**der gast**

As a guest in your home, I shall receive a warm welcome—as is traditional in a Yiddish home. Each month I shall bring news of who are the interested people, and what, where, and when are their activities:

Let me now introduce myself. I am der bay (The Bay Area Yiddishist). I've been wandering around your beautiful Bay Area for a long time and enjoying the sights, but it's time now to get to work.

Actually, I'll be a good guest. I won't eat at your dinner table. I won't need an entire bedroom, for I don't sleep. Most important I won't use much water. I know you have a water shortage.

On the other hand don't think you can ignore me, for I will take a little of your time each month. Please tell me what you and your group are doing and I'll tell it to fishl so he can have me spread the word.

Maybe you should keep me because this is the #1 issue, and it is a very limited one. Since I'm very young, I'm not very big and don't know very much, but I hope you'll help me. You can make all the copies you want. The blue signature on the bottom shows the original.

Maybe you could even write a little story or a poem for me. If there's enough room, it'll be put in a corner. So why don't you put me down and send fishl a sharp copy in "eynglish" or transliteration. He'll even take a hand-written copy if it reproduces well. zeyer a sheynem dank.

---

**der kalendar**

### JANUARY

- **23rd, Wed., Marin JCC Instructor Ken Blady**
  - Starting Yiddish Classes, 7:00 PM
- **29th, Tues., SFJCC, Instructor Harvey Varga**
  - Beginning Yiddish, 8 Classes, 7:00 PM
  - Conversational Yiddish, 8:15 PM
- **30th, Weds., 7:30 PM, Berkeley/Rich. JCC**
  - "Singing Yiddish Songs" 6 Classes with Gerry Tenney

### FEBRUARY

- **3rd, Sunday, 2:30 PM, San Francisco JCC**
  - Jewish Folk Chorus Concert
- **3rd, Sunday, 10 AM, Brotherhood Way JCC**
  - Bay Area Jewish Educators' Conf.
- **5th, Tuesday, College of San Mateo**
  - "Coming to America" - Course
  - "Jewish Humor" - Course
- **9th, Saturday, 8:00 PM, Berkeley/Rich. JCC**
  - Comedy Night, "Darryl Henriques Has a Bar Mitzvah"
- **9th, Saturday, Dance Palace, Point Reyes**
  - Traveling Yiddish Theater
  - "Excerpts from Snake 'Talk"
- **10th, Sunday, 2:00 PM Marin JCC**
  - Yiddish Club Of Marin, 415-383-3207
- **14th, Thurs., 1:00 PM Temple Beth El**
  - 50+ Club, "A Jewish Storyteller: The Yiddish Connection", Fishl
- **21st, Thursday, 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC**
  - Yiddish Club Meeting, 415-349-6946

### MARCH

- **2nd, Sat., 7:30 "Kumszitz at the Goldins"**
  - Potluck, Sing-along starts 9:00 PM
  - Call 415-461-6090
- **3rd, Sun, A L Schultz JCC, Purim Concert**
  - Featuturing the Yiddish Choristers
- **9th, Saturday, 8:00 PM, Berkeley/Rich. JCC**
  - Larry Kassin, Intl Music., with "Songs of the Jewish Resistance Fighters."

### APRIL

- **28th, Sunday, 2:00 PM, San Francisco JCC**
  - A Tribute to Sholom Aleichem

### MAY

- **4th & 5th, A L Schultz JCC, "World of Sholom Aleichem: A Yiddish Festival"**
- **6th thru 11th Berkeley/Richmond JCC**
  - Sholom Aleichem 75th Yahrzeit Week
January's Featured Yiddish Class

Congregation Beth Am of Los Altos is fortunate in having Layah Laks as its yidish lehrerin. The class has a varied collection of Yiddish roots: Lithuanian, Romanian, Russian, and Polish. The age ranges from thirty to seventy-five years.

Layah's philosophy is "Do not throw anything away". Where else can they have such a variety of dialects? However, the class is taught strictly in the literary Yiddish (Vilner). Another characteristic of the class is that all levels of proficiency are accommodated, including beginners. This is particularly beneficial to the onheybers.

All areas of speaking, writing, and reading in both transliteration as well as with the printed Yiddish alphabet. Everyone progresses at his/her own rate learning grammar, proverbs and songs in the first hour. During the latter part of the evening, Yiddish literature is read in Yiddish featuring such familiar names as Sholom Aleichem and I. L. Peretz.

