

The Association of Jewish Libraries: A Chronicle

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Part I—Organizational Structure

Were we to know the impact of our thoughts and actions on the future, we would surely treat them with more respect. It is precisely because we do not, that we are, for the most part, artless in recording them. This journey through twenty-five years of materials—*Proceedings, Minutes, Bulletins, Newsletters*, interviews, and letters—in preparation for this history, confirms that we give equal space to inconsequential matters and to important conceptual decisions that shape our future. Many profound ideas are sloughed off or treated casually, while much time is spent on unimportant details. It also becomes apparent that good ideas are worth little until the right person comes along to activate them. Where good-will and a sense of mission are present, the right person eventually does come along, and progress is made. So it was, and so it ever shall be for the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL).

At this milestone, AJL's twenty-fifth anniversary, it is appropriate to pause and recapitulate the past quarter of a century—not only for nostalgia's sake, although that, too, is important—but also to acquaint those of us who joined AJL when it was already an established organization with its origins, and to allow us to share vicariously—as Herbert C. Zafren, the founder of AJL, described to me in his response to the survey mailed in January 1990 to former AJL presidents—in the heady excitement and sense of mission that energized its founders. It is time, too, to evaluate whether we have succeeded in fulfilling the goals and objectives stated in the organizing document of 1967; this evaluation is found in Part II of this chronicle. Before we begin, however, some background to the history.

The Parent Organizations

The Association of Jewish Libraries was created between 1965 and 1966 through the merger of two existing library associations, the Jewish Librarians Association

and the Jewish Library Association. On Sunday, July 4, 1965, the Executive Board of the Jewish Library Association (JLA) listened while Herbert Zafren, president of the Jewish Librarians Association (who was also a vice-president of the JLA) reported that he had accepted the presidency of the older organization (the Jewish Librarians Association), based on its members' acceptance of the idea of eventually merging with the JLA. It was decided to throw the question of merger open to the floor on Monday and to take a vote on Wednesday (*Minutes*, JLA Convention 1965, p. 10). The merger was approved in theory, and a committee of four was appointed to meet with a similar committee of the Jewish Librarians Association on August 24, 1965 to further explore the merger question [Zafren, 1965b; 1965c; 1965d]. The joint committee approved the merger, but it remained for the proposal to be submitted to a vote of the members of both organizations and for the votes to be returned and counted, so it may not have been until January 1966 that the merger was finalized.

In February 1966, Miriam Leikind wrote to Zafren congratulating him on the merger (Leikind, 1966), and he replied on February 7th, writing, "Don't ever lose sight of the fact that you have been one of the important movers in Jewish librarianship for many years and without your activity, there would be nothing to merge" (Zafren, 1966a). [Miriam Leikind, who was honored by AJL with its Life-Achievement Award, which entitles its holder to life-membership in AJL, died in December 1990.]

On February 21 and 22, 1966, the Interim Council met at Gratz College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania "to cement the merger" (*Minutes*, Interim Council, 1966). It was not until March 2, 1966 that the members of both organizations learned that they now constituted one organization and that its new name was "The Association of Jewish Libraries" (Zafren, 1966b).

The Jewish Librarians Association

Joseph Yenish describes the Jewish Librarians Association (JLA) within his article "The Association of Jewish Libraries," published in *Special Libraries* (Yenish, 1967). JLA was organized in New York City in October 1946 by Sophie Udin, a dynamic woman who was then librarian of the Zionist Archives and Library. The members of JLA were outstanding scholars and/or professional librarians at prestigious academic and communal institutions, mainly in New York City. Founding members included: Dr. Alexander Marx of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Dr. Joshua Bloch of the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, Harry J. Alderman of the American Jewish Committee Library, Rabbi Philip Goodman of the Jewish Book Council of America, Jacob Dienstag of Yeshiva University, Dr. I. Edward Kiev of the Jewish Institute of Religion, and Rabbi Isidore S. Meyer of the American Jewish Historical Society. They had organized because of a need for collegiality, for planning cooperative efforts such as bibliographies, union catalogs, and indexes. Indeed, according to Yenish's (1967) article, JLA produced two important works—a checklist of periodicals in two large New York City libraries (with intent to add the periodical holdings of other libraries) and a bibliography of Dr. Isaac Rivkind's writings in honor of his twenty-five years of service in the library of the Jewish Theological Seminary. Meeting several times a year at dinner and sponsoring lectures, the members of the Jewish Librarians Association became excited about further cooperative projects, but each continued to operate independently, for the most part. According to Joseph Yenish, the organization suffered further because of a succession of leaders' departures. Owing to this and other factors, the Association faltered. Its final and most enterprising reorganization was undertaken in 1965 by Association President Herbert Zafren of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, who had accepted the presidency on the condition that he would be em-

powered to approach the Jewish Library Association regarding the possibility of merger.

The Jewish Library Association

The Jewish Library Association had its antecedents in several local Jewish library associations, such as the Librarians of Jewish Institutions, founded in Cleveland, and the Jewish Library Association of Greater Philadelphia (and Southern New Jersey), founded in 1956. The associations were formed to enable such experienced professional librarians as Miriam Leikind, Mae Weine, and Mildred Kurland to guide the volunteers and non-professionals in Jewish libraries then being formed in the growing numbers of synagogues and Jewish community centers.

Failed Attempts at Forming a National Small Libraries Association—As Mae Weine relates to Judith Greenblatt (see "An Interview with Mae Weine," in this issue), the first attempt to form a national association of synagogue, school, and center libraries was tragi-comic. Rabbi Philip Goodman, then the Executive Director of the Jewish Book Council, called a meeting of interested librarians during a conference of Jewish educators in Atlantic City, incorrectly assuming that the educators would support the effort. Only four people came: Rabbi Goodman, Miriam Leikind, and Mae Weine were three out of the four; the fourth name is not mentioned.

Further exploration into the possibility of creating a national association of Judaica librarians occurred in 1961. According to Mae Weine:

The real credit for founding the national organization [of synagogue libraries] goes to Miriam Leikind. . . . In the summer of 1961, the American Library Association held its annual conference in Cleveland. The local Cleveland group, the Librarians of Jewish Institutions, invited guests attending the conference to discuss the feasibility of a national organization of Jewish librarians. The meeting was held at Miss Leikind's home on July 11, 1961.
(Weine, 1980, pp. 232-233)

Citing the work of the two local library organizations in training and counseling inexperienced non-professionals in Jewish libraries, and also the organizations' efforts at introducing Jewish books into the general as well as the Jewish community, the group decided it would be wise to set up a national association to continue with

this work. Accordingly, an announcement that a meeting for the purpose of forming a national Jewish library association was to be held in Atlantic City from May 30 through June 1, 1962 was sent to a number of libraries and Jewish institutions throughout the country. Miriam Leikind was chosen president pro-tem of the planned association. This time, the meeting was successful. Weine describes:

Some thirty enthusiastic, dedicated librarians came to the conference from places as far away as Oklahoma and Florida, Toronto and Montreal
(Weine, 1980, p. 233)

From its inception, the aim of the new association, which was named the Jewish Library Association, was service to its members. It embarked on a series of projects: it published a newsletter, the *Drop Box*—whose first editor was Elaine Williams—to which members could write about their problems and receive answers; it distributed free membership kits with classification schemes and basic bibliographies; it conducted surveys of synagogue and center libraries; and it established an annual Jewish children's book award.

Steps Leading to a Merger

Individual members of the Judaica research librarians' association were very much interested in the small Jewish library, and had done their best to be of help. Up until the formation of the Jewish Library Association, the research library association, i.e., the Jewish Librarians Association, had responded as fully as possible to letters from small libraries asking for help, as this excerpt from the *Minutes* of the March 27, 1962 meeting (issued in May), demonstrates:

. . . there was open discussion of the aims, function and future activities of the Association. Mr. Zafren spoke of the opportunities for the Association's service to smaller libraries, especially in distant communities throughout the United States. Mr. (Max) Celnik (Stern College), as secretary, reported that the Association receives many requests for advice and professional assistance from synagogue, school and community libraries, which he always answers.

(*Minutes*, Jewish Librarians Association, May 1962, p. 2)

Some members of the research librarians' organization were liaison members of the

small library organization. By 1963, at least two, Herbert C. Zafren and Joseph Yenish, had become sufficiently involved to hold elective office in the small library association. The official stationery of the Jewish Library Association shows Zafren as First Vice-President, and Joseph Yenish as Second Vice-President (letter from Leikind to Zafren, June, 1963). Zafren continued to be active in both organizations, suggesting as early as 1963 that the two should join in a cooperative effort (*Minutes*, Executive Board, Jewish Library Association, June 2, 1963, p. 1).

In 1965, when Zafren accepted the presidency of the Jewish Librarians Association, his platform was twofold: first, he wanted to reactivate the group, and second, he wanted to explore either a merger or some type of formalized relationship between the two groups. By then, the Jewish Library Association had been organized for three years. Accordingly, in February, 1965, President Zafren of the Jewish Librarians Association wrote to President Leikind of the Jewish Library Association and proposed that the Executive Board of the Jewish Library Association meet in Detroit at the time of the American Library Association (Zafren, 1965a). In that same letter, Zafren added:

I know that the younger group started primarily because the older group was inactive. But the younger group has turned out to be primarily a synagogue librarians' group and other Jewish librarians have either felt left out or have been reluctant to join. I think that both [groups] can benefit by closer relationships.
(Zafren, 1965a)

Replying to the news of Zafren's ascension to the presidency of the Jewish Librarians Association, Leikind had this to say:

Congratulations! . . . Had this happened a few years ago, we never would have organized, as I am certain that you would have found a place for us. If you remember, I spoke to Mr. [Abraham] Berger [Chief of the Jewish Division of The New York Public Library and the former President of the Jewish Librarians Association] in New York, but he didn't feel that the Librarians Association was the place for us By all means, I shall acquaint the board with the situation and we can discuss it fully in Detroit . . .
(Leikind, 1965)

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Jewish Library Association was held in Detroit

on July 4–7, 1965. Executive Board members present were: Miriam Leikind, Herbert Zafren, Mae Weine, Ethel Saferin, Joseph Yenish, Helen Levine, Maryland Estes, and Bertha Wember. Herbert Zafren was called upon to present his organization's proposal for merger. Although the proposal was accepted in theory, the Executive Board felt that the merger needed approval by the entire association. Eventually, the Board accepted the following proposal by Zafren: "Approval of a merger to be effected in the future, with the Executive Board empowered to make the final decision, at the time it deems right."

Ethel Saferin's motion that a committee be appointed to meet with representatives of the Jewish Librarians Association to discuss plans for the formation of a joint group was carried unanimously (*Minutes*, Jewish Library Association, 1965, p. 10). Herbert Zafren arranged for a meeting of the Merger Committee of the two associations to take place in Room 213 of the New York Public Library at 3:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 24th, and on the following day, August 25th.

Mae Weine writes about the first meeting of the two groups:

Accordingly, a meeting was called in New York in 1965, with representatives of both groups present. The discussion was animated and prolonged, but a merger agreement was eventually hammered out.

(Weine, 1980, p. 235)

The merger had to be approved by the members of both associations by mail ballot. This delicate task of persuasion was successfully accomplished by Herbert Zafren through a letter written by him to the members of both associations on August 31, 1965.

The Association of Jewish Libraries

It is amusing to read today about the suspicions harbored then by some members of each Division regarding the motives and prerogatives of the other: Would one Division seek to dominate the other? Would each get equal power on the Executive Board and Council? Which monies were to be kept in separate accounts, and which to be given to the new national association? Like many a married couple, AJL had problems to solve before it would meld and settle down to concentrate on its true concerns: the support and advancement of Judaica libraries and librarians. Integration of the two Divisions into a truly national association came gradually (see section, "Building a National Organization," below).

Fortunately for AJL, Herbert Zafren was at the helm during those crucial days to counsel with patience, trust, and good humor. A letter he sent to the members of both organizations, dated March 2, 1966, reported that both memberships had voted overwhelmingly in favor of the merger, on the new organization's name, its first convention (June 19–22, 1966), and other details. He closed with, "There is excitement in the air and much to be done. Our desire and enthusiasm will overcome inevitable obstacles, as we make progress in Jewish librarianship."

By June 19, 1966, at its first annual convention, in addition to determining the dues structure, who was to sit on the Executive Board and on Council, and who was to be responsible for what, a committee consisting of Jacob Dienstag, Ethel Saferin, Helen Levine, Dorothy Schroeder, and David Elazar, under the chairmanship of Joseph Yenish, had formulated the purposes and aims of the Association:

1. To promote and improve library services and professional standards in all Jewish libraries.
2. To serve as a center of dissemination of Jewish library information and guidance.
3. To encourage the establishment of Jewish libraries.
4. To promote the publication of literature which will be of assistance to Jewish librarianship.
5. To encourage people to enter the field of [Jewish] librarianship.

The committee's report was accepted as reported (*Proceedings*, 1966, p. 11).

Later, these aims were modified into a "Goals" statement in the Association's first Constitution in 1973. High ideals and good intentions are essential, but to run an organization, one needs structure and rules—in other words, a constitution.

The AJL Constitution

At the Association's first convention in 1966, the organization was in such a formative state that no binding rules were made. Attempts at writing a constitution were postponed until early in 1967, when a subcommittee of the Membership Committee, consisting of Bess Shavzin and Herbert Zafren, worked on a draft constitution. They hoped to have the document ready by the May 1967 convention.

Recommendations regarding the constitution were made by the Executive Board.

Rabbi Kiev suggested that the phrase "and Judaica collections" be added to Goal 1: "To promote librarianship and improve library service and professional standards in the field of Judaica." Ethel Saferin suggested that the goal "To serve as liaison between the Judaica and general library community" be added. Although the *Proceedings* (1967, p. 7) report that her suggestion was turned down, it was adopted at a later date, as it is now part of the goals statement in the AJL Constitution. Zafren thought that the constitution did not define the Divisions adequately, and that it gave too much authority to the Council. He felt that the Executive Committee should have more authority. It was also recommended that the constitution state that "officers be elected for a two-year term."

Around that time, the American Library Association (ALA) was approached regarding AJL affiliation. ALA officers replied that first they must see AJL's constitution and "goals statement." They then requested certain changes—changes that were not identified in the AJL *Proceedings* (1966, p. 10) which document this episode. The *Proceedings* do report that changes were made to comply with the ALA request. The affiliation never came to pass, however.

At the 1968 convention, Zafren, still chairman of the Constitution Committee, reported that the preamble had to be changed for tax exemption purposes. The *Proceedings* for that year report that the new preamble was adopted, but they do not include the changed document. During the general meeting, a discussion was held on the merit of having divisional constitutions. It was decided by the membership to continue having one constitution only (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 15).

Amendments to the Constitution

The AJL constitution was amended at the 1972 convention to make changes in dues more flexible. The following motion was passed: "The constitution be amended to allow rates of dues to be determined by vote of the Association" (*Proceedings*, 1972, p. 14).

President Anne Kirshenbaum reported to the 1973 convention that amendments to the constitution had been discussed at the Mid-Winter Council meeting [1972]. One that was still in dispute dealt with the provision that only members in good standing should be eligible to be nominated for office. Opponents had argued that one was either a member or not a member and that, therefore, this qualification

was redundant, but Ethel Saferin replied that in previous years, candidates whose dues payments were several years in arrears had been nominated. Evidently, members who had not paid their dues were kept on the rolls longer than they are now.

Leonard Gold questioned the continued usefulness of the R&S Division. He wondered whether the constitution could be worded in such a way that divisions could be established or discontinued as the need arose. Another topic broached was the process of proposing and ratifying amendments. One suggestion was to have amendments proposed by the Executive Board, then adopted at the next convention, and afterwards ratified by mail vote to give those not in attendance at convention a chance to participate. The advantages and disadvantages of speeding up or prolonging the amendment process were also discussed. Finally, all the proposed changes to the constitution that had been accepted by the Council at Mid-Winter were approved for the second time, in accordance with the constitutional requirements at that time, and thus the way was cleared for final ratification of the amended constitution by the plenary annual business meeting at the conclusion of the 1973 convention (*Proceedings*, 1973, p. 11). The full text is in Appendix A.

The original list of purposes and aims, as presented at the first AJL convention in 1966, was modified in the 1973 and 1983 versions of the AJL Constitution.

The latter revision began in 1982, when President Barbara Leff requested that Sylvia Eisen chair a Constitutional Revision Committee. There had been several changes in the Association since ratification of the original document, and adjustments were needed to accommodate them. At the 1982 Mid-Winter Council meeting, considerable time was spent on possible constitutional changes and their ramifications. Because the changes suggested were significant and affected each part of the constitution, Council voted as follows:

The Constitution Revision Committee is given the authority to re-write the entire AJL Constitution, and Council agrees to make null and void the existing constitution which will be in effect until such time as the new constitution is ratified.

(Leff, 1982, p. 8)

A working draft of the new constitution was presented by Eisen at the June 23, 1982

Council meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Changes in the constitution were discussed at the annual general membership meeting. The constitution appeared, for members to vote on, in the February-March 1983 issue of the *AJL Newsletter* (pp. 19–20), and it was read and accepted at the June 19, 1983 Council meeting in Los Angeles, California. Sylvia Eisen and her committee were thanked for their work. At the general membership meeting on June 22, 1983, in Long Beach, California, President Philip Miller announced that the new constitution had been approved by the Council (*Minutes*, 1983, p. 2). A notable change was the upgrading of Membership Chairman to Membership Vice-President. There was also a change in the handling of membership records—it was decided that anyone who had not paid by March was first to be advised, and then, if that person's dues were not promptly paid, he or she would be dropped from the membership list.

Eisen advised the Council to use the *Bylaws* to institute changes whenever possible, since they do not demand as long or as complicated a ratification procedure as changes to the constitution. Article IX of the constitution states: "Bylaws may be adopted, amended or rescinded by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting of the Association, providing the entire membership has received ten days prior written notice," whereas amendments to the constitution must be proposed by any member "who presents a petition signed by not fewer than seven members." A proposed amendment must then be approved by a majority of members of the Council present and voting, followed by ratification of the membership either by a majority of the voters, voting by mail or at a general meeting of the Association (Article X—Amendments). This process could take more than one year.

A new amendment to the constitution, suggested in June, 1986 (*Minutes*, 1986, p. 4), to allow for the upgrading of Chairman of Publications to Vice-President-in-Charge-of-Publications was written by Eisen. The change was approved and adopted in 1987 (*Minutes*, June 21, 1987, p. 1). The constitution and by-laws were scheduled to be reviewed in 1990–1991 to determine whether further changes are needed (*Minutes*, 1990, p. 3).

Membership

Once the two organizations had been merged into one, the Association's priority was to enroll additional members, but en-

rollment of new members was unequal between the two Divisions. Fewer new R&S members enrolled than did SSC members. In addition to the obvious fact of there being more small libraries than large academic libraries in the USA and Canada, other reasons for the predominance of SSC membership were:

1) R&S librarians were often members of many other professional associations, e.g., the American Library Association or professional associations in their areas of specialization, including Jewish Studies and Middle Eastern languages. On the other hand, many SSC librarians were without a library degree, and AJL was the only library association open to them. SSC librarians with degrees, working in Jewish educational settings or in synagogues and community centers—following the pattern set by the founders of the Jewish Library Association—felt an obligation to join AJL in order to guide and help the non-professionals.

2) Belonging to AJL furnished SSC librarians, who often worked in one-person libraries, with a sense of camaraderie. At local AJL chapters and AJL conventions, they had an opportunity to share library anecdotes with those who understood and commiserated. R&S librarians usually work with other librarians and can "talk shop" and trade stories within their own institutions. They do not feel as isolated as do SSC librarians.

3) The need to obtain basic library information, advice, and AJL publications—which were primarily of SSC interest—was also a factor in that Division's gaining the majority of new members. Librarians from academic libraries had no interest in receiving the *AJL Bulletin* or *Newsletter*, to which their R&S counterparts in AJL seldom contributed and which, therefore, had little interest for them.

4) Chapters, which had originally been formed to support synagogue librarians, were also a source of AJL members, since it is stated in the *Bylaws*, Article VII, Section 5 ("Constitution and By-Laws," 1983), that ten members must join AJL in order for a chapter to qualify. For a long time, R&S librarians had little need of local chapters. Before AACR2 and automation, few R&S members wished to form local chapters to discuss library matters, with the result that R&S could not count on chapters being a source of new members.

Today, the membership of the R&S Division is increasing for several reasons. The field itself has changed. There is less

parochialism because of AACR2, automation, networks, and new university collections that encourage sharing of information. R&S members are also beginning to be represented in local chapters. Since the AJL membership list's geographic index is used to contact members to form a chapter, full AJL participation is assured, at least at the start. Examples are the New York Metropolitan Area (NYMA) and the Middle Atlantic chapters. It cannot be assumed, however, that when new members join these chapters, they will automatically join national AJL, but some will. The major reason for the increase in R&S membership is no doubt the growing prestige of the journal *Judaica Librarianship*. Its coverage by eight indexing services and its subscription drives to universities and colleges that have Jewish Studies programs, as well as to serials librarians of general university libraries, have yielded many R&S members for AJL, as the journal is available only with membership. This periodical has particularly increased AJL's European membership. The recent First International Conference of Judaica and Israeli Librarians, held in Jerusalem from July 2–July 6, 1990 will undoubtedly result in new R&S members, as well as SSC members. For many AJL members, the dichotomy between SSC and R&S has blurred, and they enroll in both Divisions.

Membership Recruitment

AJL membership was once derived mainly from regional groups. Later, as AJL gained a national reputation, library staffers or library committees who requested information from AJL were asked to join. Carole Ozeroff's Membership Report of June 1980 states that she had circulated 365 brochures through mailings, meetings, and requests. Fifty-seven members were gained in 1980, bringing AJL membership to 598 (*Proceedings*, 1980, pp. 19–20). This was actually an inflated figure, as at that time, names of non-dues-paying members were held on the list for at least one year before being deleted. After 41 members were dropped for non-renewal of 1979 dues, membership stood at 581, less 183 members who had not yet paid their 1980 dues.

President Philip Miller credited the efforts of Barbara Leff, his predecessor, for having given AJL increased visibility within the library community. In his words, "Two years later, we are still reaping the benefits of Mrs. Leff's efforts" (*Minutes*, 1984, p. 2). Miller also cited the role *Judaica Librarianship* played in bolstering the membership of the Association. R&S membership had increased by almost 100 within a few months of its publication. The membership figure was reported at 633

in June of 1985, and Membership Vice-President Sylvia Friedman announced that 82 more members had joined by November 15, 1985, for a grand total of 715.

In 1986, President Edith Lubetski assigned Marcia Posner, Vice-President/President-Elect, to serve as a liaison, to see to it that an AJL member was present at every major book, library, and education-related conference where AJL membership brochures could be distributed. Money was budgeted to pay part of the AJL representative's expenses incurred through attendance at such conferences. That same year, Sylvia Firschein and a committee undertook membership campaigns with professional and geographic emphases. Letters and membership brochures were mailed, with the cooperation of the staff members of the Jewish Theological Seminary during their winter holiday, to Jewish institutions assumed to have or to need Judaica libraries. Included in the mailing were rabbis and presidents of Sisterhoods and chairmen of boards-of-directors of synagogues throughout the nation and Canada. This effort resulted in 44 new members, discernible through coded application forms (*Minutes*, 1987, p. 2). In 1989, Sylvia Firschein and Esta Blaxberg sent out 2,000 pieces of mail to the executive directors of Jewish Federations, to the principals of schools within their district, to Hillel organizations, and to Jewish community centers. The mailing also included Jewish Book Council promotional material, and the cost was shared by both organizations. Once again, the membership brochures were coded, and forty new members were gained. The Association continues to receive many requests for assistance from non-member synagogue and school librarians, who are asked, as a first step, to join AJL.

AJL membership recruitment is still being aided by the general membership. Sylvia Friedman signed up several new members during a visit to her former home in South Africa, and my part-time positions at two highly visible and easily accessible organizations—the Jewish Book Council and the UJA-Federation of New York put me in contact with many potential members. A wide range of people call both of these organizations for help in organizing synagogue, school, Jewish community center, special, and private libraries—which creates the proper climate to suggest AJL membership as an intrinsic part of creating a Judaica library. Thanks to the good offices of Paula Gribetz Gottlieb, Director of the Jewish Book Council, who allows AJL membership brochures to be inserted into JBC library-queries correspondence, the

AJL membership brochure receives wide distribution.

