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## 8<sup>th</sup> IAYC Conference: in Baltimore: Yiddish Teachers: Heroes Then & Now September 4, 5, 6, 7, 2003 Pikesville Hilton, Baltimore, MD

### Report #8 Meet the Committee Behind the Conference

It takes a lot of work to realize a conference from the original vision to the on-the-ground event. And the Baltimore conference scheduled for September 4th through 7th is no exception.

**SYLVIA SCHILDT**, coordinator and chair, took the original theme and ran with it. She recognized its potential because of her ten years studying with great Yiddish teachers of the Arbeter Ring. Sylvia saw in it a celebration of glories past, and a challenge to Yiddish teachers and Yiddish lovers to carve out a new role for Mame Loshn as one of the pillars of Jewish education today. Aiding her was her personal acquaintance with a who's who of the world of Yiddish through the Internet. She was also guided by the input of founder Harold Black, along with Hilda Rubin, Fishl Kutner and Morrie Feller. Her search for the key post of treasurer brought her a true treasure, an *oytser* in the person of **TED (Tevye) CHASKELSON**, who continues to bring order and sanity to the business management of the conference, but also has expanded his role to promotion of the event to local synagogues and other Baltimore groups.

Co-Chair **ERIKA GREENBLUM** will be overseeing the events at the Conference to be sure all goes smoothly. **AARON SEIDEN** helped plan the tour of Jewish Baltimore and is the person for the job, since he is a docent and guide with the Jewish Historical Museum.

At a series of meetings, attended by committee at large members, **CHARLOTTE GELLER**, **BETTY TEPPER**, **AL KARCHEM**, **JIM KAPPLIN**, **DAVID FISHMAN**, **GILBERT RUDDIE**, **JEAN PINDRIK** & **SUE TYBERG**, details of the program were hammered out and beautiful pocket folders are being prepared.

Baltimore Councilwoman **RIKKI SPECTOR** has aided in liaisons with the city authority. Thanks also to **Dr. SONAT HART**, **DEBORAH MARGOLIS** & **ELAINE ECKSTEIN** of co-host Baltimore Hebrew University for their assistance. And to co-host JCC's **RABBI NINA CARDIN** and **EILEEN BERMAN** for generous counsel and support.

Other committee members **MARK HART** and **ROKHL EISSENSTADT** are waiting in the wings to assist with registration, tickets at special events, hospitality and other tasks.

All these people are important to the success of the Conference, as are the stellar cast of Presenters and Performers. But the most important people at the Conference will be you, the participants. We need you to register NOW. And remember: prices go up for those received after July 1st – and bus space is very limited for the Tour. If you need a registration form, call Sylvia Schildt at 410 298-4765.