By far the most enjoyable portion of the class is the ten minute break to enjoy a grezele tey (a glass of tea) and Layah's wonderful home-baked goodies. This is a time for sharing with classmates.

An added bonus is Yoisef, Layah's husband, who faithfully attends each class and is a treasure of Yiddish knowledge in his own right as well as a rich source of stories and anecdotes of the old country.

At the end of each term there is a Yiddish party at one of the homes with plenty of good food, Yiddish songs, stories or film. Spouses are invited and a true family ambience is formed. Layah can be contacted at 415-886-1888.

I Believe

My generation should perpetuate Yiddish. Others wish to perpetuate Yiddish. I wish to perpetuate Yiddish. I love Yiddish.

I want to hear the language of my parents. I love Yiddish songs, stories and shows. I can help to keep Yiddish vital. Yiddish is a beautiful language.

It is easier to listen than to speak. It is easier to speak than to read. It is easier to read than to write. It is easier to write than be creative.

I must speak Yiddish. I will listen to Yiddish. I wish to read Yiddish. I may wish to write Yiddish.

"NOR EIN SACH WILL ICH FIN DIR"

By Jimmie S. Gruber
Melody. "80 is er in 70 is sie"

Ich hob Dich lieb, Ich soll a soi leben.
Chwolt my neshume far Dir gegeben.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Fershtreib Dein Bankbichel zu mir.

Ich well oif meine haend Dich trugen.
In sich mit Deine szonem shlugen.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Fershtreib Dein hous, wibald zu mir.

Chwell jeden tug Dir blimlach bringen.
In far Dir sheine liedlach singen.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Los iiber Dein fermeg zu mir.

Di megst shoin sein a missa Yente.
Wi lang Di host meszumen plenty.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Los iiber Dein fermeg zu mir.

Bei mir bist Du a moid a shene.
Mit Dein hoiker in falshe zehne.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Du sollst fin hinten gein fin mir.

Ich well Dir weisen neie welten.
Dich ufheiten fin alle kelten.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
As met darfen gein, sollst Di gein frier.

Wenn ein shein meidel wet mich wellen.
Will ich mit ihr a chippe stellen.
Ner ein sach will ich fin Dir:
Du sollst Dich uptsheppen fin mir.

Der emes is, in Ihr werd fin mir quellen.
Ich sich a Balabusste, a si soll mir gefellen.
Ner ein sach will ich fin ihr:
Si soll sich aeltern zisam mit mir....

Yiddish Literature Classes

Foothill College Division of Life Long Learning, and the Emeritus Institute of CSM are offering courses in Yiddish Literature. These courses are designed for the older adults, often with a minimal knowledge of Yiddish. Many are now seeking, within their roots, a historical perspective, and a deeper understanding of their cultural heritage.

The instructor, Clara W. Sumpf, has taught Yiddish classes at Stanford University, DeAnza and Foothill Colleges. For more information call Emeritus Institute at CSM 415-574-6199. For Life Long Learning at Foothill College call 415-354-8388.
Well, you read this far. You have to admit, that for the subscription rate, it's the best bargain since the nickel pickle. So where do we go from here?

"You can't stop an idea whose time has come." Listening to the very strong encouragement on the phone calls received, on our venture with goyem, it's full steam ahead. Likewise the extremely positive letters are a lasting tribute to our effort.

Yes, there are very few small pockets of Jews in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area, but the gems who are sprinkled around comprise a remarkable source of interest, enthusiasm, talent, and knowledge.

Berkeley has a national reputation for its 'Klez' bands. Three excellent Yiddish folk choruses are located in; San Francisco, Palo Alto, and Berkeley. Likewise while the national list of Yiddish courses showed only two in our area, there are now eight. When they were contacted, none of the Yiddish teachers new of the existence of more than three of the other Yiddish courses.

New Yiddish clubs are being formed on the Peninsula, and there is a resurgence of interest in the mame-loshn. Perhaps the greatest surprise to fishl was the response by the faculty at our local universities. Fifty-three Faculty, and the Hillel Directors are included in the supporters for this venture.

From here on it is hoped that the Letter to the Editor column will be an important clearinghouse of opinions on where we are heading in our quest to revitalize Yiddish. Please send your constructive criticism or better yet your "feedback" to fishl.