Membership Retention

AJL still has problems with retaining members. When members change jobs and move to general libraries, they frequently drop their AJL membership. This need not be so, and a campaign to retain such members by showing them how continued membership in AJL still benefits them, as well as their colleagues in Judaica libraries, was discussed at the Mid-Winter Council Meeting of December, 1989 (not recorded in the Minutes).

Record-Keeping

It was once very difficult to get an accurate accounting of AJL membership. Although Mary Brand (AJL Treasurer, 1980–82) worked diligently and efficiently, membership records were not computerized in her day, and many members were carried long past the time when they should have been dropped. It was thought that if tardy members were carried, and still received their *Bulletin* and *Newsletter*, they would eventually pay. Mary Brand indicated, in her Treasurer's Report of June 24, 1981 (p. 4, appended to *Minutes*, 1981), that there were 620 members representing 36 states and foreign countries. By 1982, over 100 members had been dropped for non-payment of dues, and the membership stood at 513 (Leff, 1980–1982).

Sylvia Friedman was the first Membership Chairman whose position was upgraded to a vice-presidency. She worked hard to straighten out the membership records, to drop tardy members, and to discontinue the mailing of AJL periodicals to them. Friedman disclosed that as of June 22, 1984, AJL had 680 members (*Minutes*, June 27, 1984), up from 521 in the previous year. Sharona Wachs, who followed Friedman as Membership Vice-President (1984–1986), dropped non-dues payers even faster; and David Gilner, who became Membership Vice-President in 1986, never held non-dues-paying members on the roster at all. His membership figures are much more conservative than previous holders of this office. In his Membership Report for 1989–1990, Gilner wrote:

In July, 1986, I began the first of my two terms as Vice-President for Membership. At that time there were some 550 members on the roles [*sic*] of AJL, of whom 450 had paid dues during the 1985–1986 membership year. As of May 28, 1990, there are 934 members recorded in the AJL

database, all of whom are paying their way.

(*Minutes*, 1990)

In June, 1989, the membership year was changed to begin on July 1 and end on June 30, instead of beginning on June 1 and ending on May 30 (*Minutes*, June 20, 1989). The AJL roster is completely automated and reflects current paid-up memberships only. The membership figure fluctuates throughout the year, with the most accurate figure being available in June of each year. No longer can members pay every other year. Reinstatement requires a two-years' dues payment if publications were shipped without having been covered by dues.

Automation of the Membership List

Sharona Wachs, Membership Vice-President from 1984–1986, was the first to code the membership list and have it automated, but the program was faulty and the list difficult to use. Working with Sharona, David Gilner was successful in automating the list and also in being able to access it in many useful ways. Gilner is assisted in maintaining the database by Laurel Wolfson. Membership lists are promptly available, in hard copy to anyone in AJL who needs them, and on gummed labels, for sale to publishers and others offering products and services to AJL members.

David Gilner was succeeded by Aviva Astrinsky on July 5, 1990. She has been instructed to incorporate the response to new members into her portfolio (*Minutes*, Executive Board, July 3, 1990). Previously, this had been handled by the Treasurer and Publications Vice-President, which led to delays. AJL looks forward to a streamlined membership process, with a briefer response time.

AJL Chapters

As stated above, AJL developed from local Jewish library organizations, which were the equivalent of current chapters. In the beginning, AJL national officers traveled to various areas and helped to organize new chapters of AJL:

At the SSC business meeting during the 1967 convention, Membership Chairman Ethel Saferin, reported on a trip she had made to Chicago, where a group was forming under the leadership of Rose Miskin. Barbara Feldstein commended Mrs. Anne Maurice for her efforts to organize and interest the Boston area.

(*Proceedings*, 1967, pp. 10–11)

Even when they paid family visits, AJL members took time to organize new chapters. AJL of Southern California, one of our most productive chapters, was begun by Mae Weine during a visit to her sister in Southern California in 1966. While there, she called every synagogue she could find within a reasonable area and asked to speak to its librarian, if there was one. She finally found one receptive Judaica librarian, Dorothy Schroeder (see Weine's interview with Judy Greenblatt, in this issue). Schroeder became the guiding light of synagogue libraries in Southern California; she taught and inspired many to enter this field (Leff, 1987).

An example of early AJL chapter activities is related below:

In 1969, at the Fourth Annual Convention, an SSC workshop was held on "Library Cooperation on a Regional Basis." Panelists included Ethel Saferin of Cleveland, Dorothy Schroeder of Los Angeles, and Mrs. David Salaman of Philadelphia. Each described the one-day institutes held by their regional associations, which were attended by librarians from their own and neighboring areas. The local associations not only provided ambitious one-day institutes, but they acted as liaisons to the public libraries in which they set up displays of Judaica, for which they prepared bibliographies, and whose librarians they entertained once a year at a "Librarians' Tea."

Los Angeles also sponsored a bookmobile which traveled to outlying areas. The Philadelphia area chapter sent its membership lists to appropriate publishers, so that members were kept informed about new publications, and purchased books collectively at a better discount than individual libraries could obtain. All chapters published newsletters that were extensions of the meeting notes. Some did extensive publicity in the general community upon the behalf of Jewish libraries.

(*Proceedings*, 1969, pp. 42–43)

Regional settings, rather than a national setting such as the annual convention, were considered to be the best places to offer library-training courses. This was the decision of the committee that had been set up to study the problem:

At the Monday, June 22, 1970, Division Business Meeting, Anne Kirshenbaum, SSC President, announced that after conferring,

Miriam Leikind, Mae Weine, Dorothy Schroeder and Ruth Kanner felt that a library training course would best be given in regional workshops, rather than at convention. Regional and Divisional workshops were recommended as the best way to help new librarians and to foster professionalism. A list of people best qualified to help set up these regional resource centers was to be drawn up by Miriam Leikind.

(*Proceedings*, 1970, p. 29)

In 1975, a request for chapter status in AJL was made by a group of librarians in Northern California. The AJL Board consulted the Constitution and found that it was too vague to use as a basis for such a decision. (This is puzzling in light of prior chapter formation.) The members of the group were invited to become AJL members while a committee investigated the constitutional aspect of their request (*Proceedings*, 1975, p. 4). Their request has not yet been honored, because when the Constitution was revised in 1983 and the Article pertaining to chapters was made more concrete—in response to complaints by chapter presidents meeting in Grossinger's (June 21–24, 1981) who felt that it was necessary to define the relationship between AJL and its chapters before proceeding with anything else—the newly revised section pertaining to chapters (By-laws, Article VII—Chapters) and its various parts contained a section (2) that excluded groups of fewer than ten members from forming a chapter (*Minutes*, 1981, p. 2).

The first AJL Chapter Relations Coordinator was Sylvia Eisen, who served in that capacity during the presidencies of Barbara Leff and Philip Miller. Eisen tried to define the relationship between chapters and national AJL, and to revise the AJL Constitution's Section 2, Article 9 on chapters. She also wrote a column, "Chapter Chatter," for the *AJL Newsletter*, reporting on programs and workshops of various chapters and on the establishment of new chapters. In 1986, President Edith Lubetski appointed Jean Loeb Lettofsky Chapter Relations Coordinator. Lettofsky corresponded with all of the AJL affiliates, and continued the "Chapter Chatter" column, but in her report of June 1987, Lettofsky—echoing the complaints of 1981—described unresolved problems regarding the relationship of national to chapters as well as hard decisions that needed to be made before any other action could be taken. It is unfortunate that these questions had not been resolved from the start, but in the heat and excitement of that maiden AJL convention in 1966, many

decisions were made—most good. An unfortunate decision was made, however, regarding the question of whether “geographic groups” (chapters) had to have 100% national membership to be considered AJL Chapters. At that fateful meeting, most said “yes”; one said “no,” and she prevailed. I do not believe that the decision was intended to be permanent, as the *Minutes* of that meeting read:

The subject of geographic groups was discussed. It was decided that geographic groups would not be asked to pay Association dues *at this time* [emphasis added], but that to better cement the relationship between geographic groups and the Association, that each such group have a representative on the Association Council.

(*Proceedings*, 1966, p. 4)

Hazel Karp made the suggestion at the Mid-Winter Council meeting of January 21, 1985, that she would like to see a motion that required all members of newly affiliated AJL chapters to become AJL national members first (*Minutes*, January 21, 1985, pp. 3–4). The situation is, to date, unresolved.

If asked how many AJL Chapters there are today, we would be hard put to answer accurately. The number of affiliated and non-affiliated groups with which AJL has close relations is thirteen. Many of the chapters are not only thriving, but are also contributing greatly to national AJL. The New Jersey Chapter, for example, hosted a national convention in 1987, which was chaired by Marilyn Breitman (who has recently written a convention manual for national AJL, reflecting her own expertise as well as that of other convention chairmen). The New Jersey Chapter was organized by Sylvia Firschein, a past president of AJL's SSC Division. It has supplied national AJL with two Membership Recruitment Chairmen, Sylvia Firschein and Esta Blaxberg, and with two Advertising Chairmen for AJL publications, Ethel Trubowitz and Sylvia Schnitzer.

The Capital Area Chapter hosted a brilliant convention in 1989, although most of its members—who worked long and hard at planning and hosting the national convention—do not belong to AJL. The Montreal Chapter has hosted two AJL conventions. National conventions have also been hosted by AJL of Southern California (Barbara Leff and Rita Frischer, co-chairmen, 1978) and by the Greater Cleveland Chapter (Ralph Simon, chairman, 1985). Future conventions will be

hosted by chapters in Southern Florida (Phyllis Robarts, 1991) and Southern California (Aidaire Klein, 1992).

Conventions have also been hosted by regional committees, as was the case in New York, in 1981, with Edith Degani coordinating; in Columbus, Ohio (1982), when Manné Aronovsky and Amnon Zipin hosted the convention; and in Kansas City, Missouri (1988), when Beverly Newman and Fran Wolf hosted the convention; but on the whole, chapters host AJL conventions.

Chapters are also the source of talent for the AJL national Council and Executive Board, and conversely, active members of national who are on Council or various AJL committees, are the very people who organize new chapters.

While the chapters discussed above have members who belong to national and some who do not, two of the newest chapters drew their initial membership from national's geographic membership lists, resulting in all of their founding members belonging to national as well as the local chapter. These are the New York Metropolitan Area (NYMA) Chapter and the Middle Atlantic Chapter. Although the entrance price to chapter-sponsored conferences is higher for non-AJL members, it has been noted that not all new chapter members have joined national AJL. NYMA, which was organized by Edith Lubetski in 1984, holds conferences, not meetings, although it has Executive Board meetings. NYMA has special interest groups, e.g., Day School and Synagogue Libraries, which plan their own mini-conferences in addition to the larger conferences. The Middle Atlantic Chapter, which was organized by Aviva Astrinsky in 1987, has had some very impressive conferences as well.

A list of AJL-affiliated chapters as of January, 1991 is found in Appendix B.

Building a National Organization

From the preceding narrative, one can see how disparate the two AJL Divisions were, and how unevenly they were represented in AJL for many years. How did such a loosely merged association of two very different types of library associations become a strong national library association? Again, it was a case of the right person coming along at the right time.

In addition to Herbert Zafren, AJL national Board members in succeeding administrations chipped away at the separate purviews of each Division and transferred

them to the national body; but of them all, President Margot Berman contributed most towards transforming AJL into a national organization. As Berman wrote in the *AJL Newsletter* of September 1977 (p. 1):

The actions of the Executive Council have resulted in the reshaping and, I believe, strengthening of our Association. For instance, Division and Association elections will be held at the same time; the duties of each officer have been more clearly defined; and the number of officers in the Divisions has been reduced.

This message described only partially the changes that had been voted on and passed, under Berman's influence, immediately preceding the 1977 convention. The *Minutes* record further changes at the Annual General Meeting, held on June 29, 1977:

1. The Children's Book Award was no longer an SSC Award, but was by vote, to be called the "Association of Jewish Libraries Book Award."
2. The Scholarship Award would no longer be an SSC Award, but would be an Association of Jewish Libraries award.
3. The Council voted to combine the treasuries, eliminating three separate bank/checking accounts, and placing all funds in one bank with one treasurer responsible.
(*Proceedings*, 1977, pp. 11–13)

The following June, the Executive Board voted that one letterhead was to be used for all AJL correspondence; the stationery was to list the officers of each Division, along with national AJL officers. The three separate letterheads that had formerly been used were discontinued.

Archives

From the beginning, there were those in the Association who understood its uniqueness and the necessity of preserving its records for use by scholars and its own members in the future. In 1966 it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the AJL set up an archives. At first, it was suggested that Miriam Leikind be in charge of this since she worked with archives in her synagogue, but Ethel Saferin and Sarah Presser also volunteered to serve in this capacity.

Jacob Dienstag suggested that a major library should house the AJL archives for space reasons and because of the possible need of specialized equipment, such as photography and microfilming equipment (*Proceedings*, 1966, p. 5). Margot Berman recalls (in her response to the survey that was mailed to former presidents of AJL in December 1989) that renewed interest in the importance of AJL archival materials, and the suggestion that we consider contacting the American Jewish Archives, occurred during Leonard Gold's administration (1974-1976). The suggestion was eventually acted on in 1977, when Margot Berman made the necessary arrangements and had Harvey Horowitz (V.P./President-Elect) write to all former AJL presidents, requesting that they send their records to the American Jewish Archives. In recent years, Annette Levy Ratkin and Salome Cory have been in charge of gathering AJL archival materials and preparing them for deposit in the Archives.

There is another facet to AJL's interest in archives. Some of AJL's members are archivists and represent their institutions in CARLJS (the Council of Archives and Research Libraries in Jewish Studies), which, among other things, concerns itself with the preservation and conservation of archival materials in libraries, the acquisition of library materials from Israel, and the existence and needs of archival collections. During the 14th Annual Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1979, Dr. Leonard Gold explained:

... that CARLJS is the logical place to undertake joint projects and that the R&S Division of AJL should provide the common ground where librarians meet to exchange ideas and information and to participate in programs conducive to their professional development, such as at conventions.

(*Proceedings*, 1979, p. 49)

AJL cooperates with CARLJS to the extent that time is provided during the AJL Convention for a CARLJS business meeting, and the AJL Mid-Winter Board and Council meetings are now planned to coordinate with CARLJS's Mid-Winter meeting.

Over the years, there have been many convention programs dealing with archival subjects. In 1968, for example, the convention program included: Miriam Leikind discussing "Archives in the Synagogue and Other Small Libraries"; Bernard Wax, Director, American Jewish Historical So-

ciety, speaking on "The American Jewish Historical Society and Its Relation to Libraries"; and Dr. Jacob R. Marcus describing the American Jewish Archives. In 1977, Susan Leibtag, then assistant archivist at YIVO, discussed the indexing of the YIVO collections; Sharon Schwartz Horowitz lectured on the arrangement and description of archives; Martha B. Katz-Hyman of the American Jewish Historical Society spoke on the preservation and conservation of collections; and Laura Dorn Margolies, manuscripts cataloger at the American Jewish Historical Society, reported on her work on the Samuel Oppenheim collection. Programs about the management of archives interest members of SSC and R&S alike.

Articles on archives have appeared in the *AJL Bulletin*, e.g., "Cataloging Archival and Museum Material," by Susanna Friedman (Spring, 1982), and in *Judaica Librarianship*, e.g., "Nashville Jewish Archives" by Richard Marcus (vol. 1, no. 1, Fall 1983, p. 16) and "A Shtetl Feminist: Sources in the Archives of the Jewish Public Library in Montreal," by Naomi Caruso (vol. 3, nos. 1-2, 1986-1987, pp. 31-32). Archives were the cover story of *Judaica Librarianship* vol. 4, no. 1 (Fall 1987-Winter 1988), in which the following articles appeared: "Establishing Archives in Synagogue or Center Libraries," by Annette Levy Ratkin; "Jewish Archives in New York: An Overview," by Daniel Soyer; and "The American Jewish Historical Society as an Archival Agency," by Nathan M. Kaganoff (pp. 29-39).

Finances

Back in the not-so-good-old days, Editor Irene Levin had to wait until membership dues came in before she knew whether there would be enough money in the treasury to pay for another issue of the *Bulletin* or *Newsletter*. Today, the AJL financial situation is more secure. The following are some of the policy changes and actions that made the difference: the deadline for payment of membership dues was tightened so that AJL no longer expends funds to print publications for non-members. In 1980, President Barbara Leff cancelled publication of the costly *Proceedings*, which few members bought. Convention chairmen began to charge exhibitors a fee, and learned to calculate their costs more carefully, so that AJL conventions began to yield profits, rather than losses.

Beginning in 1986, AJL publications were frequently updated; new titles were added and publicized—leading to more sales;

and from 1988 on, the publications were priced realistically. Grants were applied for and received from the I. Edward Kiev and Jesselson Foundations in support of the publication of *Judaica Librarianship*. Through Ethel Trubowitz (since 1988) and Sylvia Schnitzer (1989), ads are solicited and obtained to support the publication of the *AJL Newsletter* and *Judaica Librarianship*, respectively.

The Sydney Taylor Awards are to be endowed, with funds for administrative expenses. Money in the AJL treasury that is not needed for several months is invested for yield, instead of lying fallow in a low-interest checking account, and, of course, increased membership adds revenues. The Treasurer no longer issues checks upon request, unless they conform to a pre-established budget line. Officers and chairmen are asked to submit realistic budgets that are reflected in the annual budget, which must be voted on each year at convention by the Executive Board. This procedure, instituted by David Gilner, helps to prevent surprise expenses and an open purse. There is still no guarantee that AJL will never run a deficit budget; at present, however, the outlook is cheerful.

Executive Board and Council

AJL has been exceedingly fortunate in having creative, hardworking Executive Boards and Councils. The Executive Board consists of elected officers of national AJL and its two Divisions. At this time (July, 1990), the Executive Board members are: the President, the Vice-President/President-Elect, the Treasurer, the Vice-President in charge of Publications, the Vice-President in charge of Membership, the Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary of national AJL, the Immediate Past President; and the Presidents, Vice-Presidents/Presidents-Elect, and Secretaries of the R&S and SSC Divisions. The composition of the Executive Board has changed since the early days, when Membership and Publications were Council positions. For a chronological listing of AJL Executive Boards since 1965, see Appendix C.

The AJL Council consists of the members of the Executive Board, the editors of serial publications, the presidents of AJL Chapters, and the chairmen of Standing and Ad-Hoc committees.

Part II—Fulfillment of the Goals of AJL's Founders

Twenty-five years is a good point at which to evaluate whether or not we have steered the course charted for us by our founders or, to borrow a less nautical phrase, to boldly ask ourselves the question: "How're we doing?"

This section of the chronicle describes the history and development of AJL programs that fulfill the spirit of the goals enumerated in both the first AJL constitution, presented in 1967, and the second, ratified in 1973 and revised in 1983.

Article II—Goals

Section 1. To promote librarianship and improve professional standards in the field of Judaica:

- a. through continuing education;
- b. by promoting Judaic librarianship as a career;
- c. by providing a forum for discussion and development of ideas.

Section 2. To serve as a center for technical assistance to Judaic library collections.

Section 3. To disseminate information and promote the publication of literature which will be of assistance of Judaic librarianship.

Section 4. To encourage the establishment of Judaic library collections.

Section 5. To serve as a liaison between the Judaic and general library community.

(Constitution and By-Laws of the Association of Jewish Libraries, 1983)

I have not attempted to match AJL programs to the goals stated above, but merely to convey a sense that we have indeed fulfilled the vision of our founders and, in certain areas, have gone beyond it.

To promote librarianship and improve library services and professional standards in the field of Judaica.

Through the Education of Judaica Librarians

Both the R&S and SSC Divisions of AJL are concerned with improving educational opportunities for those who are, and those who plan to be, Judaica librarians. Each year, the Association's convention consists of workshops and lectures designed to improve the quality of Judaica librarianship on all levels. AJL's student scholarship program has been revived and upgraded.

Judaica Library Education—R&S Division

—As early as 1968, Joseph Yenish suggested that the Association should think of establishing a Jewish library school, or influencing a library school such as Columbia's School of Library Service, to offer a major in Judaica. Herbert Zafren suggested that a joint program could be set up between a Jewish school of higher learning and a library school. Dr. Kiev noted that there had been talk of such a program between the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Jewish Institute of Religion, and Columbia University (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 50).

Yenish then moved that the Standards Committee recommend that the Association of Jewish Libraries petition the authorities of the Columbia University School of Library Service to institute courses to aid in developing the necessary skills for Jewish librarianship, or offer joint programs with Jewish institutions. The motion passed (*ibid.*).

By AJL's Fifth Annual Convention, held in 1970, the primary topic of both Divisions was the training and recruitment of Judaica librarians. R&S discussions about the training of librarians were presented first. Dora Steinglass, then Chief of the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, observed that, although the number of Judaica libraries of all kinds was increasing, there were no courses directed towards librarians in charge of Judaica collections. She cited, in contrast, the special program given by the University of Michigan for librarians of Chinese and Japanese collections, and the summer institute at Columbia University for college librarians specializing in the acquisition of non-Western materials (*Proceedings*, 1970, pp. 22–23).

Shlomo Shunami, of the Graduate Library School of the Hebrew University, remarked

that there was no hope for the establishment of courses in Judaica librarianship in the United States unless they were endowed by Jews, and Mae Weine urged the R&S Division to implement the idea of establishing a chair [in Judaica librarianship] (*Proceedings*, 1970, p. 23).

The problem of how to train librarians in the special skills required in Judaica libraries was discussed during the Executive Meeting of the Thirteenth Annual Convention, held on June 18, 1978:

... It was proposed that a course in Jewish librarianship on the local level be made available. Perhaps a pilot experiment could be inaugurated with a teacher coming from one of the two major libraries, teaching on a short-term visiting basis, to be paid for by the students and/or sponsoring institution. It was recommended that a committee be appointed to study this.

(*Proceedings*, 1978, p. 9)

There have been locally taught courses in Judaica librarianship, both on the R&S and SSC levels. The pages of *Judaica Librarianship (JL)* yield information about a Judaica bibliography course taught by Charles Cutter at Brandeis University. In his article, Cutter (1985) describes a course that was used to familiarize students enrolled in Brandeis University's Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Department with Judaica reference and bibliographic sources, to help them acquire basic research skills in Judaica.

A description of courses in Judaica librarianship on the graduate level that have been sponsored by institutions and/or taught by instructors who are members of the Association follows. The information is taken from Bella Hass Weinberg's 1988 article, "A Graduate-Level Course on Hebraica and Judaica Cataloging."

Weinberg (1988) observes that it is difficult to discern what courses have been offered in Judaica librarianship because the information is contained primarily in unindexed catalogs of Jewish Studies programs. For example, while browsing through an old catalog, she discovered that more than forty years ago, YIVO had offered a series of short courses on Judaica bibliography and libraries (YIVO, 1942). She also cites a survey by Charles Berlin of Harvard University, entitled *Library Resources for Jewish Studies in the United States* (Berlin, 1975). Among the courses described in Weinberg's article are: "Problems in [Judaica] Bibliography and Librarianship: a Workshop for Graduate Students and

Librarians," which included several units on cataloging (bibliographic organization), in addition to a survey of primary reference works in Judaica. The course, which was taught by YIVO librarians, was first given in the Spring of 1974 and repeated in the Spring of 1975. That was the same year that the Jewish Theological Seminary series of courses (described below) was offered. To avoid duplication, the Max Weinreich Center of YIVO listed a course entitled "Field Work: Internship in Judaica Librarianship" in its 1975-76 *Bulletin*. The prerequisites were completion of an introductory course in either cataloging or reference work in a library school, and a knowledge of Yiddish or Hebrew.

It was not until 1975 that courses on Judaica librarianship were presented at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Menahem Schmelzer was the pivotal person in this case, as is clear from Edith Degani's report about this historic event, presented during AJL's Tenth Annual Convention, on June 25th, 1975. There is something quite lovely in the sense of purpose and excitement communicated by Edith Degani (*Proceedings*, 1975, pp. 39-47).

Weinberg taught "Information Sources in Religion" at St. John's University in the summers of 1984 and 1986. The course included units on cataloging, classification, and subject headings for religious materials, with a good portion devoted to Judaica; Hebrew was not required, however, owing to the diverse nature of the student body. In the spring of 1987, Weinberg taught a four-week course of twelve two-and-one-half hour sessions, entitled "Hebraica and Judaica Cataloging." The course, which was given at YIVO, was designed to prepare catalogers to "handle Hebraica and Judaica in accordance with LC practice" (Weinberg, 1988, p. 86). The course is fully described in the article, and an outline of the topics is included. The course is offered biennially.

