, have that person contact Tina Weiss, TWeiss@huc.edu or look at the AJL web page to get the application and other information.

You can donate on the [website](#) or by check. If it is on the website, be sure to fill in the information about the occasion and the donor. It will get to me and I will send the tribute card. If you send a check, be sure to add your name and address or email and the name, address and reason for the donation for the tribute card. I look forward to hearing from you. Send check donations to:

Sarah M. Barnard
5646 Hunters Lake
Cincinnati, OH 45249
Email: sarmarbar68@gmail.com

AJL Scholarship Donation Form

Name of Donor:

Address and email of Donor:

Donation made in honor/memory of:

Name of person(s) to receive card:

Address of person(s):

Notes:

Credits and Contact

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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 AJL 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. Please see the AJL website at <http://www.jewishlibraries.org> for membership rates.

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All links to online resources were checked for accuracy on November 24, 2015.

We cannot be responsible for broken links to those resources in the future.

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