Original articles in English, transliteration or Yiddish will be accepted. Have them in 3.5 inch columns. See you next month

S Grandpa could you tell me what's this thing they call a resolution?  
G I'd say it's something you say. It's like when you make a promise. Folks usually make them at the beginning of the year.  
S Oh.  
G Sonny, is there any special reason why you asked me that question? Did you hear someone use that word?  
S Yesterday, after we finished dinner, we all went into the den to watch TV. I heard mommy 'n daddy saying something and then make a New Year's resolution.  
G Is that so? What did mommy 'n daddy say? Do you remember their exact words?  
S They said they'd try to do something in Yiddish at least once a month.  
G That's really very nice. When mommy was your age we visited my daddy and mommy and they spoke Yiddish.  
S Grandpa, I think I'm gonna make a resolution. Do you think it's OK for little kids to make a resolution?  
G Sonny, would you like to tell me what your resolution will be? I really very much would like to know.  
S Sure, I don't mind at all. From now on I'm not gonna fight with my sister Irene--unless she starts it first.  
G That's nice, Sonny. You know you just had a fight with her just a short while before we started to talk.  
S I know, Grandpa, but when mommy 'n daddy aren't looking she always starts it first.  
G Oh.  
G Do you mind if I tell your bubbie what your resolution is?  
S I guess it's OK.  
S Grandpa, now that I told you about my resolution, could ya tell me--did ya make a New Year's Resolution?  
G Yes, as a matter of fact I actually did make one.  
S Would ya mind telling me what ya promised to do different this year?  
G Of course, I'll tell you. I promised myself and bubbie that I'd join a Yiddish Club or take a Yiddish class to keep Yiddish alive.  
S Tell me grandpa, did you make that exact same resolution this time last year, just like mommy 'n daddy did?  
G Hmm, as I recall, it just so happens that I did.  
S Well, if ya didn't keep it last year, what makes ya think you're gonna keep it this year?  
G Sonny, that's a good question!
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<td>Daly City</td>
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<td>Yagudin</td>
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**der Day Newsletter**
c/o Philip 'Fishl' Kutner
1128 Tanglewood Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
der gast

Last month was the initial publication of *der bay*, and 232 copies were mailed throughout the Bay Area and 20 outside of our area. These included, NY, NJ, MA, VT, FL, MD, NB, and Toronto. In addition copies were distributed at B’nai B’rith meetings, Yiddish classes, and Senior club meetings, for a total of 300.

This much greater circulation than fishl anticipated is due solely to the great cooperation of the Peninsula JCC where the new Yiddish club meets and assists in the production of this publication.

There does not exist a clearinghouse of Yiddish club newsletters. In fact, there are very few published. This notice is a call for editors to exchange issues and club news. Another need is for a national listing of Yiddish teachers and a clearinghouse for openings. The JCCs, independents, universities, synagogues, and adult education all have a need for this information.

With the devastating situation in the Middle East, it is difficult to concentrate on Yiddish maintenance/revival. YIVO had this problem on a massive scale when it was necessary to relocate to America.

We have received news that Israel is making an effort to revive Yiddish theater and has a drive to build a theater.

der kalendar

**FEBRUARY**
14th, Thursday, 1:00 PM, Temple Beth El
*Fishl*, The Jewish Storyteller.
21st, Thursday, 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC
Yiddish Club Meeting, 415-349-6946
27th, Th., 8:15 PM, Temple Beth El, Santa Cruz
Purim Party, California Klezmer Band
27th, Th., 10:00 PM, Santa Cruz Hillel
Purim Party, California Klezmer Band

**MARCH**
2nd, Sat., 7:30 "Kumsitz at the Goldins"
Potluck, Sing-along starts 9:00 PM
Call 415-461-6900!
2nd, Sat., 8:00 PM Temple Beth Sholom, San Leandro, Purim Party, CA. Klez. Band
3rd, Sun., A L Schultz JCC, Purim Concert
Featuring the Yiddish Choristers
9th, Saturday, 8:00 PM, Berkeley/Rich. JCC
Larry Kassin, Intl. Music, with "Songs of the Jewish Resistance Fighters."
13th - 24th, Pacific Jewish Theater,
"A Shayna Maidel", Call 849-0498.
18th, Mon., 1:15 PM, Temple Beth Jacob Srs.
"Fishl", The Jewish Storyteller.
21st, Thursday, 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC
Yiddish Club Meeting, 415-349-6946