Courses in Judaica librarianship are currently being taught at Gratz College in Philadelphia. Two library courses are taught each semester, along with the regular curriculum in Jewish Studies (phone call from Sarah Spiegel, March 30, 1990). AJL chapters, such as NYMA, frequently have cataloging workshops, which often include a tutorial component.

Judaica Library Education—SSC Division—The training of librarians for synagogues, schools, and community centers was uppermost in the minds of the SSC

Division. At the Second Annual Convention (1967), during the SSC business meeting, as a result of Jacob Dienstag's lecture earlier in the day on "Halakhic Literature," Miriam Leikind proposed compiling, in consultation with Dienstag, a list of a dozen titles that should be required reading for all Judaica librarians. Anne Kirshenbaum volunteered to assist (*Proceedings*, 1967, p. 24). In 1968, Ethel Saferin, then president of SSC, announced that Max Celnik was engaged in setting up a curriculum for basic training of librarians for Jewish libraries, and that he might also be able to visit communities and hold one-day seminars. It was suggested that, for members wanting this type of help, an institute in library training be an option following conventions. There is no record of this option being instituted, although Max Celnik put his suggestion into practice when he became the Judaica Library Consultant for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York [a position that I now hold], creating more than thirty-five libraries in institutions and agencies supported by Federation, and training their non-professional volunteer librarians (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 34).

At the Executive Committee meeting of 1969 (Fourth Annual Convention), there was much discussion on the need for "Library Procedures Seminars," or a basic curriculum. Miriam Leikind was appointed by SSC president, Ethel Saferin, to work with such a committee (*Proceedings*, 1969, p. 35, no. 5 "Curriculum"). The proposed course had not materialized by June 1970, and a new committee was appointed on June 21st to make a second attempt. Its chairman was Ruth Kanner, and its members—all of whom had presented such courses locally—were Miriam Leikind, Dorothy Schroeder, and Mae Weine. The feeling was that such a course should be presented at regional workshops, not at convention (*Proceedings*, 1969, p. 47 and 1970, pp. 27, 29).

Nothing further was heard about education for SSC Judaica librarians until 1974, when it was announced that, through the efforts of Dorothy Schroeder, AJL of Southern California had arranged with the local Board of Jewish Education to issue certificates to library-teachers upon completion of a specified number of Library Science and Judaica courses (*Proceedings*, 1974, pp. 8-9).

Then, in 1978 (Thirteenth Annual Convention), Barbara Leff listed "Education" as the fourth item in a presentation called "The Status of the Judaica Librarian Within the Community." "Education," she said, "strengthens a professional organization

and raises its level of professionalism." She described how the Southern California group had begun with almost all inexperienced volunteers, and how Dorothy Schroeder had taught them and inspired them so that many went on to get their professional library degrees, and are now teaching others. Most importantly, she related how the chapter provides continuing education through in-service training and classes sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education and other educational institutions (*Proceedings*, 1978, pp. 55-57).

Dorothy Schroeder began teaching the inexperienced would-be librarians individually while she was the librarian of the College of Jewish Studies-Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which held classes one evening a week at Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles. Her "private" classes came to the attention of the Dean of the College, Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin, who decided that the College of Jewish Studies would sponsor the courses. Later, they were moved to Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Ms. Schroeder's basic course was designed to meet the needs of inexperienced librarians with little or no training in managing the special library of a Jewish temple or religious school (*Proceedings*, 1978, pp. 75-76).

Continuing Education Courses for SSC Librarians—It has already been noted that local classes in Judaica librarianship on the SSC level had been taught by Miriam Leikind and Mae Weine in the 1960s. Ms. Schroeder taught in Southern California through the '60s and '70s, followed by Barbara Leff, who assumed Schroeder's duties after she retired. Marcia Posner taught Judaica library courses in continuing education programs of various colleges in the metropolitan area of New York and New Jersey, and for the Bureau of Jewish Education in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, on Long Island, through the '70s and '80s. A full description of the course taught at the School of Continuing Education of Queens College/City University of New York, may be found in my article in *Judaica Librarianship* (Posner, 1987a).

When Barbara Leff assumed the AJL presidency in 1980, she created the position of Continuing Education Chairperson. I was appointed to the position and was asked to survey the status of education for SSC librarians. The survey uncovered some local courses, notably those given by Toby Rossner and Carol Ingall at the Bureau of

Jewish Education of Rhode Island, as well as the courses described above and the Church and Synagogue Library Association (CSLA) correspondence course from the University of Utah (*Minutes*, June 1985, p. 3). (Since 1987, additional continuing education courses have been developed by CSLA members. As CSLA is really a church library association, its material is not relevant to SSC Judaica librarians beyond instruction in technical processing.)

After completing her presidency, Barbara Leff assumed the chairmanship of the Continuing Education Committee. The first year or two were spent in investigating the C.E.U. (continuing education units) program in the United States, writing guidelines, curricula, and performance objectives. The widely-scattered committee, created in 1986, consisted of Toby Rossner, Ralph Simon, Susan Freiband, Marcy Josephs, Hazel Karp, Anita Wenner, and Marcia Posner. Members were kept informed through numerous memoranda, to which they responded. Leff would integrate their comments, revise a memorandum, and send it to the committee again, until all were in agreement.

The first AJL-sponsored classes were held in Kansas City, at the Twenty-Third Annual Convention in 1988. C.E.U. credits were to be given per contact hour, as specified in the National C.E.U. guidelines. A certificate of completion was to be awarded to each participant after the instructor had evaluated and accepted his/her completed assignment (*Minutes*, June 1988, *Continuing Education Report*).

A registration form for the courses was mailed with the convention registration form to each AJL member, and a notice also appeared in the *AJL Newsletter* (vol. 7 no. 1, Feb./Mar. 1988, p. 2). Classes were held the morning prior to convention, and the afternoon post-convention. Despite the fee of \$25.00, the response was good. The courses included: "Make Way for Media: a Basic Strategy for Selection and Utilization of Non-Print Information Sources" (Instructor: Ralph R. Simon) and "Recruiting, Training and Retaining Library Volunteers—A Model Program" (Instructors: Toby Rossner and Barbara Leff).

A different format was tried for the Twenty-Fourth Annual Convention (1989). The courses were offered within the period of the convention, and all convention attendees were allowed to audit them. Only the registrants, however, were given written texts and assignments, received personal feedback from the instructors over the following year, and were awarded certificates

of completion. The classes were not merely well-subscribed; registrants plus auditors crowded the room. The topic that year was "Automating the Small Library." Instructors were Rick Burke, Barbara Leff, Ralph Simon, and Toby Rossner.

Continuing Education was treated somewhat differently during the Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention (1990), which was held in Israel. AJL members were in the minority, as Israeli librarians and Judaica librarians from various countries also participated. A curriculum based on the existing convention schedule—workshops, programs, and an international symposium in Jewish children's literature—was prepared, instead of special continuing-education classes.

Work is progressing on the writing of a comprehensive course of study for the Judaica librarian that will include Jewish studies and Judaica librarianship components, and which will lead to certification by grade level from the Association of Jewish Libraries (see "Promoting Judaic Librarianship as a Career," below).

Scholarships for Judaica Library Education—The concept of a scholarship fund in memory or in honor of Association members was first discussed at the 1968 SSC Executive Board Meeting (Third Annual Convention), after two esteemed members of SSC had passed away. A motion was passed that such a scholarship fund be established "in order to further the education of Jewish librarians" (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 34).

On June 22, 1970, at the Fifth Annual Convention, the concept was discussed further. The SSC Division decided that a scholarship should be offered in Jewish librarianship, possibly through an established school, and that a sum of \$100 was to be made available for this purpose. Its availability was to be publicized by Ethel Saferin, who headed the project (*Proceedings*, 1970, p. 29). A year later, a scholarship committee was appointed; it was chaired by Irene Levin, with Sylvia Schulman and Susanna Friedman as members. The committee's purpose was to establish criteria for a scholarship to be awarded annually to a library-school student with a background in Judaica in order to encourage the student to pursue a career in Jewish librarianship. The criteria were critiqued and revised in 1972, and in 1973 Sylvia Schulman sent a letter to 55 library schools in the United States and Canada, advising them of the award and inviting candidates to apply. Fourteen requests for

applications were received during 1973–1974 (*Proceedings*, 1974, p. 19).

A request was made by the Scholarship Committee to SSC President Margot Ber- man that SSC give two scholarships. The suggestion was agreed to, and the Board agreed to fund the awards out of its treasury. Thus, in 1974 the SSC Division granted its first scholarships for the purpose of furthering Judaica library education to Deborah Goldberg of Montreal, Canada, and to Sharon Schwartz of Pittsburgh (*Proceedings*, 1974, pp. 19–21).

In 1975–76, there were twelve applicants and three awards—one was a renewal to Sharon Schwartz, who was attending a joint program in Judaic Studies and Librarianship conducted by Brandeis University and Simmons College—and two were new candidates, Oreet Segal of Lake George, NY, and Beth Anshen of the Bronx, New York. One scholarship was awarded in 1976–77, to Harold Goodman of Chicago, IL. Sharon Schwartz Horowitz, recipient of two successive scholarship awards (1974 and 1975), presented a program at the AJL Convention of 1977 (*Proceedings*, 1975–1977).

When Irene Levin resigned as chairman of the Scholarship Committee in 1977, Sidney August assumed this position. At that time, during the Twelfth Annual Convention, Herbert Zafren encouraged the Executive Board to review the scholarship situation. He hoped that the Board could see a way to increase both the number and the amount of the Scholarship; Zafren also proposed that it be granted from national AJL, and not from the SSC Division alone. Bertie Schwartz, before her death in 1977, had been contributing \$100 a year for the Scholarship Award, and the Board wondered if her children would continue to fund the Award. In any case, the Board voted affirmatively on Zafren's proposals: the Scholarship Award became a national AJL award and was raised to \$250 (*Proceedings*, 1977, p. 13). The scholarship was awarded to Judith Diamond Press that year (*Proceedings*, 1977, p. 11).

In 1979, Sharona Wachs of Bala-Cynwyd, PA was selected as the winner from among six applicants (*Proceedings*, 1979, p. 17). Ms. Wachs went on to become the AJL Treasurer, and now chairs the Dr. May K. Simon Memorial Student Scholarship Fund.

Mr. August asked for expansion of the committee so that it would include members from various regions of the country. It was also suggested that, along with the

heads of Judaica departments at colleges and universities, state library associations should be contacted and asked to include information about the AJL scholarship award in their bulletins (*Proceedings*, 1979, p. 17).

In 1980, a \$250 scholarship was awarded to Hannah Blatt (*Proceedings*, 1980, p. 9).

Ralph Simon assumed the chairmanship of the committee in 1981, when the scholarship was awarded to Janice Lester, a graduate of Spertus College who planned on attending library school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (*Minutes*, 1981, p. 6). In 1982, the AJL Scholarship went to Lori Cohen, a student at Indiana University (Bloomington) (*Minutes*, June 1982, Report of the Scholarship Chairman).

Allan Metz became chairman in 1983 and announced the winner of the AJL Scholarship to be Jacqueline Graf, a native of London, England, residing in New Jersey at that time. Ms. Graf completed her library science studies in 1984. [Now back in England, she is still an AJL member.] Only four applications were received in 1983, from a mailing of 303 announcements (*Minutes*, June 19, 1983, p. 2). Miriam Leikind proposed increasing the amount of the award by encouraging the donation of funds in honor or in memory of individuals, but her suggestion was tabled until Mid-Winter 1984 (*Minutes*, June 22, 1983, p. 3).

At the Mid-Winter meeting, Philip Miller reported that Allan Metz was seeking an increase in the amount awarded for the AJL Scholarship. Miller stated that he thought it would be appropriate to abolish the scholarship in its present form, since only one individual awarded the scholarship had taken a position as a Judaica librarian. [The actual figure is three—Jacqueline Graf of London; Sharon Horowitz of Silver Spring, MD; and Sharona Wachs of Albany, New York—became Judaica librarians, and all are current members of AJL.]

Miller suggested that, as an alternative, consideration be given to presenting an award for a paper or for independent study. He suggested that the award be increased to \$300 along with the change in the structure of the requirements for obtaining the scholarship. The scholarship was supposed to be revamped so that the award would ultimately be given for an essay about the field of Jewish librarianship. Essays were to be solicited from library school students, and the essay selected to

receive the award was to be published in *Judaica Librarianship* (*Minutes*, January 1984, pp. 5–6). This never happened, and at the Nineteenth Annual Convention in Atlanta (1984), it was voted to discontinue the AJL Student Scholarship Award (*Minutes*, June 1984, p. 4).

In 1988, at the Twenty-Third Annual Convention, during the transition between the presidencies of Edith Lubetski and Marcia Posner, the Student Scholarship Fund was re-established by Ralph R. Simon. Edith Lubetski had expressed a need to establish a committee on "Recruitment to the Profession," and the assembled Council members were brainstorming ways of attracting library science students to a career in Judaica librarianship. Ralph Simon, then Vice-President of Publications—and past chairman of the previous scholarship fund—proposed that one way to help recruitment would be to revive the student scholarship, but to award a more significant amount. He added that he would personally support a new student scholarship fund with an award of \$500 each year, in memory of his mother, Dr. May K. Simon. (In 1990, owing to special circumstances, two scholarships were awarded.)

It was an emotional experience for all who were present at the Council meeting. Sharona Wachs, a previous recipient of the award, immediately made out a check to help another needy student, as did many others. Ms. Wachs also volunteered to chair the committee. The Dr. May K. Simon Memorial Scholarship Fund is funded primarily by Ralph Simon and his father, Charles Simon, and is open to donations from others who wish to contribute (*Minutes*, December 5, 1988). The first recipient, in 1989, was Susan March, already an active AJL member who was working in a synagogue library and who hoped to attend library school (*Minutes*, June 1989). In 1990, there were seven applicants; two were selected. Scholarships were granted to Bat-Ami Sofer of Newton, Massachusetts and Laurel S. Wolfson of Cincinnati, Ohio (*Minutes*, July 1990).

Since September 1988, the "Dr. May K. Simon Memorial Scholarship Fund: for Judaica Librarianship Education" is listed in the annual publication, *Financial Assistance for Library Education*, published by SCOLE (Standing Committee on Library Education) of the American Library Association, in addition to other publicity outlets.

Promoting Judaic Librarianship as a Career

"Recruitment and Training of Librarians for Jewish Libraries" was the theme of an R&S session at the Fifth Annual Convention, held in 1970. The session was chaired by Rabbi I. Edward Kiev, of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, who introduced the program by saying:

Our predecessors were the greats in Jewish bibliography and librarianship. We were recruited as children, and we grew with the librarians and the libraries. Today, however, Judaica libraries require librarians trained in library science, scholarship, history, and bibliography . . .
(*Proceedings*, 1970, p. 22)

Dora Steinglass, then Chief of the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, was the first speaker. She dwelt on the need for attracting dedicated young people through recruitment campaigns, such as those undertaken by other library associations (*Proceedings*, 1970, pp. 22–23).

No follow-up action appears in the record. In 1973, President Anne Kirshenbaum reported that she received many mail inquiries concerning careers in Jewish library service that asked for information on the training necessary, job opportunities, salary ranges, and placement services. She suggested that the R&S Division, as the representative of career or professionally trained librarians, prepare a pamphlet on the subject to be published by the Association and distributed in answer to such questions, but her suggestion was rejected. It was pointed out that it would be difficult to draw up a uniform standard for Judaica librarians because of the varying needs of libraries (*Proceedings*, 1973, p. 10).

The "Careers in Jewish/Judaica Librarianship" Brochure—In 1974, Kirshenbaum reported that the American Library Association had invited AJL to participate in the Career Exhibit of the Personnel Guidance Association. This necessitated the writing of a career brochure in Judaica librarianship, which Edith Degani of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America completed promptly. It was directed to non-members of AJL, and was suitable for use at the exhibit. The brochure was entitled *Careers in Jewish Librarianship* (*Proceedings*, 1974, p. 6).

On June 17, 1982, President Barbara Leff recommended that the brochure on careers for Judaica librarianship be updated, although there is no evidence that this was done (Leff, 1980-1982, p. 4).

Five years later, in 1987, responding to the shortage of Judaica librarians—especially catalogers in R&S libraries—President Edith Lubetski invited Zachary Baker to chair a new “Recruitment to the Professional” committee. The committee enlisted twelve members from various geographic areas, from both the R&S and SSC Divisions (*Minutes*, Executive/Council, June 24, 1987, p. 1).

The Recruitment Kit and PR Campaign—It was decided that the following actions should be taken: (1) preparation of a flyer describing the attractions of the profession, (2) production of a slide program or videotape that would illustrate the points made on the flyer, and (3) formation of a speakers’ bureau and representation by AJL at meetings of related organizations. The flyer was to be directed at students of Jewish studies; the speakers’ bureau was to consist of AJL members in the United States and Canada who would speak at “career days” to students, teachers, etc. about the attractions of Judaica librarianship as a career (*Minutes*, June 1989, p. 3).

The text of a recruitment flyer was prepared by Baker, and eventually produced by Ralph Simon, Publications Vice-President. In the meantime, Marcia Posner wrote and produced a provisional flyer for a UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies career day. The slide-tape or video about careers in Judaica librarianship is still in progress. Baker regretfully bowed out of the chairmanship to take care of other duties, and since 1989 the position of Recruitment Chairman has been filled by Sidney August. To date, there is no active AJL program of recruitment, nor a slide-tape, nor a slick, professional brochure.

Improving Employment Opportunities: The AJL Job Clearinghouse—In 1976, Dr. Leonard Gold reported that Rabbi Philip Goodman had approached him about a job placement committee (*Proceedings*, 1976, p. 5). Previously, job placement had been handled by individual librarians who sometimes knew of job opportunities. Edith Degani ran an unofficial employment agency for Judaica librarians for many

years, but in 1984, the AJL Job Clearinghouse was formally created (*Minutes*, January 1984, p. 5). The Job Clearinghouse Chairman sends letters to universities and colleges to remind them of this AJL service and to invite them to post any Judaica library positions available with AJL. A brief four-line notice of each position is printed, free-of-charge, in the *AJL Newsletter*. AJL members who have run the Clearinghouse are Edith Lubetski, Pearl Berger and Robert Singerman; the last-named is the current chairperson. As yet, there is no follow-up mechanism through which AJL learns who has actually found a job through the Clearinghouse.

Certifying SSC Librarians—The lack of degreed SSC librarians, especially in synagogues and Jewish community centers, is a result of the attitude that prevailed at the start of synagogue library development. Traditional Jews did not believe in libraries of secondary sources, but rather in a *bet-midrash*, which had a collection of Biblical and Rabbinic literature to which members helped themselves and used in the room. The Conservative Movement assigned responsibility for funding and administering libraries to its National Women’s League, commonly known as the “Sisterhood.” The problem is that the Women’s League’s credo is volunteerism, resulting in the synagogue library being identified, not with professionalism, but with volunteerism (from the Sisterhood). The Reform Movement employed volunteers for a while, but realized sooner than the other religious denominations of Judaism that a quality library needs a professionally trained, salaried librarian.

The SSC Division of AJL first accepted the position that its libraries would be run by volunteers and would have little or no book budget. Low expectations were present from the start, as the following excerpt from the 1967 draft of *SSC Standards*, incorporated into the *Proceedings*, clearly demonstrates. In 1967, the following were the criteria for selecting a librarian for a synagogue library:

... the librarian should love books, have at least a high-school education, but preferably two years of college and some library school courses, and some knowledge of Hebrew and Yiddish.

It was further suggested that the librarian should have:

... a basic knowledge of, and interest in, things Jewish, and a love of people and a desire to help.

The balance of the document dealt with the library and the treatment of the librarian by the administration. The last item, left unanswered, was:

What do we mean by ‘professional’? How to evaluate Jewish training versus library training?

(*Proceedings*, 1967, pp. 25-27)

During the joint Divisional Meeting at the Third Annual Convention (June 23, 1968), Herbert Zafren suggested that AJL may serve as an “accrediting agency” for librarians in the Jewish field, especially for synagogues and Jewish community centers. It was suggested that a Standards Committee study the problem of accrediting [non-degreed] librarians (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 10). Later in the week, it was suggested that a Standards Committee be appointed “to study the possibility of establishing minimal standards and programs for the training of librarians in the Jewish field” (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 19).

In the *Proceedings* of 1970, buried within a single paragraph and sandwiched between suggestions for Jewish Book Month and the vertical file, at the Problem Clinic conducted by Ruth Kanner, someone suggested that the Association consider devising a test for semi-professional librarians, followed by certification. It would then be necessary to have a definite structure of what the position and function of the semi-professional is.

No further progress towards the certification of Judaica librarians was made until 1974, when the Southern California Chapter of the Association, led by Dorothy Schroeder, convinced the Los Angeles Board of Jewish Education to issue certificates to librarian-teachers who had taken some library science courses and who had fulfilled the qualifications for Hebrew School teachers. The certificate attested that such people had fulfilled the Bureau’s requirements for serving in Jewish communal organizations (*Proceedings*, 1974, p. 8).

Toby Rossner reports that similar action was taken by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, and recently, Melvin Dykes of the Marc David Gordon Memorial Library at Temple Beth Orr in Choral Springs, FL applied for a “Teacher-Librarian” certificate from the Board of

License, State of Florida/Central Agency for Jewish Education. This opens up interesting possibilities for the certification of SSC librarians. Certification of Judaica school librarians as teacher-librarians can possibly be secured on a state-by-state basis. Rossner, however, is against this and says that AJL must continue to work for national certification of AJL SSC professional and paraprofessional librarians as well as for salary compensation that equates the SSC librarian with the Day School or

Hebrew School teacher. To that end, Barbara Leff and Toby Rossner, both members of AJL's Continuing Education Committee, have been exploring national licensing of Judaica librarians on the SSC level with Dr. Jonathan S. Woocher, Executive Vice-President of the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA), and Paul A. Flexner, Executive Secretary of the National Board of License. We hope to see progress in this area in the near future; however, we should not rule out certification of Judaica librarians by the Association. "Teacher-Librarian" is a valid title for librarians of schools and synagogues, but not for librarians in Jewish Community Centers. Licensing of JCC librarians will raise them to the level of JCC professionals. Perhaps what should be proposed is joint certification by the Association and JESNA, following the AJL-Jewish Book Council collaboration model.

AJL is working towards having all librarians—even the most capable, experienced, and established, but non-degreed "librarians"—apply for *formal* certification, either by earning a degree in library and information science, the MLS, or—when the procedures are in place—to become formally certified by AJL. The certification of Judaica librarians on the para-professional, as well as on the professional level, in one of the following categories: librarian with a specialty in Jewish education, Jewish community studies, Jewish social work, or Jewish studies—will lead to better salary scales, thus transforming Judaica librarianship into a viable career.

Certifying R&S Librarians—R&S librarians require an MLS and a reading knowledge of at least Hebrew and Yiddish; it is helpful if they also have a specialty in some area of Jewish studies. Today, librarians in colleges and universities have faculty status, for the most part. Is there a need for Association certification? Possibly yes. Criteria for such certification could be circulated to schools that offer Jewish Studies and to library schools, and posted by them as a viable career alternative, thus

aiding in recruitment of Judaica librarians. Information on education for Judaica librarianship is already in the AJL recruitment brochure, but that brochure does not have the cachet of an official statement of certification criteria. The Association can serve as an additional certifying agency for Judaica librarians on the R&S level.

Publishing Standards for and Accrediting Judaica Libraries—Standards for Judaica Libraries

Standards for SSC Libraries—The *Proceedings* reveal the Association's involvement in setting standards for both Divisions, but especially for SSC libraries. The Jewish Book Council—not the Association—was the first to set standards for the SSC library through the granting of citations to libraries that met basic criteria.

The Jewish Book Council began to grant "Citations of Merit" to libraries in Jewish community centers, synagogues, schools, and similar organizations if the libraries met the minimum requirements for a Jewish library according to a plan of certification adopted by the Council. The criteria for the citation were formulated in 1948, based on a survey the Council had made of such libraries (Posner, 1987b).

