

The IAYC - International Association of Yiddish COMPANIONS

by Philip "Fishl" Kutner

The acronym IAYC also stands for, **International Association of Yiddish Companions**. It meets at the conferences of the International Association of Yiddish Clubs. It had its 13th conference April 23-26, 2010 in Millbrae, California.

How the International Association of Yiddish Companions is Different

In a description of this prestigious organization, in some respects, it has many of those same attributes of its parent and hosting organization with the same acronym. However, it probably would be more informative and helpful to first list those characteristics that are not associated with the other IAYC.

- It is not a 501(c)(3) organization, despite the fact that it is a not for profit group.
- It does not file an annual tax report.
- It has no dues or other income.
- It has no expenses.
- It has no elected board or officers.
- It has no constitution or by-laws.
- It does not publish a journal, newsletter or send out any communications in either hardcopy or via e-mail.
- It has no paid ads—only word of mouth from happy past attendees.

Attributes of the International Association of Yiddish Companions

- It meets regularly at all IAYC conferences.
- Everyone is automatically registered.
- One's knowledge of Yiddish is irrelevant.
- It is comprised of men and women.
- It is particularly popular at meals.
- It is infectious and everyone gets the condition know as camaraderie.
- The condition has no cure and lasts between IAYC conferences.
- It is characterized by sharing and learning.
- Departing is a hugging event.
- Many keep in touch between conferences.