In effect, the application form became a quasi-standard for beginning SSC libraries. The Council would, in 1968 and 1970, publish more comprehensive *Standards*, which were prepared by AJL member Mae Weine and the Standards Committee. In fact, once the Association came into being, most Council publications on libraries were, and still are, written by AJL members. The history of AJL's participation in writing standards for Judaica libraries (summarized from the *Proceedings*, 1966–1977) is described below:

AJL became involved in setting standards for Judaica libraries soon after it was organized. A Standards Committee for the SSC Division was appointed in 1966. Helen Levine and Miriam Leikind gave the Standards Committee report at the SSC business meeting in 1967 at the Second Annual Convention (*Proceedings*, 1967, pp. 25–27). The "Standards" encompassed the librarian and his/her salary, but mainly, the library.

The SSC Division reported at the Third Annual Convention (1968) that Mae Weine had produced a set of *Standards for Syn-*

agogue Libraries, based on the suggestions made in the previous year by Helen Levine and Miriam Leikind. A page-by-page review was conducted. Each item was discussed and either accepted or corrected. A motion to accept the *Standards* was carried unanimously. Copies were given to all present, and were mailed to the rest of the SSC membership (*Proceedings*, 1968, pp. 10, 19, 38).

The *Standards* were also given to the Jewish Book Council for publication, although there is no mention of this in the AJL *Proceedings*. The JBC archives contain a copy of *Standards for a Jewish Library*, prepared by the Association of Jewish Librarians and published by the Jewish Book Council (1968).

Mae Weine reported at the Executive Board meeting of June 21, 1970 that the revised edition of the *Standards* was ready for distribution (*Proceedings*, 1970, p. 15). Jewish Book Council archives show that a second, revised edition, entitled *Standards for Jewish Libraries in Synagogues, Schools and Centers*, was published by the Council in 1970.

Adaire Klein, AJL/SSC President in 1977, remarked that "they are working on a revision of the *Standards* . . . consider placing the findings in our kit" (*Proceedings*, 1977, p. 13).

The *Standards for SSC Libraries* were not revised until 1989, when this became necessary as a result of: the technical progress that has occurred in the library world, new products that are within the purview of a library's collection policy, new opportunities within the Association for upgrading the education of Judaica librarians, such as AJL's continuing education program, and the AJL journal, *Judaica Librarianship*—which, if read thoroughly, is an education in itself.

As a member of SSC, in addition to serving as AJL president from 1988–1990, I wanted to be sure that the *Standards* would be updated. I also wanted AJL to be listed as co-publisher with the Jewish Book Council, and the *Standards* to be sold by both organizations. An agreement with the Jewish Book Council was worked out whereby anything prepared by AJL members *on a volunteer basis* and published by the Council, would be considered co-published and co-owned. On that basis, I wrote a draft of the proposed new standards with the idea that the advanced level of accreditation would reflect these guidelines. The draft was based on the findings of the survey I had made for the

Council in 1984, which showed that SSC libraries previously certified by the Jewish Book Council had not remained at the same level. Some had advanced; others had fallen into disuse.

Merrily Hart, Vice-President/President-Elect of the SSC Division, with the help of Judy Greenblatt, SSC President (1988–1990), and a committee, using the draft outline which I had prepared, added new material and created a document that represents standards towards which an SSC library should strive. This edition of the *Standards* is called *A Guide to Excellence: Standards for School, Synagogue and Jewish Community Center Libraries* (1989).

Standards for R&S Libraries—The R&S Division reported, in 1968, on the areas that would be measured in R&S Standards. The Standards were to be modeled on the ALA “guidelines developed in the standards for College, Junior College, Special and Theological Libraries” (Maurice Tuchman, Standards Committee Workshop, June 25, 1968, *Proceedings*, pp. 48–50).

Item #4 concerned staff, as it mentioned “professional librarians.” In the discussion that followed, Herbert Zafren noted that

there are no ALA standards for university libraries because of their complexity and their differing needs. Thus, LC and Harvard do not require MLS degrees for all professional staff, because subject specialization is more important in some areas.

Mr. Metzger pointed out that we should not be too strict in our requirements for Jewish librarians, such as demanding an MLS degree. Yet, Mr. Tuchman noted, we should still maintain minimum standards to make certain incompetent people are not hired. Mr. Gruber stressed the fact that technical competence and training should not be underestimated.

(*Proceedings*, 1968, pp. 48–49)

Earlier in the week, Miriam Leikind had pointed out:

that we are losing many good people . . . in the field of [Jewish] librarianship because of lack of pension funds, other fringe benefits and poor salary scale. She suggested that the general association should deal with this matter.

(*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 35)

Today, AJL’s R&S libraries comply with ALA Standards for the library and information science field for all libraries on their level. Do R&S libraries need standards that reflect their Judaica identification? Perhaps they do, but they do not yet exist. AJL R&S libraries communicate and work together on a highly professional level regarding their mutual interests, e.g., romanization of Hebrew and Yiddish, and sharing cataloging records through the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN). A committee on cataloging, formed in 1984, considers Library of Congress (LC) decisions and decides whether to adopt or adapt them, or to influence LC to make changes. The Cataloging Workshops held several times a year by the New York Metropolitan Area Chapter of AJL attract participants from far beyond the local area. The annual convention is a time for mutual help in automation, bibliographic projects, and cataloging. (See Bella Hass Weinberg’s article on Judaica library automation in this issue.)

Accreditation of Judaica Libraries

Like the writing and publication of *Standards*, accrediting Judaica libraries raises their level of professionalism because it marks their progress towards fulfillment of criteria stated in the *Standards*.

In 1989, AJL joined the Jewish Book Council in supervising and evaluating the accreditation of SSC libraries. New application forms were designed for three levels of accreditation: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced. AJL would help to administer the accreditation, and would also offer on-site inspections, where necessary. Each level is applied for separately. Council receives the applications and grants the accreditation at the National Jewish Book Awards Ceremony. AJL member Maureen Reister is the Chairman of the new AJL SSC Library Accreditation Committee. She has a loosely-organized committee of volunteers in diverse regions of the United States and Canada who visit a library that has applied for accreditation, and who will act as a consultant to the library, if so requested. In working with the new application forms, Maureen can see from the responses of applicants which parts of the forms are ambiguous; she has already suggested some revisions.

In the history of AJL, there had never been any discussion on the accreditation of R&S libraries, although Maurice Tuchman spoke extensively on standards for Jewish research and college libraries (*Proceedings*, 1968, pp. 48–50). It was always as-

sumed that since R&S libraries were far above the level against which SSC libraries were judged, accreditation did not apply to them. Now that AJL offers three levels of accreditation, including “Advanced,” applications have been received from some special libraries. This is an area that will have to be considered by an R&S Committee.

Providing a Forum for Discussion and Development of Ideas

The AJL Convention—Both the *AJL Newsletter* and *Judaica Librarianship* encourage AJL members to react to articles and to express professional concerns through letters. Although both serials provide a forum for discussion, nowhere else is there as comprehensive a forum as the one provided by the annual AJL Convention. The convention allows time for meeting and trying to solve mutual problems, to plan cooperative efforts, and for constructive criticism. At the 1967 convention, for example, R&S libraries discussed the cessation of the Israel PL-480 program, and how to lower the cost of obtaining Israeli books. Instances of anti-semitism or anti-Israel actions in the general library world have been addressed, and social action planned. Convention is also where recommendations to the Library of Congress regarding changes and additions in subject headings and classification are drafted.

The first AJL convention was held in Philadelphia in 1966. It necessarily dealt mainly with policy matters and the business of molding the new organization. But even then, the members were treated to an address by Dr. Chaim Potok, author and then director of the Jewish Publication Society, and to a program on Jewish music books. The convention attendees specified that, in the future, business meetings were to be limited in time to allow for workshops, and that scheduled workshops should not conflict. It was also suggested that a convention manual be written.

The programs and workshops offered at AJL conventions range from presentations by erudite scholars with esoteric interests to demonstrations by synagogue librarians on how to entice congregants to use the library through eye-catching exhibits. At convention workshops, the Judaically unlettered can learn about rabbinic literature, and the P.T.A. volunteer can learn which reference books answer which questions, while next door, catalogers employed by great academic libraries are debating how to classify the Dead Sea Scrolls, in the

context of the scholarly conflict currently surrounding them.

A random reading of the Subject Index to the *Index to the Proceedings of the Annual Conventions (#1-15) of the Association of Jewish Libraries, 1966-1980* reveals the scope of the programs and workshops offered. Examples include workshops and discussions on: *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, both first and second editions; acquisition of serial publications; books and media; archives; audio-visual materials; automation; bibliography; book collecting; book selection; book talks; bulletin boards; cataloging; children's literature; classification; genealogy; folklore; conservation and preservation of books and manuscripts; acquisition of books from Israel; microfilms; library acquisitions; collection development; Jewish artists; theater; literature; the library in the school; Jewish law; Jewish Book Month; Jews in various countries and areas of the USA; transliteration of the Hebrew alphabet; subject headings; teachers' centers; and more.

The convention sessions include time for questions and answers, and very often the names and addresses of contact people are provided for follow-up information. The sessions up until 1980 have been transcribed and are published in the *AJL Proceedings*, which were indexed by Cutter and Lerman. The *Proceedings* are the most neglected publications of the Association of Jewish Libraries. They are inexpensive and are available for purchase from the AJL Publications Vice-President. Combined with the index, the *Proceedings* are an invaluable resource. Since 1983, many of the papers presented at conventions and all of the AJL awards acceptance speeches have been published in *Judaica Librarianship*.

Librarians attending AJL conventions refer to them as their annual "morale-fix." Convention provides an opportunity not only to learn and discuss, but also to meet with colleagues from across the country, some of whom one sees only this one time each year; to meet new librarians and help them to set up their libraries by apprising them of the publications AJL has to offer; and to offer personal consultations. It is inspiring to look around a large banquet room or auditorium filled with people who are intensely devoted to Jewish books, and who make them available to readers.

AJL conventions have been held in various parts of the United States and in Canada. We have convened on both coasts—in the East (New York, Pennsylvania, New

Jersey, and Washington D.C.) and in the West (Los Angeles and San Francisco). We have met in the heartland (Columbus, Cleveland, Kansas City, and Chicago). We have been as far south as Miami, Florida and as far north as Montreal, Canada. We have bedded and boarded in posh hotels, in resorts, and in stripped university dorms. At all locations, we were treated warmly by the Jewish community and by the members of the local AJL chapter as well as their friends and families, who were not uncommonly pressed into service. We learned about the origins of their Jewish communities, and saw whatever local sights were possible within the constraints of time.

It takes a lot of time, work, energy, and single-mindedness to host an AJL convention, and usually lots of people. Manné Aronovsky and Amnon Zipin did it in Columbus with just the two of them, and in Kansas City, Beverly Newman and Fran Wolf enlisted their relatives' aid to pull it off. Manné also contributed to the AJL convention manual, written by Marilyn Breitenman in 1990 and edited by Marcia Posner.

When the organization was young and membership small, attendance at convention numbered in the 50s. By 1970, however, attendance had reached 98, and in the past decade, the number of registrants has never fallen below 110, with more attending as day-registrants. The 1989 convention in Washington, D.C. surpassed all others with a record 244 attendees and, despite the increased expense, 110 AJL members made it to Israel to attend the exciting First International Conference of Judaica and Israeli Librarians (July 2-6, 1990).

Helping AJL Librarians to Attend Convention—When Doris Orenstein, a beloved bookseller, friend, and Jewish children's literature consultant who had attended every AJL convention—even when gravely ill and in pain—died, a scholarship fund was established in her memory (*Minutes*, June 23, 1987, p. 1). The scholarship, which is funded by the Orenstein family, Kar-Ben Copies (publishers), and AJL members, provides partial funding for a first-time convention attendee who needs financial support. Each year, an announcement appears in the *AJL Newsletter*, giving the criteria for applying as well as the deadline. Doris Orenstein scholarship recipients have become active AJL members, e.g., David Lefcourt, 1988 winner, promotes AJL publications; Sylvia Elan, who won in 1989, continues to be ac-

tive in AJL's New Jersey Chapter; and Marina Lasch, the 1990 winner, whose grant was increased in proportion to the increased expense of attending the Jerusalem convention, was invaluable at the convention, as I reveal below.

AJL is fortunate, indeed, to have had Miriam Miller as Chairman of the Doris Orenstein Fund since its inception. Miriam sends out cards to recipients on behalf of donors to the fund who make contributions "in memory of" or "in honor of." She also increases the fund through judicious investment in financial instruments with the highest yields.

Since April 24, 1978, an annual letter has been circulated to members for them to give to rabbis and directors of institutions, to explain the importance of financial assistance to encourage and enable librarians to attend AJL conventions. Frequently, the letter was sent with convention registration materials as an insert in the *AJL Newsletter*. It was printed on the front page of the February/March 1981 *Newsletter*, on p. 9 of the February/March 1983 *Newsletter*, and on p. 13 of the Nov./Dec. 1987 *Newsletter*.

In 1989, in addition to furnishing members with an updated copy of the letter to rabbis, AJL prepared letters—which were mailed to all members—for use in requesting convention support from their local Federations, Boards of Jewish Education, and/or Jewish Education Associations. Several librarians were successful in obtaining support in this manner, notably, librarians within the MetroWest district of New Jersey.

Additional efforts were made to help as many members as possible to attend the 1990 convention. The Littauer Foundation furnished travel grants to several librarians and one presenter. AJL budgeted money from its treasury to provide registration fees and/or partial travel funds for ten members who applied for financial help, and it underwrote the farewell AJL luncheon at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, where its business meetings were held, rather than adding its cost to the registration fee.

Despite AJL's best efforts, fewer than one-fourth of its members attend convention. Since it is important to convey all the excitement and information to those who cannot attend, every attempt is made by those who did to report back to their local chapters, and to provide summaries of the convention atmosphere and individual workshops in the *AJL Newsletter*.

The First International Conference of Judaica and Israeli Librarians—In 1986, at the installation of Edith Lubetski as AJL President, and myself as Vice-President/President-Elect, we conceived the idea of planning a convention in Jerusalem for AJL's 25th anniversary in 1990. Edith developed the concept further—into an international conference of Israeli and Judaica librarians. She was assisted greatly by Amnon Zipin, who co-chaired the AJL component of this enormous undertaking. There were seven sponsors of the International Conference: the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL); the Israel Library Association (ASI); the Jewish National and University Library (JNUL); the Israel Society of Special Libraries and Information Centers (ISLIC); the Israel Ministry of Education and Culture/Cultural Administration Libraries Department; the Center for Public Libraries; and the Hebraica Libraries Group of Great Britain and Ireland. The 1990 conference was truly a marvelous event. Imagine 1000 Jewish and Judaica librarians from Israel, the United States, and Europe thronging the lobby and gathered in one huge dining room! The theme was definitely international—cooperation among Judaica/Hebraica libraries throughout the world and the creation of an international Task Force for Jewish Children's Literature.

For the R&S members, the conference was a feast of learning. Many of the programs were in English, and as for the Hebrew programs, most R&S members know Hebrew well enough to understand it without translation. They were treated to papers on widely diverse topics—from searching for rare Hebrew books on the island of Djerba to papers on the advanced applications of computer technology to research; increased capabilities for storage and manipulation of data by optical technology; development of interface technology that allows networking among formerly incompatible computers and software; and trends in American and Hebrew cataloging that may lead to their eventual synthesis.

SSC members had a problem since few of the programs in which they were interested were in English (this was Israel, of course, and English-speaking attendees were by far in the minority). If one spoke only English, therefore, it was earphones or nothing, and in a few instances there were no earphones, which sorely disappointed AJL's SSC librarians, who were looking forward to programs on storytelling, reading motivation, and Israeli young adult and children's literature. Luckily, there were some English-language stories

told. Hazel Karp and Toby Rossner's all-too-brief segment on library skills instruction techniques through the use of games, presented in English, was well received by Israelis and Americans, as was Bonnie Gurevitch's segment on "Making History Come Alive: the Role of the Librarian" and Peninah Schramm's paper on folklore—all in English.

The rest of the SSC-type programming was geared mainly for Israel's secular public and school librarians and was, of course, in Hebrew. Fortunately, the *First International Symposium on Jewish Children's Literature* had only one segment in Hebrew, and translation was available for it. As the Symposium took all of July 4th, from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM, at least that day was taken care of for AJL SSC members. Israelis were, for the most part, able to come to the English-language programs without using the earphones for translation. Marina Lasch, the Doris Orenstein scholarship awardee mentioned above, became the impromptu translator for Sergei Michaelkov, the President of Soviet IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People), who decided on his own—after learning of the *First International Symposium on Jewish Children's Literature* from a survey letter I had written to all national divisions of IBBY and to its international secretariat—to attend the conference without registering for it or being invited to present a paper! Marina, who had read Michaelkov's books extensively as a child in Russia, couldn't believe her eyes when she saw him standing next to me in Jerusalem! Through Marina's translation, Michaelkov claimed that he had been involved in having Sholom Aleichem's stories and Bialik's poems translated into Russian. For a full report of the Symposium and the Conference, see the *AJL Newsletter* (vol. 9, no. 3, September/October, 1990, pp. 4, 6, 8) and *Judaica Librarianship* (forthcoming, vol. 6, no. 1) for papers presented there. A list of Association of Jewish Library Conventions from 1960–1990, including the names of their Chairmen and Committee members, appears in Appendix D.

AJL as a Center for Technical Assistance

AJL functions as a center for technical assistance through several avenues. It receives many letters asking for technical help. The AJL Corresponding Secretary forwards inquiries to the appropriate Division President, who handles the query. Any prominent member of AJL receives numerous letters and phone calls, which

are handled directly on an informal basis. A Talent Bank of AJL members that provides free consulting services was organized at Rita Frischer's suggestion in 1981, and has been maintained by various chairmen, the current one being Edythe Wolf. A "mentor" system was organized by Sylvia Avner in 1990, ostensibly to guide and accompany first-time attendees to convention, but these "mentors" sometimes serve their convention companions as consultants throughout the year. The new library certification program, administered by Maureen Reister, will supply an on-site evaluator, if necessary, who may also be pressed into service as a consultant. In other words, AJL networks and acts as a cohesive unit to help its members and non-members, the latter being invited to join before receiving technical assistance.

Cataloging Assistance

One of AJL's most important functions has been to help its members to keep abreast of cataloging changes. President Zafren set the pattern when he reported in the *AJL Bulletin* (vol. 1, no. 2, April 1967, p. 4) that a sub-committee of the Technical Processes Committee had been appointed to discuss the problems entailed in utilizing the LC classification scheme and subject headings for large Jewish libraries. It was decided that the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary, which was then in the process of converting to LC, should draw up a list of suggested expansions and revisions, after which this list would be circulated among other large Jewish research libraries for suggested corrections and emendations. When a final list of proposals was drawn up, it was to be submitted to the Library of Congress for consideration as it revised and expanded its classification schedules and subject lists.

Over the years, the R&S Division of AJL has, at times, been able to influence Library of Congress cataloging decisions. We are fortunate to have as one of our most devoted members Rabbi Theodore Wiener, who is the Judaica/Hebraica Cataloger at the Library of Congress and who often leads LC workshops at AJL conventions.

During the switch from AACR1 [*Anglo-American Cataloging Rules*] to AACR2, there were numerous AJL training workshops and articles published in the *Bulletin* and in the *Proceedings*. As automation took hold, cataloging workshops that included

discussions on reversible romanization, Hebrew and Yiddish computer keyboards, OCLS, UTLAS, RLIN, and retrospective conversion were given during the year by the New York Metropolitan Area chapter and annually during the AJL convention.

The *AJL Bulletin* in 1981-1982 devoted two issues exclusively to cataloging, and R&S created a Committee on Cataloging in 1984. *Judaica Librarianship* carries articles on cataloging in every issue. Ricky Dreyfuss searches LC bulletins for additions and changes to the LC classification scheme that pertain to Judaica, and Rebecca Dassa does the same for LC subject headings. The journal's department, "DEWEINEAZAR," treats classification issues of interest to SSC librarians.

SSC librarians have debated the merits of using Dewey, Weine, Celnik, Leikind, Elazar or "Deweineazar" for twenty-five years. Mae Weine, who devised her scheme to help non-professionals in small synagogue libraries, generously gave her scheme to AJL, which first gave it to AJL members at no charge, but in later years sold it as a publication. Mae Weine has been holding "Problem Clinics" over the years to help librarians to apply her scheme. Mildred Kurland helped revise the Weine scheme and subject-heading list several times, most recently in 1982. Anita Loeb composed a relative index for the widely used scheme, and in 1990, Judith Greenblatt assumed the chairmanship of an SSC Cataloging Committee that will expand the Weine scheme for larger libraries, providing either a supplement or a new edition, and possibly an updated list of subject headings and a relative index.

Greenblatt's committee will also work with Rita Frischer and Rachel Glasser on coordinating Elazar cataloging additions and changes. Rita Frischer obtained a grant several years ago, and was able to start a central cataloging service (Frischer, 1987-1988), which may be subscribed to by SSC libraries that use the Weine or Elazar classification scheme, along with LC, AJL, or local subject headings.

Publication of Literature on Judaic Librarianship

AJL meets this goal through: the publication of AJL serials; the publication of bibliographies and other library aids; and the establishment of awards to improve Jewish children's literature and reference materials.

Publication of AJL Serials

The Proceedings—Initiated in 1966, after the First Annual Convention, and continued thereafter following each convention until 1980, the *Proceedings* reported on all the programs presented at the AJL Annual Convention, and included the names and titles of AJL Board members, the minutes of all business meetings, and, in several instances, full-page photographs of the Board and of the Award presentations. Each program was assigned a chairman and a recorder, in addition to the speaker. The programs of both Divisions were represented equally in the publication. At first, the *Proceedings* were produced promptly and ranged from 15 pages to 34 pages each in length. They were mailed to each AJL member, without charge (as was the membership list). By the third convention, the *Proceedings* numbered 50 pages, increasing annually in length, until in 1979, the volume numbered 120 pages. This AJL serial had become too expensive to produce and mail, and furthermore, it was beginning to be issued a full year or more after the convention!

In an effort to lower publication costs, President Leonard Gold, in 1975, tried to limit the length of *Proceedings* to 48 pages. Instead of giving *Proceedings* to members without charge, a small fee was charged. Few members bothered to purchase them, and AJL was left with a costly inventory. President Barbara Leff stopped publication of the *Proceedings* altogether in 1980, as part of her program to restore the Association to financial health. In 1982, Charles Cutter and Linda Lerman compiled an *Index to Proceedings of the Annual Conventions (#1-15) of the Association of Jewish Libraries, 1966-1980*, reasoning that if the contents of the *Proceedings* were made accessible, there would be more interest in purchasing them.

The *Proceedings* have an important archival function, and it is unfortunate that they were discontinued rather than being produced in a small quantity. The history of the Association became more difficult to write, in my experience, at the point when the *Proceedings* ceased publication.

What has replaced the AJL *Proceedings*? Nothing really has. *Judaica Librarianship* supplants the *Proceedings* to the degree that it publishes papers presented at the AJL convention, if they are submitted to the editors and if the editorial board accepts them. In fact, only a few convention papers appear in *Judaica Librarianship*,

and these are primarily papers presented by members of the R&S Division. Many SSC presenters do not write up their presentations for publication, as they are usually demonstrations with accompanying comments. Neither do SSC members have the "publish or perish" pressure of R&S librarians; thus, many SSC programs are not documented anywhere in print.

Another valuable feature of the *Proceedings* was the *systematic* reporting of the minutes of all AJL business meetings. There is no one place where one may find this type of information after 1980, except for the unpublished *Minutes*, which are usually mixed in with correspondence, etc. and stored in archival boxes, not bound as they are in the *Proceedings*. AJL did not establish a policy to require the full *Minutes* of all national business meetings, and the names of Board Members to be published in either the *Bulletin* (discontinued as of Winter 1982) or the *AJL Newsletter*. Sometimes *Minutes* are included in the latter, more often they are not, nor are full convention programs found consistently in either.

Researching the AJL history and seeing how the flow of information on the Association was interrupted with the cessation of the *Proceedings*, compels me to recommend that an editorial policy be established for the *AJL Newsletter*, whereby the edited minutes of the AJL Mid-Winter meeting appear in the Spring issue, and those of the AJL Annual Convention Business Meetings, along with the names and addresses of all Board and Council members, appear in the Fall issue. Each convention chairman should appoint a recorder and transcriber for each session for which no paper has been submitted. As the latter will most likely be from the SSC Division, the transcripts can be published in the *AJL Newsletter* to benefit members who could not attend the session, thus complementing the full papers that are published in *Judaica Librarianship*.

The AJL Bulletin—Communicating with members and service to members had always been a prime concern of the Jewish Library Association. To fulfill this commitment, the Association had published *The Drop Box: The Jewish Library Association Newsletter*. With the merger of the two library associations in 1965, the name of the publication was changed to *The Drop Box: Bulletin of the Association of Jewish Libraries*. In 1966, at the suggestion of the Publications Committee during the First Annual Convention in Philadelphia (*Proceedings*, 1966, p. 14) the title became simply the *AJL Bulletin*. David Elazar

volunteered to work on the periodical with Elaine Williams for the ensuing year. The Chairman of the *Bulletin* Committee, as well as its Editor, was Elaine Williams of Michigan; the Vice-Chairman, Dr. Charles Berlin of Harvard College Library (*Proceedings*, 1967, pp. 3-4, 10-12, 24).

During its first two years, material for the *AJL Bulletin* was gathered by editor Williams from responses to postcards mailed to the entire membership. Mrs. Williams then sent all the responses that she had received, along with material she had written herself, to Charles Berlin, who then edited them and sent them on to President Herbert Zafren. The *Bulletin* was typed, mimeographed, and mailed by members of Herbert Zafren's library staff at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

For a period, the *Bulletin* was edited and published by the R&S Division. The *Bulletin* appeared in January, March, and June 1968, although its schedule of publication was "intuitive," as Elaine Williams put it at the Third Annual Convention in Cincinnati. She suggested that there be formal deadlines and four *Bulletins* per year—the fourth to be mailed in September, to include the *Proceedings*, a short review of the convention and its activities, a list of resource materials handed out there, and addresses to which non-conventioners might write for these materials. She also thought that there should be co-editors of the *Bulletin*, one from each Division, and a person to do the typing and mailing. Anne Kirshenbaum volunteered to do the typing and mailing. Further suggestions concerned what should and should not be included in the periodical (*Proceedings*, 1968, pp. 13-15, 35-36).

It seems that, for all the good intentions of the preceding year, not much was accomplished, because at the Fourth Annual Convention (1969), it was again recommended that a *Bulletin* Committee be appointed to set policy, format, and a fixed schedule for dates of publication. It was also stated that the *Bulletin* was not meant to be a scholarly publication, but rather an informational house organ. The final report at that convention suggested the following: that there be a section in the periodical for general organizational news, that each Division have a separate column, that each regional group have its *Bulletin* correspondent, and that there be a "Problem Clinic" column as well as "Letters to the Editor" (*Proceedings*, 1969, pp. 11, 34).

At the Fifth Annual Convention in 1970, there was little news to report except for

that old refrain: dates should be fixed, the editor should actively solicit material, and "those who mourn lack of content should feel a personal responsibility for not contributing." Rose Miskin was appointed SSC Division *Bulletin* editor (*Proceedings*, 1970, pp. 15, 30). In 1971, the Sixth Annual Convention was held in Israel, and no AJL administrative decisions were made regarding the *Bulletin*. Not a single issue was published in 1971, and when SSC members voiced their distress, President Nathan Kaganoff expressed the opinion "that the *Bulletin* would fare better in the hands of an SSC Division member, as R&S members tend to work in highly specialized libraries without too much in common, . . . whereas SSC members are a more homogeneous group with a greater interest in communication" (*Minutes*, Executive Committee Meeting, June 29, 1971). Only one issue of the *Bulletin* was mailed in 1972 because of problems with the secretarial service, and at the Eighth Annual Convention (Los Angeles, 1973), President Anne Kirshenbaum "hoped that the new editor would breathe new life into the dying embers of this publication." Again the questions were raised: Should each issue be devoted to a special subject? How should the *Bulletin* reflect the particular interests of the two divisions? Kirshenbaum concluded that "these were matters that will have to be considered by the new editor, hopefully to be appointed soon" (*Proceedings*, Executive-Council Meeting of June 24, 1973, p. 10).

Irene Levin and the AJL Bulletin—Some time between the 1973 and 1974 conventions, Irene Levin, AJL Corresponding Secretary, became the Editor of the almost defunct *Bulletin* (*Proceedings*, 1973, p. 10). The *Bulletin* flourished in her hands. That is not to say that all went smoothly. From the beginning, it was difficult to get members to report twice a year, but Levin had access to more news than any of her predecessors because of her position as AJL Corresponding Secretary. Inquiries, advertisements, and notices arrived daily. As the editor became more experienced and more ambitious, pictures were added to the *Bulletin*, and the number of pages increased.

Irene Levin assumed the editorship of the *Bulletin* in 1973 (with vol. 8, no. 1) and immediately tried to make it a more professional publication. Her first act was to send a flyer to the entire membership in the Fall of 1973, with copy deadlines and contemplated departments clearly noted.

From 1974-1975, the *Bulletin* was a typed, two-column, 30-page issue without photographs, that was copied, collated, and mailed from Rochester, NY. By 1974, the *Bulletin* was being typeset in Long Island, and Levin, to save money, did the mechanicals (camera-ready paste-up) herself. The periodical was printed and then shipped to Rochester for mailing. This resulted in a more professional look, and reduced the price almost by half; but as the mechanicals were not done professionally, with slightly askew pages and, at times, misplaced paragraphs, the *Bulletin* was not yet the professional product Levin yearned for.

In 1975-1976, two issues of the *Bulletin* were published. They included news about the Jewish world in general, especially Jewish artists and exhibits, Jewish education, archival work, grants, and everything the editor could glean about the Jewish library world. The *Bulletin* also listed new publications, book reviews, articles of Jewish library interest, and personal member news. The cover featured an attractive painting or photograph relevant to a forthcoming holiday, article, or library event. Although there were several regular contributing editors, much of the writing, typing, and collecting of articles, including those that had appeared in other publications—which were always credited—was performed by the editor. Levin solicited reviewers, mailed them books, and struggled to get them to write the reviews or return the books. She also reviewed many of the books herself.

Strenuous efforts were made to receive input from various regions of the United States so as to avoid identification of AJL solely with the East Coast. The R&S Division was asked to contribute, but little was forthcoming from this Division, thus bearing out Dr. Kaganoff's perception.

By 1976, the *Bulletin* had so improved that other organizations were ordering copies. It was at this time that Editor Irene Levin made an important suggestion. She argued that AJL should use the *Bulletin* as an inducement for membership, after the model of the Smithsonian Institution and the American Museum of Natural History. She suggested, therefore, raising the cost of *Bulletins* requested by non-members to "almost equal the cost of an individual membership [to AJL]." (This policy is followed today. AJL periodicals are available with membership only.)

The *Bulletin* appeared about two times each year, whenever the editor had

enough copy, and the Association had enough money to print it. In 1977, Levin suggested finalizing deadlines for receipt of copy. She established October 15 and March 15 as deadlines, so that the periodical would be in the hands of members each December and May. Levin also had many sound ideas for obtaining advertising and for publicizing the *Bulletin*—ideas that were acted upon twelve years later by Ethel Trubowitz, who served as advertising manager for *Newsletter* from 1988–1990 (see “The *AJL Newsletter*,” below).

In 1979, the Executive Council wrestled with the choice of (1) increasing the *Bulletin* to a quarterly and discontinuing the *Newsletter*; or (2) keeping the *Bulletin* as a semi-annual and the *Newsletter* a quarterly. They chose the latter. Prior to 1981, however, the *Newsletter* appeared only twice, not four times a year (*Proceedings*, 1979, pp. 11, 14, 17).

The *Bulletin* staff from 1977–1979 included Nettie Frischman, Barbara Leff, Sher Rice, Marcia Posner, Sylvia Firschein, and Susanna Friedman. Each issue numbered 32 pages, and the print run of 700 copies cost \$1,284. By the following year, when 100 more copies were needed, the expense had jumped to \$1,450. Once again, production costs were getting out of hand.

Transition Period Between the AJL Bulletin and Judaica Librarianship—As we have already noted, the editorial policy of 1967 called for the *Bulletin* not to be a scholarly journal, and it was not. But, as both *Bulletin* and *Newsletter* expanded, they became more alike. As the Association grew in numbers and sophistication, and the practice of librarianship metamorphosed into information science, a more scholarly journal was called for, and the catalyst for the formation of a new journal lay in action taken by Irene Levin. Theme issues of the *Bulletin* were published in Spring 1981 and Winter 1982, exploring various aspects of cataloging for the Judaica library. The Spring 1982 issue was also theme-oriented, with a focus on audio-visual media. Articles from the theme issues are still cited in various bibliographies.

In 1982, Irene Levin converted the *Newsletter* into a tabloid with fast turnaround, containing timely Association news, book reviews, and information sources. The contrast between the two publications was now distinct, causing

Philip Miller, who was then AJL Vice-President/President-Elect, to suggest during the 1982 convention that with in-depth articles and convention-generated materials, the *AJL Bulletin* could become a professional journal of status, a publishing medium of Jewish librarianship, and more attractive to professional indexing because our articles would be worthy of use by researchers, library schools, and continuing education programs. A committee was appointed to choose an editorial board for the *Bulletin*.

As President, Philip Miller began to feel that the *Bulletin* was not the true voice of the organization. It is true that seldom did it represent R&S interests. In 1983, the Executive Board voted that the *Bulletin* cease publication, and that the editorial board of the new journal be separate from that of the *Newsletter*. Hazel Karp offered the following motion:

I move that the format of the *Bulletin* be changed into a more professional journal; and that its editorial staff be separated from that of the *Newsletter* (*Council Meeting Minutes*, June 20, 1982, Columbus, Ohio) reported in the *AJL Newsletter*, Feb./Mar. 1984, vol 3, no 1, p. 16).

Bella Hass Weinberg and Marcia W. Posner were invited to be the editors of the new publication (see “Bella Hass Weinberg and *Judaica Librarianship*,” below).

The final issue of the *AJL Bulletin* was vol. 17, no. 2 (Winter 1983). The feisty, interesting, vastly informative publication, with its funny typos, engagingly misaligned type, and at times quixotic organization, was going to be replaced by a scholarly, refereed, highly professional library journal—the first of its type in the field of Judaica librarianship.

The *AJL Newsletter*—The concept of the *AJL Newsletter* was to get news to the membership quickly and less expensively than via the *Bulletin*. While the *Bulletin* carried information that was worth saving, the *Newsletter* was to be ephemeral, little more than a flyer, containing such timely news as convention information and superficial post-convention reportage. It began that way, but within a short time, had become more substantial and costly.

The *AJL Newsletter* was established by Irene Levin in September of 1974. It consisted of a single typed page, reproduced the least expensive way. It contained a short résumé of the 1973 Convention in

Los Angeles, some news, information on how to reach various chairmen, and pleas for *Bulletin* articles, for which the next deadline was given. Single issues were published in September 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1978. From a one- or two-page publication, the *Newsletter* increased to eight pages and generally included one photograph. The next *Newsletter* appeared early in March 1979 and gave news of the forthcoming convention. It included the program schedule, book reviews, and news. A second issue with eight pages appeared in September of 1979, and in 1980, two issues of thirteen and fifteen pages, respectively, appeared. Four issues appeared in 1981, each containing sixteen pages.

As described above, from 1982–1983, in an effort to cut costs, maintain a quarterly publication, and get the news to members more quickly, Levin experimented with a newsprint tabloid format with smaller type; each issue ran from eight to twenty pages. Although the *Newsletter's* content was good, members did not like the format or the small print. The large page size was inconvenient to photocopy, and the newsprint would crumble within a few years, which made saving or binding it improbable.

The next incarnation of the *Newsletter* was a distinct contrast to the tabloid format. At the time, there were no more *Bulletins* for the SSC reader, and *Judaica Librarianship* appeared infrequently. Levin was urged to make the *Newsletter* every bit as attractive and important to the Association as the more scholarly journal. In 1984, four issues appeared in an elegant new format, on heavy buff stock, with professional typesetting and mechanicals. Minor problems still remained with editing and organization, however. There were several new columnists: Marcy Josephs, Beverly Newman, Fran Wolf and Florette Brill, in addition to many new book reviewers. Because *Judaica Librarianship* was so costly, the *Newsletter* editor was again asked to cut costs. Attempts to save money resulted in the use of thinner white paper with smaller type to fit the limit of twelve pages per issue, but members' complaints soon caused the *Newsletter* editor to return it to its former handsome appearance, despite the continuing problem of cost.

The first issue of *Newsletter* to be produced with desktop publishing techniques appeared in November 1988, at substantial savings. It was as handsome as the previous issues that had been typeset with professionally pasted-up mechanicals. Hazel Karp had joined Irene Levin as

co-editor, after Levin's fifteen years of being alone at the helm. In addition to helping with the copy-editing and organization of the paper, Karp's contribution was to provide for the desktop publishing process. The next fortunate event was the addition to the staff of Ethel Trubowitz as advertising manager. She was successful in obtaining enough ads for each issue so that the *Newsletter* cost the Association very little, if anything, to publish. Book reviews in the *Newsletter* (1973-1989) have been indexed by Judy Carsch, and Sylvia Eisen intends to index the *Newsletter* for subject matter.

The *AJL Newsletter* can serve as a vehicle for SSC articles that do not fit *Judaica Librarianship's* editorial guidelines. To reiterate, the *Newsletter* is needed for the reporting of AJL administrative decisions, which were once found in the pages of the *Proceedings*. The *Newsletter* should report annually on the names of Board and Council members, the entire convention program, and summarize individual convention programs that are not destined to appear in *Judaica Librarianship*. The *AJL Newsletter* is now a publication that the Association can not only be proud of, but can also afford.

Bella Hass Weinberg and Judaica Librarianship—The journal might never have gotten off the ground had it not been for President Philip E. Miller's and, later, President Hazel Karp's enthusiasm for the project. Miller encouraged the enterprise, with the proviso that there be a co-editor representing SSC interests. His was a delicate act of diplomacy—first Irene Levin had to be informed that one of her publications was ending, and then Miller had to assuage the fears of SSC members who were afraid they would be shut out of the new publication. His letter to AJL members regarding the new journal appeared in the final issue of the *Bulletin* (vol. 17, no. 2, Winter 1983, p. 2).

Judaica Librarianship (JL) has been in existence since 1983. As the Association of Jewish Libraries grew in numbers and sophistication, and the practice of librarianship metamorphosed, a new journal was called for to reflect these changes. As noted above, Bella Hass Weinberg and Marcia W. Posner were invited to serve as the editors of the new publication. The journal owed all to Bella Hass Weinberg's inspiration. She understood the need for a professional Judaica library journal and conceptualized a refereed, carefully ed-

ited, state-of-the-art journal of Judaica librarianship that would meet the informational needs of Judaica librarians on all levels. The chatty, informal *Bulletin* had served the young organization and the field of Judaica librarianship—as it once was—quite well, but when the field changed, a more authoritative journal was needed. The factors are enumerated in the journal's first editorial: professionalization of the field, increasing complexity, interdependence of libraries, and internationalization of Judaica librarianship (Weinberg, 1983).

JL replaced the semi-annual *Bulletin*, and its editors hoped that it, too, would be a semi-annual, but the goal has not quite been attained, although its volume/issue numbering reflects that of a semi-annual. The scrupulous refereeing, editing, author approval of manuscripts and galleys, paste-up, editorial review of page-proofs, etc. are extremely time-consuming. Then, too, the editors are volunteers with other responsibilities and great demands on their time. The members of the editorial board and contributing editors have been loyal and dependable. Their names appear on the inside cover of this issue, so there is no reason to repeat them here. A five-year compilation of *JL* articles, arranged by departmental headings, could be published as a book. The articles are, indeed, serving as an authoritative text for the profession.

All articles appearing in *Judaica Librarianship* are subsumed under department headings. The alphabetically arranged departments are subjects vital to modern Judaica librarians. They are: Alef Bit (automation), Approbations (reviews), Archives, Catalog Department, Children's Literature, Community Libraries, Day School Libraries, Deweyezazar (SSC classification), Epistle from Europe, Epistle from Israel, Great Books, History of Libraries, Houses of the Book (library descriptions), Learning (education for Judaica librarianship), Literary Themes, Management, Media, People of the Book, Rare Books, Reference Department, Research Libraries, Responsa (reference questions), School Libraries, Serially Speaking, Synagogue Libraries, Translations/Classic Papers, and sections for Commentaries (letters) and Polemics (opinion papers).

Articles may be accessed by author, title, and subject in the annual indexes, in addition to each issue's table of contents. Each volume of the journal is indexed, and a cumulative index to five volumes appears in this issue. *Judaica Librarianship*, highly respected in the world of research and

special libraries, is covered by eight professional abstracting and indexing services, and its articles are cited by other scholars.

Despite Miller's assurances and *JL's* inclusion of a great deal of material of interest to SSC Division members, many SSC members miss the chatty, informal *Bulletin* and are put off by the journal. In truth, the *Newsletter* now replicates many features of the former *Bulletin*, except for the simple "How-to-do-it" articles that were so helpful to SSC volunteer para-professionals and to inexperienced librarians, new to Judaica settings. Although this type of article can be published in *Judaica Librarianship*, there is no reason why *Newsletter* cannot encompass them as an alternative outlet.

Judaica Librarianship does not speak to all SSC members simply because not enough SSC members submit articles. SSC librarianship focuses on reader guidance; teaching library and research skills to children; servicing the curriculum of elementary, middle, and high schools; catering to the recreational and informational needs of congregants; and providing programs to entice patrons to the library. All of these subjects have their place in *Judaica Librarianship*; in fact, there are departments for all of these topics. The journal's high standards and excellence have been intimidating to some, however. SSC members may not feel that their knowledge and writing ability measure up to the journal's contents. What they are reading, however, is edited material. Submitting material to *Judaica Librarianship* is educational for the writer, as well as satisfying to see in print.

The publication of *Judaica Librarianship* has been a high mark in the history of the Association of Jewish Libraries. It has gained the Association hundreds of new R&S members. It has brought the Association to the attention of the general and special library worlds, and has earned their respect.

AJL Publications

The Executive Board of the newly formed Association realized, as had the two previous library associations, that AJL should issue publications to help the librarian and to upgrade Judaica libraries. A Publications Committee was established by the time of the first AJL convention in 1966. Some of its members were: Isadore Meyer, Menahem Schmelzer, and Jacob Dienstag, Chairman pro-tem. The committee suggested that Mr. Galiner's bibliography of reprints be mimeographed and sent to all members, and that a list of all the

special libraries and special collections of Jewish content and interest be compiled in a sort of Jewish "Bowker." It was the opinion of the convention group that all members should receive all Association and Division publications free of charge (*Proceedings*, 1966, p. 13).

In 1980, at the Fifteenth Annual Convention (*Proceedings*, June, 1980, p. 25), a Publications Policy was passed specifying that the Publications Committee for the Association would consist of the Vice-Presidents [Presidents-Elect] of each Division. The goal of the Committee was to submit for publication materials that could be used as working tools or finding aids. The [committee] members would welcome suggestions for publication, as well as consider proposals that described the nature of the work to be done and detailed its scope and length. They specified that unsolicited manuscripts would be returned.

In addition to the Publications Committee, there was a Publications Chairman who sent out the publications ordered and kept a record of income and expenses. Linda Lerman, then bibliographer at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, served as Publications Chairman from 1984-1986. The appearance and sales of AJL publications improved when Hazel Karp, President of the SSC Division, had an AJL cover designed to be used on all AJL publications. Karp also suggested that a list of publications be printed frequently in the *Newsletter* (*Minutes*, Mid-Winter, 1984, p. 2).

When the position of Publications Chairman was upgraded to a Vice-Presidency in 1987 (Article VI, Section 1 of the AJL Constitution), the duties of the Vice-President of Publications included soliciting new publications, updating old publications, and seeing to their editing and publication. The Vice-President of Publications was to continue to consult with the Publications Committee [the Vice-Presidents/Presidents-Elect of the two Divisions] (Article II, Section 1a & b of the Bylaws).

The assignment of responsibility for the acquisition and production of AJL publications to one person, and changing the position to a vice-presidency, had positive results. Ralph Simon, the previous Publications Chairman, succeeded himself as the new Vice-President of Publications for the term of 1988-1990. Prior to having a national Vice-President in charge of publications, each Division had produced its own publications with uneven and usually unsatisfactory results. Simon began to produce AJL publications of uniform and

attractive appearance on his MacIntosh personal computer and laser printer. President Marcia Posner charged Simon with responsibility for updating all AJL publications and commissioning new ones, which he did throughout his term. In 1988, he requested ISBNs (International Standard Book Numbers) for AJL publications, and in 1989, at Bella Hass Weinberg's suggestion, applied to R.R. Bowker to ensure that AJL publications were listed in *Books-in-Print*. At the 1990 general membership meeting, Treasurer Toby Rossner reported that AJL publications had more than doubled in sales. Bella Hass Weinberg, AJL's representative to NISO [National Information Standards Organization], has promoted compliance of AJL publications with bibliographic standards. David Gilner has succeeded Ralph Simon as Vice-President in charge of Publications (*Minutes*, July 1990).

To date, except for Herbert Zafren's list of reference books, which is out-of-print, Bella Hass Weinberg's paper presented at the 1977 convention (Weinberg, 1978), also out-of-print, and Charles Cutter and Linda Lerman's *Index to Convention Proceedings*, all AJL publications have been written by SSC members. Comprehensive updating and expansion of AJL publications have occurred when an SSC member served as national president and made the updating of SSC publications a top priority, i.e., Margot Berman, Barbara Leff, Hazel Karp, and myself. In the 1990-92 term progress may be made towards the publication of R&S material, as AJL will have an R&S president, Linda Lerman, and an R&S Publications Vice-President. Articles culled from *Judaica Librarianship*, as well as from the *Bulletin* and the *Proceedings*, can be sources of new R&S publications.

AJL has benefited from two administrative publications completed recently; neither will appear on the AJL Publications List, however. The first is the *Officer's Handbook* (1989), compiled by Marcia W. Posner (the *Council Handbook* and the *AJL Policy Manual*, which will complement this publication, are in progress). The second publication is the *Convention Manual*, compiled by Marilyn Breitman (1990).

In addition to the listing of current and out-of-print AJL publications found in Appendix E, the following is a sampling of AJL's "hidden publications"—bibliographies and articles that appeared in the *Bulletin* (1967-1983) and the *Newsletter* from 1976-1982; neither of these serials is indexed.

AJL's "Hidden" Publications

Bibliographies

1976-1980—"Books on Jewish Themes," an annotated list of children's books arranged according to age-levels, by Nettie Frishman for the San Francisco Public Library, appeared in regular installments in the *AJLSC Library Light* (the newsletter of the Southern California Chapter) and was intermittently reprinted in the *Bulletin* and *Newsletter*. Supplement no. 6 (1978) appears in the *Bulletin* (vol. 12, no. 2, p. 25) and Supplement no. 11 (1980) appears in the *Newsletter* (Jan/Feb 1980).

1977—Students in Harvey Horowitz's Judaica Reference and Bibliography Class at Hebrew Union College-JIR in Los Angeles, each offered bibliographies of 35 titles that they had prepared for his class, to anyone requesting them. A list of names (some of AJL's most active members) and addresses appeared in the *Bulletin* (Winter 1977, vol. 12, no. 1, p. 9) along with the titles of the bibliographies.

1978—Irene Levin appended a bibliography to her article about Jews in Moslem lands (*Bulletin*, Winter 1978, vol. 13, no. 1, p. 32).

1978—A bibliography of the works of Isaac Bashevis Singer appeared in the *Bulletin* (Winter 1978, vol. 13, no. 1, p. 7).

1979—An extensive bibliography on the Holocaust, from the Norman Asher and Helen Asher Library of Spertus College, appeared in the *Bulletin* (Spring 1979, vol. 13, no. 2, pp. 21-22).

1982—A selected bibliography of children's books published between 1980-1981, which was prepared by Rita Frischer for her article in *Moment Magazine* (but not printed there), appeared in the *Newsletter* (Feb/March 1982).

Helpful articles—Articles helpful to librarians have appeared in the *Proceedings* (1960-1980), and its index makes them easily retrievable, but there are also some good articles in the *Bulletin*. For example, Amnon Zipin's article, "Serials Cost Efficiency: A Model and Case Study" (*Bulletin*, Winter 1979, vol. 14, no. 1, pp. 11-13), was cited by Edith Degani (*Proceedings*, 1980, p. 9) as the outstanding contribution of the year by R&S to the good of the organization.

Awards

In 1968, Joseph Yenish, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the School, Synagogue, and Center Division of AJL, suggested that the Association try to interest some affluent individual to set up a fund to award, annually, a prize for a literary work in the field of Judaica. The idea was broached to the Philadelphia Jewish Library Association, whose members were asked whether they were willing to contribute toward this fund, and perhaps be joined by others. The discussion that followed yielded the following suggestions:

1. That AJL choose a topic yearly in a field where there is a lack of material.
2. That AJL contact established authors of juvenile books, and ask them to write a book on a Jewish topic, because these authors are already established with publishers.
3. That AJL award the prize to an author of a juvenile book already published.

Mr. Yenish then outlined the following steps to be taken:

1. Acquire the money.
2. Send out word that the SSC Division of AJL is offering the prize.
3. Give it all the publicity we can.
4. Notify the Jewish Book Council of our plan.

The Division authorized Mr. Yenish to proceed with the project. The Children's Book Award was inaugurated in 1968 through the initiative of Ethel Saferin, SSC President, who secured the financing from the Kravitz Family, patrons of her library, the Rachel and Charles Kravitz Memorial Library in the Park Synagogue of Cleveland, Ohio (*Proceedings*, 1968, p. 37).

Children's Book Awards: 1969-1988—The first book to win the Shirley Kravitz Children's Book Award was *The Endless Steppe* (Crowell) by Esther Hautzig. This award had aroused the interest of the *Jewish Digest* (no longer published), which wanted to share in funding it. The award was in the form of a plaque, but the SSC Board voted that up to \$500.00 could be expended from the Division's treasury to be used for transportation of the recipient.

In 1976, the character of the children's book award was discussed. It was recommended that the name of the award be changed to "The Association of Jewish Libraries, School, Synagogue and Center Division, Book Award for Juvenile Literature," and that an AJL seal be produced to affix to AJL-award-winning books. It was also recommended that \$100.00 be added to the award. By 1977, when Milton Meltzer won the award, it was no longer a Divisional award, but belonged to the whole organization. This was announced at the Annual General Meeting, on June 29, 1977, by the President of national AJL, Margot Berman. She reminded the assembly that, by vote, the children's book award had been changed to the Association of Jewish Libraries Book Award. Funds for the plaque were to come from the Treasury. An award seal designed by Shirley Rumack's husband was sent to the publisher of the award-winning book. The seal read "1976 Book Award—Association of Jewish Libraries." Publishers shared in the expense of producing the seals.

The following year, 1978, Sydney Taylor, the author of the *All-of-a-Kind-Family* books, died. The Association sent a letter of condolence to her husband, Ralph Taylor. The letter also announced the establishment of a new children's book award, to be called the "Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work-Award," an idea first suggested by Nettie Frischman in 1978 (*Proceedings*, 1978, p. 11); the first of these awards was to be conferred posthumously on Sydney Taylor. A year later, the award was accepted by her husband, Ralph, at the 1979 convention in Cincinnati, Ohio (*Proceedings*, 1979, pp. 119-120). Ralph Taylor was to play a very special role vis-à-vis the AJL children's book awards in the future.

The second Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work Award was won by Marilyn Hirsh in 1979, and was accepted by her at the Philadelphia convention in 1980. By 1981, through the inspiration of Hazel Karp, then chairman of the book-award committee, it was decided that AJL should grant two book awards—one for the "Best Older Children's Book" and one for the "Best Younger Children's Book" (*Minutes*, 1981). The first "Best Younger Children's Book" award was granted in 1982 to Barbara Cohen and Michael J. Deraney (illustrator) for the now classic *Yussel's Prayer* (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard).

The Sydney Taylor Awards—Something quite dramatic occurred in 1984. Rita Frischer, who succeeded Hazel Karp as chairman of the children's book awards committee, invited Ralph Taylor to fund the

AJL Body-of-Work-Award, which had been named in memory of his wife, and to fund the other two children's book awards as well. Frischer promised him that the name of all of the children's book awards would be changed to the "AJL Sydney Taylor Book Awards." Ralph Taylor agreed to Frischer's proposal.

Beginning in 1984, each winner of a children's book award received \$1,000, plus a plaque. The first recipients were: Miriam Chaikin, "Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work Award;" Amy Schwartz, "AJL Sydney Taylor Best Younger Children's Book Award," for *Mrs. Moskowitz and the Sabbath Candles* (Jewish Publication Society); and Uri Orlev, "AJL Sydney Taylor Best Older Children's Book Award," for *The Island on Bird Street*. In 1990, Ralph Taylor promised to endow the awards rather than providing for them annually.

A list of the winners of all AJL children's book awards is found in Appendix F.

Not only did Ralph Taylor fund the AJL children's book awards, but he volunteered an additional award to be named for his wife, an award for the best manuscript of original fiction for children aged 8-12, written by a previously unpublished author. The impetus for this award was that Sydney Taylor's literary talent had been uncovered because her husband, Ralph, had submitted one of her unpublished stories to a competition, and she had won. Thus was born the "AJL Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award." An additional sum for use by the Association in the administration of this award was volunteered by Mr. Taylor as well.

The winner of the first "AJL Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award" was Rosalie Fleisher, for *Spirit*, the tale of a freedom-loving zebra in an Israeli kibbutz zoo. The first Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award-winner to be published is Frances Weissenberg's *The Streets Are Paved With Gold* (1987 award recipient; published in 1990 by Harbinger House). This is a first-generation immigrant story, like those written by Sydney Taylor.

A list of all the winners of the AJL manuscript award is in Appendix G.

Reference Book Awards—In 1982, the Council considered a proposal by Brad Sabin Hill that AJL offer an award on Jewish bibliography in addition to its children's book awards (*Minutes*, June 23, 1982, as reported in the *AJL Newsletter*,

Feb/March 1984, vol. 3 no. 1, p. 14). Two years later, in 1984, the proposal was revived by Bella Hass Weinberg, who suggested that the scope of the award be broadened to encompass all types of Judaica reference books. The Council voted to institute such an award, funded by the Association. The first "Association of Jewish Libraries Reference Book Award" was presented at the Twentieth Annual Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1985. The winner was Dr. Louis Feldman for *Josephus and Modern Scholarship, 1937-1980* (de Gruyter, 1984). In 1986, Irene Heskes won the award for *The Resource Book of Jewish Music: a Bibliographical and Topical Guide to the Book and Journal Literature and Program Materials* (Greenwood Press, 1985).

In 1987, the award was funded by Dr. Harold J. Mason, founder of Greenwood Press. The winner of the "AJL Harold J. Mason Reference Book Award" was Berl Kagan for his *Leksikon fun Yidish-Shraybers*. In 1988, the award, again funded by the Association, was given to Shimeon Brisman for *A History and Guide to Judaic Encyclopedias and Lexicons*, which is volume two of his "Jewish Research Literature" series (Hebrew Union College, 1987). The Association also funded the 1989 award, which was given to Joan Bratkowsky for *Yiddish Linguistics: a Multilingual Bibliography*. A one-year sponsor was found by Esther Nussbaum to fund the award in 1990, but the search for a donor continues. The noted philanthropist Ivan Tillem had promised to support the reference book award, but before the arrangements were formalized, he was killed in a tragic airplane accident while bringing aid to Ethiopia.

A list of winners of the AJL Reference Book Award may be found in Appendix H.

Brad Sabin Hill's recommendation to honor a Jewish bibliography was revived by Linda Lerman's suggestion, in 1988, that AJL present two R&S Awards, the second to go to the best work of Jewish bibliography in the previous year. This award, which will be granted for the first time, in 1991, will be sponsored by my husband, Louis Posner, and myself and will be called "The Marcia and Louis Posner Award for Jewish Bibliography."

Encouraging the Establishment of Judaic Library Collections

AJL encourages the establishment of Judaic library collections through its outreach programs. Outreach programs take several forms.

Membership Recruitment Drives—Membership recruitment drives—as executed by Ethel Saferin and Gertrude Serata in 1967, by Carole Ozeroff in 1980, and most recently by Sylvia Firschein and Esta Blaxberg (1987-1989)—with thousands of letters mailed to selected individuals, institutions, and organizations, advising them of AJL's services and willingness to help them set up a Judaica library, and inviting their membership, result in the establishment of many new Jewish libraries.

Publication of Materials to Guide the Establishment of Beginning Libraries—The availability of AJL publications—some included and all described in the "Beginner's Kit"—that explain how to organize and administer a Jewish library encourages the establishment of such libraries (see "AJL Publications," above).

Library Accreditation Program—The application form for Jewish Book Council/AJL library accreditation enumerates basic criteria that beginning libraries may aim to achieve.

Publicity and Public Relations—AJL encourages the establishment of new collections by publicizing its publications and activities, and by providing speakers who are authorities on various types of Jewish libraries and/or Jewish bibliography at professional conferences of allied professions, e.g., Jewish education, both teacher and principal conferences; Jewish studies; general public libraries and school libraries; Jewish community centers; Hillels; and Jewish and general social service agencies.

Among AJL's Publicity chairmen, listed chronologically, are: Joseph Yenish, Rose Miskin, Rose Sobel, Philip Miller, Marcia Posner, Merrily Hart, Pamela Braverman, and Barbara Raskin.

Serving As a Liaison Between the Judaic and General Library Community

AJL's Founders intended that it function as a liaison between the Judaic and general library community, which it has done. What they did not foresee, was that AJL has seen fit on several occasions to take action of a political nature in book, library, or librarian-related situations.

Liaison Activities

AJS (Association for Jewish Studies)—AJL has cordial relations with AJS. Linda Lerman, President of AJL since July 1990, is an active member of AJS as well. AJS

will accommodate AJL by displaying AJL publications at its convention. The two organizations will work together on projects of common interest, such as the microfilming of materials from the Zionist Archives prior to their removal to Israel. When AJL members have expertise in areas of interest to AJS, AJL members are enlisted as presenters at AJS conventions. AJL schedules its midwinter meeting so as not to conflict with that of AJS.

ALA (American Library Association)—AJL is a member of ALA. AJL's representative (from its R&S cataloging committee) attends meetings of the ALA cataloging committee and consults on matters dealing with the cataloging of Hebraica.

CAJE (Coalition for Alternatives in [later: the Advancement of] Jewish Education)—CAJE decided to incorporate library-media center workshops, led by AJL members, permanently into its conference structure following Past-President Barbara Leff's proposal to this effect in 1984.

CARLJS (Council of Archives and Research Libraries in Jewish Studies)—Many of AJL's members are also institutional representatives to CARLJS. Pearl Berger, former president of AJL's R&S Division (1984-1986), was president of CARLJS from 1986-1989. The National Foundation for Jewish Culture, which serves as AJL's mailing address, is also the parent body of CARLJS. AJL and CARLJS work on projects of mutual interest, and AJL schedules its mid-winter meeting to fall on the day prior to CARLJS's meeting. Time is allowed at the AJL annual convention for a CARLJS meeting. Another aspect of AJL's relationship with CARLJS has been described under "Archives" in Part I of this history.

CNLIA (Council of National Library and Information Associations)—AJL has been represented on CNLIA for the past twenty-five years by the same delegate, Rabbi Theodore Wiener, who also served as CNLIA president for two years. His alternate is Margot Berman, a past president of AJL. The CNLIA focuses on issues that affect its members, the most recent being education of librarians.

CSLA (Church and Synagogue Library Association)—Intended as a church library organization, it was broadened to include synagogue librarians at Mae Weine's request. AJL was invited to join the incipient organization in 1967, but Mae Weine, then president of AJL, declined (see the interview with Mae Weine by Judith Greenblatt in this issue). Cordial relations between the two associations are maintained.

Jewish Book Council—The Jewish Book Council was, from the beginning, a champion of the Association of Jewish Libraries. Rabbi Philip Goodman, former Director of JBC, worked with Miriam Leikind in trying to organize a national library association. In 1966, Mae Weine wrote an article for the *Jewish Book Annual* regarding an AJL survey; numerous other AJL members have been regular contributors to the *Annual*. Rabbi Goodman, who now resides in Israel, was welcomed as a distinguished guest at the AJL 25th Anniversary Banquet in Jerusalem on July 5, 1990. [See his letter in the COMMENTARIES section of this issue.—Ed.]

AJL members have also authored several JBC publications. When Mae Weine completed *Standards for Jewish Libraries in Synagogues, Schools, and Centers* in 1968, the Council added the work to its publications list. Since then, many AJL members have written JBC publications, among them Margot Berman, Rita Frischer, Merrily Hart, and Marcia Posner. AJL members have served on the Council's Library Committee for many years. Leonard Gold has been involved with the Council since 1971. He is the Assistant Editor of the *Jewish Book Annual*, Chairman of the Library Committee, a Vice-President on its Executive Board, and has been nominated as JBC President. I have worked for the Council for many years, serve on its Board, and am responsible for many of the current AJL-JBC co-publication projects. Most importantly, since 1989, I have participated in AJL's co-certification of SSC libraries with the Jewish Book Council. The Council and AJL have also cooperated on sharing booths at various library and educators' conferences.

Jewish Librarians' Caucus—AJL cooperates with the Jewish Librarians' Caucus on issues of antisemitism and anti-Zionism in ALA and elsewhere. The caucus is now named "The Jewish Librarians' Task Force" of the Ethnic Materials Information Exchange (EMIE) Roundtable of the American Library Association (ALA).

LC (Library of Congress)—AJL works closely with and sometimes acts as consultant to the Library of Congress in the acquisition and cataloging of Hebraica and Judaica. For example, in June, 1969, it was resolved that a letter be sent to the Librarian of Congress strongly urging him to use all effective means at his disposal to ensure the continuation of the book program of the Public Law 480 Project (*Proceedings*, 1969, p. 9).

AJL closely monitored LC policies relating to the romanization of Hebrew in machine-readable cataloging and successfully influenced LC to keep its commitment to cataloging in the original script. AJL effected changes in *Anglo-American Cataloging Rules*, and communications from high-level LC catalogers have been published in *Judaica Librarianship*.

NISO (National Information Standards Organization)—AJL has a voting representative to NISO (formerly called the Z39 Committee of the *American National Standards Institute (ANSI)*). The Z39 Committee has incorporated and is now independent of CNLIA, which in the past served as its secretariat. The Z39 Committee and its subcommittees are involved in setting bibliographic standards for all published materials. Over the years, AJL has been represented on this committee by Herbert Zafren, Brad Sabin Hill, Bella Hass Weinberg, and Pearl Berger. Zafren led the effort to produce the American National Standard for the Romanization of Hebrew. Hill was particularly concerned with the names of Jewish languages in the standard for language codes. Weinberg, AJL's current Voting Representative, focuses on standards related to indexing and periodical format, while Berger, AJL's Alternate Representative, reviews standards for preservation.

OCLC/DDC/Forest Press (Online Computer Library Center/Dewey Decimal Classification/Forest Press, publisher of the Dewey Decimal Classification)—Since 1986, when I met Judy Kramer-Green, editor of the DDC, at the ALA Convention exhibits and discussed the feasibility of adding more Judaica class numbers and index entries to the DDC for use in Jewish Day Schools, we have continued to communicate. In 1988, we began to discuss the possibility of the DDC providing a new number for Holocaust revisionist works, and learned that many things were going to be possible as DDC was to become part of OCLC. By 1989, the new number "940.5318" was provided for "Holocaust" in the 20th edition, and I was advised that we were to add "01" to this number to distinguish "Holocaust Denial" literature. In July 1989, I was asked to review the 200 religion class index, excerpted from the new DDC edition 20, and to recommend additions and changes for Judaica and Jewish topics. (This process was repeated for other religious groups, as well.) Many of my recommendations that were workable within the range of available classification numbers were adopted, with the promise that in a future edition, where class numbers would be added or

changed, more Jewish topics would be included. I had the honorarium assigned to the "Association of Jewish Libraries," and made clear that AJL, not I, should be considered the DDC's consultant. Peter J. Paulson, Executive Director, replied: "We look forward to working with you and AJL in the future."

USBE (Universal Serials and Book Exchange)—The USBE distributes duplicates to member libraries. AJL's representative to USBE meetings was formerly Rabbi Theodore Weiner. Since May 1990, AJL, under the guidance of Rick Burke and Linda Lerman, has initiated its own book exchange program.

Monitoring Issues of Concern to Jews and Judaism

In 1972, it was resolved that letters be sent to Leonid Brezhnev, to the Russian Ambassador to the United States, Anatoly Dobrinin, and to the Russian Ambassador to Canada, protesting the continued imprisonment of the librarians Raiza Palatnik and Emilia Trakhtenberg, and requesting their immediate release (*Proceedings*, 1972, pp. 10, 20).

In 1982, as a result of Philip Miller's bringing to the attention of membership that the new logo of the Research Libraries Group bore a resemblance to a swastika, AJL members agreed to review the logo and to convey their comments to RLG (*Minutes*, June 23, 1982 as reported in the *AJL Newsletter*, vol. 3, no. 1 (Feb./Mar. 1984), p. 14).

In 1984, two instances of antisemitism and anti-Zionism were reported by AJL member Adaire Klein to AJL president Hazel Karp. In the first instance, a member of the California Library Association's (CLA) Intellectual Freedom Committee had invited Holocaust revisionist David McCalden to speak at a workshop and to exhibit his revisionist, antisemitic books. President Karp added AJL's protest to those of scores of other Jewish and non-Jewish organizations when she wrote a strongly worded letter to Mr. Stefan Moses, then Executive Director of the CLA, urging him not to provide McCalden with a forum for his untruthful views. The second instance dealt with the passage of a resolution condemning Israeli press censorship of West Bank publications, based on unfounded allegations by the International Freedom Committee and the International Relations Committee, at the urging of "a letter from an unnamed Chicago-area librarian." This unfair singling out of Israel was protested by Steve Karetzky of the Jewish Librarians'

Caucus and other Jewish organizations, including AJL, as well as by others (*AJL Newsletter*, vol. 4 no. 1 (February/March 1985), pp. 3-4).

AJL members went on record, through a presidential letter, as objecting to an ALA action when the latter organization allowed itself to be influenced by a member to exclude an Israeli exhibitor (*AJL Newsletter*, vol. 7 no. 3 (Sept./Oct. 1988), p. 9.)

In 1990, there was another attempt to censor Israel, this time by the Social Responsibilities Round Table of ALA, which passed a resolution recommending censure of Israel for its censorship of Arabic materials. The motion to censure had been instigated by David Williams (a Chicago-area librarian, [perhaps the "unnamed librarian" of 1985]), who had joined ALA three months prior to his organizing the "ALA Committee on Israeli Censorship" (without ALA knowledge or sanction). The resolution had also been sent to the International Relations Roundtable, which vetoed it, and to the International Relations Committee, the policy-making arm of ALA, where it was tabled, pending further information, with the intention of not singling out Israel. Linda Lerman, newly-elected president in July 1990, handled this matter for AJL, communicating directly with ALA Staff Liaison Robert P. Doyle, of the International Relations Committee, and also alerting AJL members who are employed by the Library of Congress.

AJL Presidents

In a speech before the CNLIA (Dec. 4, 1987), Edith Lubetski said that, in order to lead, leaders must have a sense of vision, enthusiasm, serve as role-models; and must, above all, communicate with their Board, Committees, and the general membership; follow-up on their activities, encourage them and give them appropriate feedback, and keep them informed.

In preparation for this history, I sent a questionnaire to former AJL presidents and asked them to describe the highlights of their presidencies. Their remarks, and the material gathered from the Archives, are combined here to present the highlights of each AJL presidency. What better way to end this chronicle of the Association of Jewish Libraries than by heralding the accomplishments of AJL presidents.

1966—Herbert Zafren—So much was written about Herbert Zafren in Part I, under the rubrics "The Parent Organizations" and "Steps Leading to a Merger," that by now the reader is familiar with the accomplishments of the "Father of AJL." To the question in my survey, "Do you recall any highlights of your presidency? Please describe," Zafren responded:

It was all one big highlight. We actually accomplished merger before my official presidency began. The first year accomplished two very successful conventions, set up a statement of purposes, established a lasting structure, set precedents as formal *Proceedings*, improvement of the *Bulletin*, etc. We started a contact with CNLIA and I represented AJL on the Z39 committee of ANSI (NISO, now). It was heady times!

Herbert Zafren still had to smooth damaged sensibilities and "turf wars" in AJL. He had to encourage the Divisions to trust each other and work with one another. In his first president's message to the newly merged organization in the *Drop Box* (April, 1966), he wrote:

We need not only hope that many additional activities and accomplishments will result from our merger, we know we can make it so by working together . . . Each Division will gain strength from the other, and the Association will be far greater than the sum of its parts.

Zafren also emphasized committee formation and stressed the importance of committee work, saying that:

With such a scattered membership, if the organization is to succeed in various projects and accomplish its goals, then groups of people, committees, would have to be the effective operating units. . . . our committees are sources of our organization's strength.

1967—Jacob Dienstag—Jacob Dienstag, AJL's second president, whose wise counsel helped to shape this association, has been interviewed by Edith Lubetski; the interview appears in this issue.

1968—Charles Berlin—Charles Berlin understood that AJL could serve as a forum where issues of concern to Judaica librarianship might be discussed and dealt with. In addition to being part of the merger team and helping to bring AJL into being, his major contribution to AJL was to bring

his type of sensibility to the fore, to persuade members that AJL was a pivotal organization for Judaica libraries of all kinds, and that it could not afford to be sidetracked by petty concerns. The breadth of his vision was demonstrated recently in 1988, when he convened a Harvard Conference, "Judaica Librarianship: Facing the Future," in which many AJL members took part. The papers from this conference have been reprinted in *Judaica Librarianship*, vol. 4, no. 2 (Spring 1988-Winter 1989). Charles Berlin was instrumental in seeing this AJL history project through the Littauer grant procedures, making possible its publication.

1969—Mae Weine—Mae Weine has been interviewed by Judith Greenblatt elsewhere in this history. But I, too, can add something about Mae Weine. Mae answered hundreds and hundreds of letters from libraries asking for help, and gave advice fully and freely. Mae also did much of the writing of SSC publications in the early years, including the *Standards*, a periodical list, and of course, her classification scheme. Often, the chief motivation for joining AJL was to receive the publications that came with membership. Weine was also a frequent columnist for the *Drop Box*, edited by Elaine Williams, where librarians would write in with their questions or problems, and the editor or other correspondents would send in answers or suggestions. Mae is also famous for the following dictum, spoken during her presidential address: "If it is incumbent on SSC to learn, it is also incumbent on R&S to teach." I think Mae would agree that *Judaica Librarianship* fulfills this function.

1970-1972—Nathan Kaganoff—Nathan Kaganoff was actively involved in the merger and shaping of the early AJL. His recommendations were carefully considered and usually followed. He upgraded the format of the *Proceedings*, adding: a table of contents, a list of AJL officers for the coming year and members of the convention committee, minutes of the executive and divisional meetings, and an outline of general meeting and divisional programs.

1972-1974—Anne Kirshenbaum—Anne Kirshenbaum described her years of presidency as a time when the membership represented many newly organized libraries, run by trained and untrained staff. They had to choose a classification scheme, authorized subject headings, and a transliteration system for cataloging Hebrew and Yiddish titles; they needed a basic acquisition list for periodicals and books; they needed goals to be established to guide them in fulfilling

many basic library needs. Anne says that at one time she charged Miriam Leikind to draw up a list of human resources in AJL, together with their specialties, and she recalls that Herbert Zafren worked diligently on the romanization of Hebrew. Also, the SSC Division set up a scholarship award with funding of \$100 by Bertie Schwartz for a deserving student. During Anne's presidency, a free membership kit was given to new members. It contained the following publications:

1. *Aims and Purposes*.
2. "The Association of Jewish Libraries," by Joe Yenish (a reprint from *Special Libraries*, December, 1967).
3. *A Manual for Jewish Community Center, School and Congregation Libraries*, by Sophie Cedarbaum.
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1974-1976—Leonard Gold—Leonard Gold was an involved president, who led the Association on a highly professional level because he kept it aware of what was happening in the larger library world. During Leonard Gold's administration, the pamphlet "Careers in Jewish Librarianship" was published. Information on AJL was provided to the *American Jewish Year Book*; the *Encyclopedia of Associations*; the *Handbook of National and International Library Associations*; to the President of ALA for a study, "Role of Professional Associations in a Network Library Activity," to appear in *Library Trends*, 1975; and to Ulrich's *International Periodicals Directory*. Gold obtained a permanent mailing address for AJL at the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. He was involved in the formation of the Committee for [now Council of] Archives and Research Libraries in Jewish Studies (CARLJS), and he was active in deliberations about the need for a U.S. manuscript catalog. Gold also established contact with officials of the Association of Libraries of Judaica and Hebraica in Europe, sending them the AJL constitution and meeting with their president, Georges Weill, on October 8, 1976, to discuss the possibility of inter-library loan. He also brought the *World Jewish Congress Standard Catalogue for Jewish Community Libraries* to the attention of the AJL membership. Gold recommended that the incoming AJL president appoint a committee to study the composition of the Association and its two divisions, as well as its overall dues structure. He relayed Rabbi Goodman's suggestion for a job placement committee to the Executive Board.

1976-1978—Margot Berman—The premier achievement of Margot Berman's administration was the unification of the two AJL Divisions. The success was marked by a vote of ratification at the 1977 convention. Although this has been covered in the section on "Building a National Organization," the changes that transformed the two Divisions into a united national association bear repeating here: 1) one AJL letterhead stationery, instead of three; 2) one AJL bank account, instead of four; 3) one treasury, instead of two; 4) elections for Association and Division officers held at the same time; 5) all scholarships and awards henceforth to be known as "AJL" awards, rather than by Division; 6) joint programs held at convention; and 7) a new constitution. Berman also took action on a proposal by Leonard Gold that the American Jewish Archives serve as the repository of AJL Archives. She also represented AJL in contributing her ideas

to "The Commission on the Holocaust Education and Curriculum Task Force," which was represented at a public hearing in Miami by Member of Congress William Lehman.

1978-1980—Harvey Horowitz—Harvey Horowitz considered his tenure an "interim Presidency," until a more active president took over. Under his administration, AJL ran smoothly and all essential services were carried out, including two excellent conventions. The Horowitz era was the calm before the storm, giving members a breather before the super-active presidency of Barbara Leff.

1980-1982—Barbara Leff—Barbara took an organization with a deficit of \$1,500 and put it in the black by planning an annual budget, eliminating free membership kits, and stopping the publication of the expensive *Proceedings*. Barbara charged convention exhibitors a fee, required the members of the Book-Award Committee to pay (at an excellent discount) for review copies of books that they kept in their own libraries—thus making the committee self-supporting—and carried non-renewing AJL members for only a few months instead of several years. She increased membership substantially with an active recruitment program; and prepared a new AJL brochure enumerating membership benefits. She worked aggressively to get R&S members to contribute to the AJL *Newsletter* and *Bulletin*, and tried to improve on those publications; she eliminated all out-of-date publications; had an *Index of Convention Proceedings*, an updated *Weine Classification Scheme*, and *Subject Headings List* produced; published a new *Basic Children's Book List*; and actively solicited people to prepare needed SSC items for future years. Leff made it a point to meet with Board and Committee members individually during conventions. Six AJL Chapters were begun during her administration. The "Human Resource" file, compiled years before by Miriam Leikind at the suggestion of Anne Kirshenbaum, was reincarnated as the "Talent Bank." "Special Interest Groups" meetings were inaugurated at convention, as was programming for the Day School Librarian. AJL interacted with: CAJE, through Barbara Leff; the Jewish Librarians' Caucus, through Sylvia Eisen; the CSLA, through Rita Frischer; CNLIA, through Ted Wiener; NISO, through Brad Sabin Hill; and the Jewish Book Council, through Marcia Posner. Leff also tried to create a more efficient internal operation and to increase AJL's visibility and status among its own members. Attendance at AJL convention business meetings increased

from a handful to almost fifty. She appointed a Continuing Education Committee and a committee to revise the Constitution; she broadened the scope of the Student Scholarship to include Canada, and increased AJL publications to six annually: four *Newsletters* and two *Bulletins*. Leff collected archival materials from six past presidencies in order to send them to the American Jewish Archives, per prior agreement. Someone once remarked that Barbara Leff "led AJL from a small mom and pop operation with good intentions" to a "high quality national professional organization."

1982-1984—Philip E. Miller—Philip E. Miller continued the increase in membership that had begun during Barbara Leff's administration, when the number increased from 500 to approximately 700. He obtained the first AJL bulk mailing permit and dispensed with the expensive, inefficient mailing service. He also instituted AJL distribution of its own publications. He encouraged R&S to become increasingly active, and the Cataloging Committee was established during his administration. *Most importantly*, Miller ushered in the publication of *Judaica Librarianship*.

1984-1986—Hazel Karp—Hazel Karp's gentle manners mask her sharp observations and firm grip on the workings of AJL. Among the many things accomplished during her SSC administration was the updating of publications and the addition of new ones: *Creating a Collection: a Resource Booklist for a Beginning Judaica Library*, an updated *Jewish Periodicals* bibliography, and the new *AJL Book Award Bookmarks*. Prior to becoming national president, Mrs. Karp hosted a convention and after, started an Atlanta Chapter. As president, she quickly appointed necessary committees, such as the Job Placement Committee, and instituted an award for the best Judaica reference work. She announced the newly funded Sydney Taylor Awards for children's literature and the funding for a manuscript competition, obtained from Ralph Taylor by Rita Frischer. Hazel continued to show her interest in publications, pressing for the completion of the *Short Story Holiday Index* in the SSC Division, and hoped for some publications about Hebrew computer programs (this, however, was handled in *Judaica Librarianship*). She backed AJL publication of *Juvenile Judaica* and *Judaica Librarianship* wholeheartedly. Hazel hoped to increase AJL cooperation with the Women's League for Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Book Council in order

to reduce duplication of effort. She encouraged active recruitment of members to AJL and charmed everyone.

1986-1988—Edith Lubetski—Edith Lubetski is beyond comparison, the ideal president. She was creative and totally astute, knew how to find the right person for the right job, and how to follow up and provide feedback. A peerless administrator, she accomplished a great deal without becoming overwhelmed. She communicated with her Board and Council through a "President's letter," and with the general membership through the *Newsletter*, as other presidents had also done. After her first six months as President, she listed these highlights in the *Newsletter*, volume 6, no. 1, (February/March 1987, p. 1):

*The Reference Book Award has been funded;

*a membership campaign has been undertaken by Sylvia Firschein, who with the help of Aviva Astrinsky and her staff, has sent out over 2,000 letters soliciting membership;

*a Professional Group Tour of the Libraries of Israel will be held in 1990 [which turned into the First International Conference of Judaica and Israeli Librarians];

*articles about AJL appeared in periodicals such as *Washington Jewish Week*, *Jewish Currents* and *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*;

*publicity scrapbooks are being prepared by Chapters and the AJL publicity chairman, Pam Braverman;

*an organization calendar was prepared by Annette Levy.

Edith also obtained two radio interviews, one during each year of her presidency, on the Ruth Jacobs Show, WEVD, where she, Bella Hass Weinberg, and I talked about AJL and the opportunities for a career in Judaica librarianship. Edith was also keen on having AJL brochures distributed everywhere and charged me, her Vice-President/President-Elect to do so, which I did, even taking them to the Jerusalem Book Fair. Edith urged us to "Reach out and touch some one," to become a *shaliach* to a non-AJL library and enlist it. Membership increased because of these efforts, and *Judaica Librarianship* brought in as new members many university libraries, which had to join AJL in order to subscribe to it.

Prof. Lubetski encouraged the formation of Chapters, and was genuinely interested in their events and growth. It was during Edith's presidency that the first Continuing Education courses were given, that the Doris Orenstein Memorial Fund for convention newcomers was founded, and that many new committees were founded—among them "Volunteer Coordinator," "Day Schools Coordinator," "Centers Coordinator," "Synagogues Coordinator," and "Judaica Library Personnel Recruitment Coordinator." What an act to follow!

1988-1990—Marcia W. Posner—It isn't easy to write about oneself. But since my presidency will be over by the time this is published, I shall be frank. The truth is, being someone who regards rules as something not to be taken too seriously, makes snap decisions, and enjoys working, rather than delegating, I am not the best administrator that AJL has ever had. But I certainly have tried and have enjoyed every minute of it. Much of what has been accomplished in my administration was done by others, or by myself with others. I think my biggest contribution to AJL is the co-certification of Judaica libraries by AJL and the Jewish Book Council, instead of the Jewish Book Council alone. Maureen Reister is chairing the new "Library Accreditation" Committee and doing an admirable job. In fact, closer cooperation with the Council in several areas, including co-publishing, could only have been accomplished in my presidency because of my long-entrenched position at the Jewish Book Council and the fairly recent (since 1985) Directorship of Paula Gribetz Gottlieb, a most congenial and brilliant colleague.

During my first half-year as President, I was determined to update the AJL publications that had not been updated since Hazel Karp's administration, which ended in 1986. I was fortunate in having Ralph Simon as Publications Vice-President, since we work together very well. Once Ralph got fired up, there was no stopping him. I contributed several publications, and I began one—the *Standards*—which I passed on to Merrily Hart, SSC Vice-President/President-Elect, who completely rewrote them according to her vision of what the *Standards* should be. She was helped in this by Judith Greenblatt, SSC President. There were also several publications that had been started by other people, but were never finished. I couldn't keep my hands off those. The *Officers' Handbook* had been traveling around from Philip Miller to Hazel Karp and, finally, I completed their work. After my presidency, I hope to finish the *Council Handbook* and a *Policy Manual*.

Really, when one looks through the past Minutes, and sees how much has been lost in transmission from one administration to another, one concludes that it is imperative that we have a manual that includes more than job descriptions, and that travels from officer to officer and from chairman to chairman. Another manual that I have had a hand in completing is the *Convention Manual*. It had been started by Manné Aronovsky, was fleshed out and written by Marilyn Breitman, with some contributions of my own. I also edited it, and Ralph Simon did a beautiful job in producing it. An electric moment in the first minutes of my presidency took place when Ralph suggested reviving the student scholarship, which he offered to fund on a generous level in memory of his mother, Dr. May K. Simon. His offer was gratefully accepted by the AJL Council.

One of my better qualities is optimism and a "never-say-die" quality. Also, I can be persistent and am not above maneuvering to get my way. This is how the Continuing Education classes took place during the Washington, DC conference in 1989, where they were a great success. It took some in-fighting and adjusting and 1,000 phone calls and a lot of help from Rick Burke, but we pulled it off. I've been lucky in having super people to work with. Tzivia Atik moves the mail with celerity and helped me send out mail to the Board and Council. Esther Nussbaum is a marvelous Recording Secretary, not only efficient, but a good writer, too. David Gilner removed any worry from the Membership Committee. How Hazel Karp used to fret because we just couldn't seem to get together a membership list after the time of Mary Brand (may she rest in peace). I remember that, one day, I just sat down at my little PC with my slow PFS program and started inputting AJL members' names. Shortly afterwards, Sharona Wachs started working on automating the list, and then, David Gilner took it over and made it look so easy, so we forget what a hassle it was. Toby Rossner, AJL Treasurer, automated the AJL finances and complied with my suggestion to invest some funds that were not needed for at least six months or more. What a pleasure to work with Toby, and Linda Lerman, my Vice-President, President-Elect, and Robert Singerman, R&S President, and Zachary Baker, his successor, and all of my Sylvias: Sylvia Avner, who adopted the whole AJL when she began her "Buddy" system at conventions; Sylvia Eisen, who tried to teach me Robert's Rules of Order; and Sylvia Firschein, who, with Esta Blaxberg, sent out another 2,000 letters to recruit members for AJL.

I think I also had something to do with the *AJL Newsletter's* using desktop publishing. Irene Levin and I had been discussing it, and I had looked into desktop publishing, when I got the idea to ask Irene if she would like to work with Hazel Karp, as co-editor, if Hazel agreed. She did, and they do, and it's great. I also had something to do with finding advertising managers for both *Newsletter* and *Judaica Librarianship*. I put the word out, and Sylvia Firschein found Ethel Trubowitz and Sylvia Schnitzer (another Sylvia) for me. They have been doing a most effective job. The *Newsletter* just about pays for itself now (it used to be a terrible drain on the budget).

I had something to do with getting this AJL history published. Edith Lubetski had the idea. I invited an editor, looked into the cost of publishing it and realized that I needed an angel (which turned out to be the Littauer Foundation), through the intercession of Charles Berlin. "What goes around, comes around," as they say. If this account of my Presidency sounds rambling, it is because I am punchy from months of research and writing.

Thoughts Upon Concluding

As I reflect upon the past twenty-five years, I am filled with admiration for the men and women who dedicated their talent and time to create a viable *Judaica* library association, and for those who continue to work to fulfill the goals set by the founders of AJL.

This history is being concluded at the end of the ninth decade of the twentieth century—a decade in which "merger" became a familiar word in the sense of the taking over of one company by another, usually resulting in the dismemberment or eventual demise of the company being taken over and the firing of life-long employees. At the time of the proposed merger between the Jewish Library Association and the Jewish Librarians Association, there were those who voiced legitimate concerns about losing the identity of each organization and of one swallowing the other. This never happened. The two Divisions remain separate where practical, allowing them to tend to the needs of their constituents, but are merged both administratively and where their combined strength and counsel are needed for issues that affect both.

Furthermore, the merger has had a salubrious effect on each. The R&S Division has benefited by the activism and vitality of the SSC Division, and the SSC Division has benefited from the R&S Division's guidance by example and instruction in areas such as Jewish bibliography, language, and technological advances. As the library profession becomes ever more technically sophisticated, continuing on its path of information science and international networking, it will need both types of librarians to provide balance—those whose approach to librarianship is primarily from the disciplines of humanities and education (SSC), and those who are primarily concerned with the technical aspects of information storage, retrieval and communication (R&S). The Association of Jewish Libraries encompasses both.

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Appendix A

Constitution of the Association of Jewish Libraries

June 1973

Article I. Name

Sec. 1. The name of this body shall be the Association of Jewish Libraries.

Article II. Object

Sec. 1. The object of the Association of Jewish Libraries shall be:

- (a) To promote librarianship and improve library services and professional standards in the field of Judaica and Judaica collections.
- (b) To serve as a center of dissemination of Jewish library information and guidance.
- (c) To encourage the establishment of Jewish libraries and collections of Judaica.
- (d) To promote the publication of literature which will be of assistance to Jewish librarianship.
- (e) To encourage people to enter the field of librarianship.
- (f) To receive, maintain and administer gifts of real, personal, mixed property or money and to use and apply the income as well as principal thereof for any of the above objectives.
- (g) The organization will not in any way attempt to attain these objectives by attempting to influence legislation or by participating in any way in political campaigns.

Article III. Membership

Sec. 1. Any person, library or other organization interested in promoting the object of the Association of Jewish Libraries may become a member upon payment of dues.

Sec. 2. The Executive Board of the Association of Jewish Libraries shall have power to determine various classes of membership and to set the annual dues.

Sec. 3. Unpaid dues. Members whose dues are unpaid on April 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.

Sec. 4.

(a) **Convention Year.** The convention year shall be that period beginning with the adjournment of an annual convention of the Association and ending with the adjournment of the next succeeding annual convention.

(b) **Membership Year.** The membership year for the Association shall be the calendar year.

Article IV. Meetings

Sec. 1. Annual Meetings. There shall be an annual convention of the Association at such place and time as may be determined by the Executive Board.

Sec. 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Association may be called by the Executive Board, and shall be called by the president on request of twenty members of the Association. At least two weeks' notice shall be given, and only business specified in the call shall be transacted.

Sec. 3. Votes by mail. Votes by mail, both of the Association and of the Council, may be authorized by the Executive Board between meetings for exceptional matters that should not be postponed till the next annual convention. Such mail votes shall be conducted under the same requirements as votes at meetings, except that for votes by Council, 50 per cent of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum and a three-fourths majority of those voting shall be required to carry.

The Executive Board shall have authority to set the time limit during which votes will be recorded; but if no such time limit is set, no vote shall be counted unless received within thirty days from the day the text of the ballot or question voted upon was mailed properly addressed to those entitled to vote on the matter involved. In the case of a vote by mail by the Association, the Executive Board may designate publication of the ballot or question submitted in the official journal of the Association as the appropriate method of submitting the matter to the members of their determination.

Sec. 4. Quorum. Twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

Article V. Nominations and Elections**Sec. 1.**

- (a) Prior to each second annual convention of the Association and Executive Board, the president shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members to nominate candidates for elective positions. Each division shall be represented on the Nominating Committee.
- (b) Such committee shall nominate candidates from among the general membership for the positions of president-elect, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer.
- (c) Such committee shall present at least one candidate for each office.

Sec. 2.

- (a) The Nominating Committee shall report its nominations in the official journal of the Association not less than three months before the annual convention.
- (b) By six weeks before the Convention, any member may present to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee a petition signed by not fewer than five members proposing one or more additional nominations for one or more offices, providing the nominees have consented in writing.

Sec. 3. The election shall be held by mail vote and the candidate receiving a majority of the votes for each office shall be elected to that office.

Article VI. Council**Sec. 1.**

- (a) The Council of the Association of Jewish Libraries shall be the governing body of the Association. The Council shall delegate to the several divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities within assigned fields of responsibility and in accord with general Council policy.
- (b) The Council shall determine all policies of the Association, and its decisions shall be binding upon the Association, except as provided in Section 3 (c) of this Article.

Sec. 2. Seven voting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 3.

- (a) The Association by a vote at a meeting held during the annual convention may refer any matter to the Council with recommendations and may require the Council to report on such matter at any specified session of the Association.

(b) Any question of policy may, by a majority vote of the Council, be submitted to the Association to be voted upon either at an annual conference or by mail as the Council may determine.

(c) Any action of the Council may be set aside by a three-fourths vote at any meeting of the Association, or by a majority vote by mail in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted. Such vote by mail shall be held upon petition of 20 members of the Association.

Sec. 4.

(a) Meetings. The Council shall hold at least one meeting each year at the time and place of the annual convention of the Association. Other meetings may be called by the president and shall be called upon request of seven members of Council.

(b) Officers. Officers of the Association shall serve as officers of the Council. The presiding officer may vote only in case of a tie.

Sec. 5.

- (a) Each local chapter shall be entitled to one Councilor.
- (b) Each division shall be entitled to two Councilors, chosen by the division.
- (c) All members of the Executive Board and the immediate past president of the Association shall automatically be members of the Council.
- (d) Chairmen of Association of Jewish Libraries committees shall be members of Council.
- (e) The immediate past president of each division shall be a Councilor.
- (f) A person may serve simultaneously in more than one capacity (e.g., an elected officer and a representative of a chapter) but has only one vote.

Sec. 6. All elected Councilors shall serve for terms of two years or until their successors are selected and qualified.

Article VII. Executive Board

Sec. 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the Association, the immediate past president, and the president of each division.

Sec. 2. The Executive Board shall report on its activities not later than the next meeting of the Council. The Executive Board shall act for the Council in the administration of established policies and programs. It shall serve as the central management board of the Association of Jewish Libraries subject to review by

the Council, and shall make recommendations with respect to matters of policy and operations.

Sec. 3. A majority shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Board.

Article VIII. Officers

Sec. 1. Officers. The officers of the Association shall be a president, a president-elect who shall serve as vice-president, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, and a treasurer. The term for the above offices shall be two years. The president of each division will serve as an Association Vice-president unless he occupies a different elected office of the Association.

Sec. 2. Duties of Officers. The officers shall perform the duties pertaining to their respective offices and such other duties as may be approved by the Executive Board.

Sec. 3. Appointments. The Executive Board shall appoint all other officers and all committees of the Association not otherwise provided for.

Sec. 4. Terms of office. All officers and elected members of the Executive Board shall take office at the adjournment of the annual Convention, just prior to which they were nominated and elected, and serve for a two year term or until their successors are selected and qualified. The corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and/or treasurer may stand for reelection and serve up to three consecutive terms.

Article IX. Chapters

Sec. 1. The purpose of a chapter is to promote Jewish library service and librarianship within its geographic area and to cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises with the Association of Jewish Libraries and other library groups.

Sec. 2. A chapter may admit members who are not members of the Association of Jewish Libraries.

Sec. 3. Each local chapter shall be the final authority within the Association of Jewish Libraries in respect to all programs and policies which concern only the area for which the chapter is responsible provided they are not inconsistent with any programs and policies established by the AJL Council. Any chapter may establish committees in order to carry out overall programs within its own area and to maintain liaison between its members and the national committees.

Sec. 4.

- (a) Chapter status may be granted by the Executive Board to any geographic group that applies for it.
- (b) Any chapter may withdraw from chapter status provided the issue has been submitted to a vote of the chapter membership and is favored by a majority of the members voting.
- (c) Chapter status may be withdrawn by the Executive Board and it shall be withdrawn if the chapter becomes inactive or fails to comply with the provisions of this Article.

Article X. Divisions**Sec. 1.**

- (a) Any group of not fewer than 15 members of the Association who are interested in the same field of librarianship may petition the Association for division status. Such status may be granted only by Association vote.
- (b) The Council by a vote of two consecutive meetings may discontinue a division when in the opinion of the Council the usefulness of that division has ceased.

Sec. 2.

- (a) The purpose of a division is to promote library service and librarianship within and for a particular type of library or as it relates to a particular type of library activity, and to cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises within the Association and with other library groups. Each division shall represent a field of activity and responsibility clearly distinct from that of other divisions.
- (b) A division shall have authority to act for the AJL as a whole on any matters determined by Council to be the responsibility of the division.

Sec. 3. Each division may establish such committees, sections, and other subordinate units as may be required to discharge properly the responsibilities assigned to it.

Sec. 4.

- (a) Each division shall receive allotments for dues as determined by the AJL membership.
- (b) A division shall have the right, by vote of its members to impose additional fees.

Sec. 5. No division shall incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized, nor shall any division commit the Association by any declaration of policy, except as provided in Section 2 (b) of this Article.

Article XI. Committees

Sec. 1. The Council may establish standing committees to consider matters of the Association that require continuity of attention by the members.

Sec. 2. Subcommittees of standing committees may be established by the committees in cooperation with the divisions. When the functions of a subcommittee would fall within the scope of a single division that division shall appoint the committee to carry them out and to serve as a subcommittee of the AJL committee; each subcommittee shall report to the appointing division for information and to the parent committee for action. When the functions would not fall within the scope of a single division, the subcommittee shall be appointed by and report to the parent committee.

Sec. 3. Special Committees.

- (a) All other committees authorized by the Council, and interim committees authorized by the Executive Board, shall be special committees.
- (b) The special committees shall include the following committees with functions and size to be determined by the Council:
Nominating Committee
Resolutions Committee

Sec. 4. Joint Committees. The Council may establish joint committees, either standing or special, with other organizations when the functions of the proposed committee cannot be appropriately delegated to a single division or AJL committee.

Sec. 5. The Executive Board shall designate the chairman of each committee annually.

Sec. 6. No committee shall incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized, nor shall any committee commit the Association by any declaration of policy.

Article XII. Finances

Sec. 1. An audit of all accounts shall be made annually by a professional auditor.

Sec. 2. A report shall be made annually to the membership, by a duly authorized member of the Executive Board, detailing receipts and expenditures, explaining the Association's fiscal status, and reporting on the audit.

Sec. 3. In the event that the Association is dissolved, all funds and property belonging to the Association, shall be transferred in accordance with the wishes of the Council to institutions or

organizations which qualify for tax exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In no event shall any of the funds of the organization inure to the benefit of any individuals.

Article XIII. Amendments

Sec. 1. Proposals for amending the Constitution may originate in the Council or come from any member who presents a petition signed by not fewer than seven members. A proposed amendment shall become effective when it shall have been approved by a majority of the members of the Council present and voting, followed by ratification by the members of the Association either by a vote by mail of a majority of the members of the Association voting, or by a majority vote of the membership present and voting at a meeting of the Association. The Council, on approving a proposed amendment shall specify whether a vote on ratification shall be taken at a meeting of the Association or by mail; and if a mail vote is ordered, the Council shall fix the time for the beginning and closing of the balloting. If a vote at a meeting is ordered, at least one month's written notice shall be given to the Association of the text of the proposed amendment.

Article XIV. Parliamentary Authority

Sec. 1. Robert's Rules of Order (Revised), in the latest edition, shall govern the Association in all cases to which it can be applied and in which it is not inconsistent with the Constitution or special rules of order of the Association.



**Anne Kirshenbaum,
AJL President,
1972-73.**

Appendix B

Association of Jewish Libraries Chapters List, 1991

The following are affiliated chapters/groups:

ATLANTA AREA

HAZEL KARP
Greenfield Hebrew Academy Library
880 Somerset Drive, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30327
404/237-5882

CAPITAL AREA

MICHAEL J. AMIR, PRESIDENT
Isaac Franck Jewish Public Library
Board of Jewish Education of Greater
Washington
11710 Hunter Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
301/984-1611

GREATER CLEVELAND

ELLEN LEAVITT, PRESIDENT
Fairmount Temple Library
23737 Fairmount Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122
216/464-1330

**JUDAICA LIBRARY NETWORK
OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO**

ROBBIN KATZIN, PRESIDENT
6655 N. Maplewood
Chicago, IL 60645
312/761-6225

LONG ISLAND

HELEN KRUGER, PRESIDENT
Temple Beth-El
Broadway and Locust Avenues
Cedarhurst, NY 11516
516/489-4828

METROPOLITAN DETROIT

DR. ISRAEL WIENER, PRESIDENT
30554 Southfield Rd., Apt. 138
Southfield, MI 48076
313/540-3691

MONTREAL

KAY LERNER/SOL KATZ
c/o Carol Katz
Jewish Public Library
5151 Cote St. Catherine
Montreal, Quebec H3W 1H6 CANADA
514/489-1581

NEW JERSEY

ESTA BLAXBERG, PRESIDENT
282 Gorden Drive
Paramus, NJ 07652
201/261-7571

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

ESTHER NUSSBAUM, PRESIDENT
Ramaz Upper School Library
60 E. 78th Street
New York, NY 10021
212/517-5955

**PHILADELPHIA METROPOLITAN (formerly
Middle Atlantic Chapter)**

SARA SPIEGEL, PRESIDENT
Gratz College Library
Melrose Avenue and Old York Road
Melrose Park, PA 19126
215/636-7304

RHODE ISLAND

EDITH E. GRANT, PRESIDENT
40 Sachem Dr., Apt. #106
Cranston, RI 02920
401/942-7848

SOUTH FLORIDA

PHYLLIS ROBERTS, PRESIDENT
University of Miami - Judaica Bibliographer
Head, Circulation Department
Richter Library
Coral Gables, FL 33124
305/284-3232

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SUSAN DUBIN, PRESIDENT
Valley Beth Shalom Day School
15739 Ventura Blvd.
Encino, CA 91436
818/788-6000

Appendix C

Association of Jewish Libraries Executive Boards, 1966-1991

1966

President: Herbert Zafren
Vice-Pres./President-Elect: Jacob Dienstag
Vice-President: Charles Berlin
Vice-President: Mae Weine
Corresponding Secretary: Max Celnik
Recording Secretary: Bess Shavzin
Treasurer: Maryland Estes

1967

President: Jacob Dienstag
Vice-Pres./President-Elect: Charles Berlin
Vice-President: Ethel Saferin
Treasurer: Maryland Estes
Corresponding Secretary: Max Celnik
Recording Secretary: Edith Slomowitz

1968

President: Charles Berlin
Vice-Pres./President-Elect: Mae Weine
Vice-President: Nathan M. Kaganoff
Vice-President: Ethel Saferin
Corresponding Secretary: Maryland Estes
Recording Secretary: Helen Levine
Treasurer: Dorothy Schroeder

1969

President: Mae Weine
Vice-President: Nathan M. Kaganoff
Vice-President: Anne Kirshenbaum
Corresponding Secretary: Maryland Estes
Recording Secretary: Helen Levine
Treasurer: Dorothy Schroeder

1970

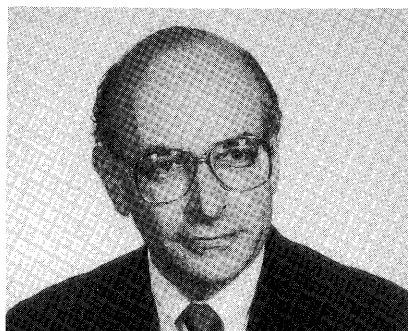
President: Nathan M. Kaganoff
Vice-Presidents: Anne Kirshenbaum
 Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Corresponding Secretary: Maryland Estes
Recording Secretary: Rose Miskin
Treasurer: Dorothy Schroeder

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Anne Kirshenbaum
Vice-Presidents: Sidney August
 Ruth C. Kanner
 Mildred Kurland
 Rose Miskin

R & S Division

President: Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Vice-President: Menahem Schmelzer



Dr. Charles Berlin,
AJL President,
1968.

1971

President: Nathan M. Kaganoff
Vice-Presidents: Anne Kirshenbaum
 Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Corresponding Secretary: Maryland Estes
Recording Secretary: Rose Miskin
Treasurer: Mildred Kurland

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Rose Miskin
Vice-Presidents: Sidney August
 Irwin Berman
 Jack Cravets
 Joseph Prescott

R & S Division

President: Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Vice-President: Menahem Schmelzer

1972

President: Anne Kirshenbaum
Vice-President/
President-Elect: Leonard Gold
Vice-President: Rose Miskin
Corresponding Secretary: Irene Levin
Recording Secretary: Shalva Telushkin
Treasurer: Mildred Kurland

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Rose Miskin
Vice-Presidents: Joseph Prescott
 Jack Cravets
 Sidney August
 Irwin Berman

R & S Division

President: Leonard Gold
Vice-President: Harvey P. Horowitz
Secretary: Edith Degani
Treasurer: Maryland A. Estes

1973

President: Anne Kirshenbaum
Vice-President/
President-Elect: Leonard Gold
Vice-President: Margot Berman
Corresponding Secretary: Irene Levin
Recording Secretary: Shalva T. Siegel
Treasurer: Mildred Kurland
Membership Chairman: Bertie Schwartz

SSC Division

President: Margot Berman
Vice-Presidents: Bertha Cravets
 Irene Levin
 Ethel Saferin
 Alice Waldman

R & S Division

President: Leonard Gold
Vice-President: Harvey P. Horowitz

1974-1976

President: Leonard Gold
President-Elect: Margot S. Berman
Vice-President: Harvey Horowitz
Vice-President: Beatrice T. Muskat
Corresponding Secretary: Samuel M. Aksler
Recording Secretary: Beatrice T. Muskat
Treasurer: Mildred Kurland
Membership Chairman: Bertie Schwartz

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Beatrice T. Muskat
President-Elect: Susanna Friedman

R & S Division

President: Harvey P. Horowitz
Vice-President: Sheldon R. Brunswick

1976-1978

President: Margot S. Berman
President-Elect: Harvey P. Horowitz
Vice-President: Beatrice T. Muskat
Corresponding Secretary: Sheri Davis
Recording Secretary: Susanna Friedman
Treasurer: Mildred Kurland
Membership Chairman: Bertie Schwartz

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Beatrice T. Muskat
President-Elect: Susanna Friedman

R & S Division

President: Harvey P. Horowitz
Vice-President: Sheldon R. Brunswick

1978-1979

President: Harvey P. Horowitz
President-Elect: Barbara Leff
Vice-President: Sheldon R. Brunswick
Corresponding Secretary: Susanna R. Friedman
Recording Secretary: Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Treasurer: Ruth M. Abelow
Membership Chairman: Shirley Rumack

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Susanna R. Friedman
*Vice-President/
 President-Elect:* Adaire Klein

R & S Division

President: Sheldon R. Brunswick
Vice-President: Edith Degani

1979-1980

President: Harvey Horowitz
President-Elect: Barbara Leff
Vice-President: Rita C. Frischer
Vice-President: Susanna R. Friedman
Acting Secretary: Edith Degani
Recording Secretary: Rabbi Theodore Wiener
Treasurer: Mary Guilbert Brand
Membership Chairperson: Shirley Rumack

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Susanna R. Friedman
Vice-President: Rita C. Frischer

R & S Division

President: Sheldon R. Brunswick
Vice-President: Edith Degani

1980-1982

President: Barbara Leff
*Vice-President/
 President-Elect:* Philip Miller
Treasurer: Mary Brand
Corresponding Secretary: Edith Lubetski
Recording Secretary: Linda Lerman
*Membership:
 Publicity and Public
 Relations:* Carole Ozeroff
 Rose Sobol

SSC Division

Honorary President: Miriam Leikind
President: Rita Frischer
*Vice-President/
 President-Elect:* Hazel Karp

R & S Division

President: Edith Degani
Vice-President: Charles Cutter

1982-1984

President: Philip E. Miller
Vice-President/President-Elect: Hazel Karp
Treasurer: Debra Reed
Corresponding Secretary: Edith Lubetski
Recording Secretary: Ralph Simon

SSC Division

President: Hazel Karp
Vice-President: Sylvia Firschein

R & S Division

President: Charles Cutter
Vice-President: Pearl Berger



**Harvey P. Horowitz,
 AJL President,
 1978-80**



**Barbara Leff,
 AJL President,
 1980-82**

1984-1986

President: Hazel Karp
Vice-President/President-Elect: Edith Lubetski
Vice-President, Membership: Sylvia Friedman
Treasurer: Sharona R. Wachs
Corresponding Secretary: Esther Nussbaum
Recording Secretary: Ralph Simon

SSC Division

President: Sylvia Firschein
Vice-President: Sue Barancik

R & S Division

President: Pearl Berger
Vice-President: Linda Lerman

1986-1988

President: Edith Lubetski
Vice-President/President-Elect: Marcia Posner
Treasurer: Sharona R. Wachs
Vice-President, Membership: David Gilner
Corresponding Secretary: Esther Nussbaum
Recording Secretary: Annette Levy Ratkin

SSC Division

President: Sue Barancik
Vice-President: Judith Greenblatt

R & S Division

President: Linda Lerman
Vice-President: Robert Singerman

1988-1990

President: Marcia W. Posner
Vice-President/President-Elect: Linda Lerman
Vice-President, Membership: David Gilner
Vice-President, Publications: Ralph Simon
Treasurer: Toby Rossner
Corresponding Secretary: Tzivia Atik
Recording Secretary: Esther Nussbaum

SSC Division

President: Judith Greenblatt
Vice-President: Merrily Hart

R & S Division

President: Robert Singerman
Vice-President: Zachary Baker

1990-1992

President: Linda Lerman
Vice-President/President-Elect: Ralph Simon
Vice-President, Membership: Aviva Astrinsky
Vice-President, Publications: David Gilner
Treasurer: Toby Rossner
Corresponding Secretary: Tzivia Atik
Recording Secretary: Esther Nussbaum

SSC Division

President: Merrily Hart
Vice-President: Aileen Grossberg

R & S Division

President: Zachary Baker
Vice-President: Barry Walfish



Hazel Karp,
AJL President,
1984-1986.



Prof. Edith Lubetski,
AJL President,
1986-1988.



Dr. Marcia W. Posner,
AJL President,
1988-1990.

Appendix D

Association of Jewish Libraries Annual Conventions, 1966-1990

1st Annual Convention—June 19-22, 1966, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Convention Committee: Anne Kirshenbaum* with Mildred Kurland, Mae Weine.

2nd Annual Convention—May 28-31, 1967, Boston, Massachusetts.

Convention Committee: Charles Berlin* and Anne Kirshenbaum.*

3rd Annual Convention—June 23-26, 1968, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Convention Committee: Herbert Zafren* and Staff.

4th Annual Convention—June 17-20, 1969, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Convention Committee: Mae Weine* and Max Celnik.*

5th Annual Convention—June 21-24, 1970, New York City, New York.

Convention Committee: Menachem Schmelzer* and Ethel Saferin.*

6th Annual Convention—August 2-22, 1971, Jerusalem, Israel.

Convention Committee: Myrtle Prescott.*

7th Annual Convention—June 18-21, 1972, Toronto, Canada.

Convention Committee: Myrtle Prescott* and Rose Miskin.*

8th Annual Convention—June 24-27, 1973, Los Angeles, California.

Convention Committee: Harvey Horowitz* with Barbara Leff and Ann Rosenberg.

9th Annual Convention—June 23-26, 1974, Spertus College of Judaica, Chicago, Illinois.

Convention Committee: Data not available.

10th Annual Convention—June 22-25, 1975, Miami Beach, Florida.

Convention Committee: Margot Berman* with Mary Brand, Bea Muskat, Ruth Abelow, and others.

11th Annual Convention—June 27-30, 1976, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Convention Committee: Paul Trepman,* Naomi Caruso,* and Rose Ross.*

12th Annual Convention—June 26-29, 1977, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Convention Committee: Elaine B. Wilton, Charles Cutter, Bernard Wax, and others.

13th Annual Convention—June 18-21, 1978, San Francisco, California.

Convention Committee: Phyllis Blackman, Sheldon Brunswick, Harvey Horowitz, Judith Levy, Suzanne Nemiroff, Ruth K. Rafael.

14th Annual Convention—June 17-20, 1979, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Convention Committee: Judy Carsch, David Gilner, Linda Lerman, Carol Lorman, Judy Miller, Mimi Morris, Margot Nathan, Barbara Pomerantz, Alice Richard, Robert Singerman, Bernice Stein, Idelle Stein, Gloria Wolfson, Herbert Zafren.

15th Annual Convention—June 22-25, 1980, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Convention Committee: Sidney August* with Rivka Brandspiegel, Michael Grunberger, Mildred Kurland, Lee B. Leopold, Jeanne Lipsitz, Carole G. Ozeroff, Leah F. Pinson, Jessie Rubenstone, David J. Salaman, Eileen L. Samuelson.

16th Annual Convention—June 21-24, 1981, Liberty, New York.

Convention Committee: Edith Degani* with Pearl Berger, Sylvia Eisen, Edith Lubetski, Marcia Posner, Sher Rice, and others.

17th Annual Convention—June 20-23, 1982, Columbus, Ohio.

Convention Committee: Manne Aronovsky* and Amnon Zipin.*

18th Annual Convention—June 19-22, 1983, Long Beach, California.

Convention Committee: Barbara Leff,* Adaire Klein,* and Rita Frischer.*

19th Annual Convention—June 24-27, 1984, Atlanta, Georgia.

Convention Committee: Hazel Karp* and Sue Epstein* with Miriam Freedman, Lillian Liberman and Anna Geffen, Anita Eidex, Jeri Hall, Sheila Bleich, Evi Reznick, Anne Schoenberg, Sara Deitch, Jean Cohen, Manne Aronovsky, Eleanor Sosne, Elise Kahn, Rita Frischer, Marcy Josephs, and Carol Abrams.

20th Annual Convention—June 23-26, 1985, Cleveland, Ohio.

Convention Committee: Ralph Simon* with Arlene Fine, Harriet Herbst, Hazel Karp, Earl Lefkowitz, Miriam Leikind, Alan Metz, Isadore Reisman, Ethel Saferin, Dr. Charles and Dr. May Simon.

21st Annual Convention—June 15-18, 1986, Montreal, Canada.

Convention Committee: Naomi Caruso* and colleagues.

22nd Annual Convention—June 21-24, 1987, Livingston, New Jersey.

Convention Committee: Marilyn Breitman* with Esta Blaxberg, Dorothy Erich, Sylvia Firschein, Diana Hanaor, Sylvia Schnitzer.

23rd Annual Convention—June 19-22, 1988, Kansas City, Missouri.

Convention Committee: Beverly Newman* and Frances Wolf.*

24th Annual Convention—June 18-21, 1989, Washington, D.C.

Convention Committee: Harriet Reiter* with Fran Abramson, Michlean Amir, Ethel Clemens, Ruth S. Frank, Judy Saypol Groner, Michael Grunberger, Tamar Joy Kahn, Judith Marwick, Beila S. Organic, Barbara Panitz, Ilene Wieselthier, and Edith Zober.

25th Silver Anniversary Convention—July 2-6, 1990, Jerusalem, Israel.

AJL Committee: Amnon Zipin* with Aviva As-trinsky,* Edith Lubetski,* Marcia Posner, Ralph Simon,* Marion Stein, Bracha Weisbarth, and others.

*Convention coordinator(s).



**Margot Berman,
AJL President, 1976-78,
speaking at the 1977 Convention.**

Appendix E

Association of Jewish Libraries Publications

A. Bibliographies

AJL Award-Winning Children's Books Bookmarks. 1983— A listing of all the books that have won the Sydney Taylor Awards and prior awards such as the Kravits, Bertie Schwartz, and AJL Awards.

AJL Holiday Bookmarks: Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer, by Merrily Hart, 1989— For adults and children.

Basic Periodicals List for Small Libraries, second rev. ed. by Edythe Wolf, 1989. [Previous editions have been compiled by Mae Weine and committee, 1978 and Judy Carsch, 1984.]

Basic Reference List for the SSC Library, by Herbert Zafren, 1970. [A revised edition is in progress.]

Creating a Collection: A Resource Booklist for a Beginning Judaica Library, by Merrily Hart, 1989. [The previous edition was by Judy Carsch and Miriam Miller, 1983.]

Literature of the Holocaust for Juvenile and Young Adult Collections, by Ralph Simon, 1988. [The previous edition was by Irene Levin, 1980.]

Literature of the Holocaust for Juvenile and Young Adult Collections, 1988–1989 update, by Ralph Simon.

One Hundred Plus Books for the Children's Library: Basic Collection, rev. ed., by Judy Greenblatt, 1989. [Formerly: *Jewish Children's Books: A Selected Bibliography of 100 Books for a Beginning Library* (annotated), by Hazel Karp, 1983. Earlier versions of this bibliography were prepared by Mae Weine in 1968 (*Proceedings*, 1967) and in 1978, by Susanna Friedman, Chairman of the AJL Publications Committee (*Proceedings*, 1977).]

Shabbat: Its History, Tradition and Meaning; An Annotated Bibliography, by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, 1990.

B. Library Organization Aids

Answers to Cataloging and Classification Questions Frequently Asked by SSC Librarians, by Marcia W. Posner, 1990.

A Guide to Excellence: Standards for School, Synagogue and Jewish Community Center Libraries, rev. ed., by Merrily Hart and the Standards Committee, 1990. [Previous editions were written by Mae Weine and committee, 1968; rev. ed. by Mae Weine, 1970.]

How to Organize A Jewish Library: A Source Book and Guide for Synagogue, School, and Center Libraries, by Margot Berman, 1982. [Revision forthcoming.]

Implications of Changes in Library of Congress Cataloging Policy for Judaica/Hebraica Librarians, by Bella Hass Weinberg, 1978.

Weine Classification System, with Subject Headings and Relative Index, 1982 ed.

C. Finding Aids

Index to Convention Proceedings, 1966–1980, by Charles Cutter and Linda Lerman.

Jewish Holiday Short Story Index, by Sue Barancik, 1983.

Juvenile Judaica: The Jewish Values Book-Finder, by Marcia W. Posner, 1985. [Five-year compilation in progress.] *Juvenile Judaica Updates*—Annually from 1985.

Appendix F

Association of Jewish Libraries Children's Book Awards, 1969-1990

The Association's award is presented annually to the authors and illustrators of the most distinguished contributions to Jewish children's literature published during the preceding year.

AJL SSC Shirley Kravitz Children's Book Awards, 1969-1976

1969 Esther Hautzig—*The Endless Steppe* (Crowell, 1968).

First recipient of the Shirley Kravitz Children's Book Award, the first children's book award granted by AJL [SSC Division]. The winner received \$100.00 from Shirley Kravitz, a plaque, and—where necessary—up to \$500.00 travel allowance from the SSC treasury.

1970 Sulamith Ish-Kishor—*Our Eddie* (Pantheon, 1969).

1971 Suzanne Lange—*The Year* (S.G. Phillips, 1970).

1972 Isaac Bashevis Singer—General contributions.
(There was no "Body-of-Work Award" at this time.)

1973 Molly Cone—General contributions.

1974 Yuri Suhl—*Uncle Misha's Partisans* (Four Winds Press, 1973).

1975 No award given.

1976 Marietta Moskin—*Waiting for Mama* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1975).

Association of Jewish Libraries Book Awards, 1977-1984

1977 is the first year that the prize-winning book bore the 2" diameter gummed seal, reading "1976 BOOK AWARD—ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES," and it is the inception of a national, rather than a divisional [SSC] children's book award.

1977 Milton Meltzer—*Never to Forget* (Harper & Row, 1976).

1978 Anita Heyman—*Exit from Home* (Crown, 1977).

1979 Doris Orgel—*The Devil in Vienna* (Dial, 1978).

1980 Carol Snyder—*Ike and Mama and the Block Wedding* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1979).

1981 Leonard Everett Fisher—*A Russian Farewell* (Four Winds Press, 1980).

1982 marks the first granting of the AJL Younger Children's Book Awards—suggested by Nettie Frishman (1978) and Hazel Karp (1980).

1982 Kathryn Lasky—*The Night Journey* (Frederick Warne, 1981).

1982 Barbara Cohen and Michael Deraney (illustrator)—*Yussel's Prayer* (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1981).

1983 Marilyn Sachs—*Call Me Ruth* (Doubleday, 1982).

1983 Linda Heller (author and illustrator)—*The Castle on Hester Street* (Jewish Publication Society, 1982).

1984 Rose Zar—*In the Mouth of the Wolf* (Jewish Publication Society, 1983).

1984 Barbara Pomerantz—*Bubby, Me and Memories* (UAHC Press, 1983).

Sydney Taylor Book Awards, 1985-1990

1985 marks the beginning of the Sydney Taylor Book Awards, funded by Ralph Taylor in memory of his wife, author Sydney Taylor. Each award-winning author receives \$1000.

1985 Uri Orlev—*The Island on Bird Street* (Houghton Mifflin, 1984).

1985 Amy Schwartz (author and illustrator)—*Mrs. Moskowitz and the Sabbath Candles* (Jewish Publication Society, 1984).

1986 Carol Snyder—*Ike and Mama and the Seven Surprises* (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1985).

1986 Florence Freedman and Robert Andrew Parker (illustrator)—*Brothers* (Harper & Row, 1985).

1987 Nancy Pitt—*Beyond the High White Wall* (Charles Scribner's Sons, 1986).

1987 Marilyn Hirsh and Devis Grebu (illustrator)—*Joseph Who Loved the Sabbath* (Viking Penguin, 1986).

1988 Sonia Levitin—*The Return* (Atheneum, 1987).

1988 David A. Adler and Rose Eichenbaum (photographer)—*The Number on My Grandfather's Arm* (UAHC Press, 1987).

1989 Patricia Polacco (author and illustrator)—*The Keeping Quilt* (Simon & Schuster, 1988).

1989 Jane Yolen—*The Devil's Arithmetic* (Viking Kestrel, 1988).

1990 Esther Silverstein Blanc and Tennessee Dixon (illustrator)—*Berchick* (Volcano Press, 1989).

1990 Lois Lowry—*Number the Stars* (Houghton Mifflin, 1989).

Ralph Taylor is in the process of endowing the Sydney Taylor Awards in honor of AJL's 25th Anniversary.

Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work Awards, 1979-1990

This award was created at the suggestion of Nettie Frishman, to honor the memory of Sydney Taylor, author of the "All-of-a-Kind-Family" books.

1979 Sydney Taylor.

1980 Marilyn Hirsh.

1981 Sadie Rose Weilerstein.

1982 Barbara Cohen.

1983-1984 No awards given.

1985 Miriam Chaikin.

(This is the first time that the award included \$1000, funded by Ralph Taylor in memory of his wife, author Sydney Taylor.)

1986-1989 No awards given.

1990 Yaffa Ganz.

Appendix G

Association of Jewish Libraries Sydney Taylor Manuscript Awards, 1986–1990

- 1986 Rosalie Fleischer—*Spirit*.
- 1987 E. M. Solowey—*Cubs of the Lion of Judah*.
- 1988 Frances Weissenberg—*The Streets Are Paved With Gold*.
- 1989 Suzi Wizowaty—*Borders*.
- 1990 No award.

Appendix H

Association of Jewish Libraries Reference Book Awards, 1985–1990

- 1985 Dr. Louis Feldman—*Josephus and Modern Scholarship, 1937–1980* (de Gruyter, 1984).
- 1986 Irene Heskes—*The Resource Book of Jewish Music: A Bibliographical and Topical Guide to the Book and Journal Literature and Program Materials* (Greenwood Press, 1985).
- 1987 Berl Kagan—*Leksikon fun Yidish-Shraybers (Lexicon of Yiddish writers)* (Berl Kagan, Brooklyn, N.Y.).
- 1988 Shimeon Brisman—*A History and Guide to Judaic Encyclopedias and Lexicons* (volume two of his "Jewish Research Literature" series) (Hebrew Union College "Bibliographica Judaica" series, 1987).
- 1989 Joan Bratkowsky—*Yiddish Linguistics: A Multilingual Bibliography* (Garland, 1988).
- 1990 Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz—*The Talmud: The Steinsaltz Edition: A Reference Guide* (Random House, 1989).