**APRIL**
28th, Sunday, 2:00 PM, San Francisco JCC
A Tribute to Sholom Aleichem

**MAY**
4th & 5th, A L Schultz JCC, "World of Sholom Aleichem: A Yiddish Festival"
6th thru 11th Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Sholom Aleichem 75th Yahrzeit Week

**JUNE**
4th, Tu, 7:30 PM, Peninsula: Temple Sholom
Film *Mamele* (Little Mother)
5th - 16th, Pacific Jewish Theater, *Dividends*
11th Tu, 7:30 PM Peninsula: Temple Sholom
Film *Yidl Mtn Fidi* (Yidl with a Fiddle)
18th Tu, 7:30 PM Peninsula: Temple Sholom
Film *A Brivele der Memen* (A Letter to Mother)
MULTILINGUALISM

Among Jewish immigrants to America it was common to be conversant in several languages. Depending on their proximity to the borders of other nations, and especially their need to trade with non-Jews, it was necessary for them to speak several languages.

Thus in addition to Yiddish being the language of the marketplace and Hebrew the medium of prayer and scholarship, there were these other national languages. My mother, who came to America in 1922, from a shtetl near Bialystok, speaks Polish, and Russian in addition to the two aforementioned "languages of the Jews". While the Sephardic elders have Ladino as their counterpart of Yiddish, they were in similar positions.

It is not rare for societies to have a language for the "common man" and another for the clergy/intellectuals. Greece and Italy have the situation of the classical Greek on the one hand and Latin in the latter. Even computers have this same dichotomy i.e., Basic is the language for the masses and Forth, Pascal, C and SQL the scientific/commercial languages.

Hebrew won the debate for the language of Israel, for several good reasons. However, if one travels around the world today, it is Yiddish as well as the English, which opens many doors for communicating.

Having a pluralistic language facility has been common throughout Jewish history. In ancient times Aramaic was the everyday language of the Jews, and the Targum is the Aramaic translation of the Bible. Our Talmuds made it necessary for scholars to be conversant in both languages.

Multilingualism is a product of conquered nations. Jews have been conquered and in a state of flux. Commerce also requires traders to be multilingual and Jews have been peddlers out of necessity. The wandering Jew is no misnomer.

One has often heard the truism that learning other languages, aids in better understanding one's native tongue. Young children learn to speak without learning grammar, but to "master" a language, one must study the syntax.

The future of Yiddish lies not in the "last generation who were weaned on it", but the next one which has a smattering. If it become solely the domain of the scholars, its homey, rich myriad of idioms, lullabies, plays and stories would be only a subject for scholarly journals.

An excellent book on this topic is Bilingualism in the History of Jewish Literature by Shmuel Niger. There is an English translation from the original Yiddish by Joshua A. Fogel and published by the University Press of America.

The Jewish Storytelling Center is an on-going group of storytellers who meet monthly at the 92nd Street Y, New York City. The Center has been in existence since Spring 1984. Jews have always loved and told stories. Since the focus of our Jewish world is story, then we have needed a great many stories to fill this need. In the past twenty-seven years, more collections of Jewish stories from Jewish sources have been published than for many years before. And, at the same time, there has been a resurgence of interest in storytelling. Many of these collections contain stories from Eastern European Yiddish sources, from the Israel Folktale Archives and other sources.

Jewish Storytelling Newsletter is a 12-16 page newsletter filled with articles, book and cassette listings, a folktale book excerpt, a calendar of storytelling events, stories, discussion issues, etc.

Subscriptions for this newsletter only are $10.

The newsletter is co-published by CAJE (Coalition for Advancement of Jewish Education). CAJE members who belong to the Jewish Storytelling Network can receive the newsletter free-of-charge. For information about CAJE, contact at 261 West 35 Street, Fl. 12A, New York, NY 10001 or call 212 268-4210.

Continued interest and research in Jewish oral tradition promise to keep this tradition vital and vibrant. In this way, the Yiddish stories will remain alive for all.

Peninnah Schram, Director
JEWISH STORYTELLING CENTER
92nd Street Y Library
92nd Street YM-YWHA
1395 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10128
or call 212 415-5544
## CLEARINGHOUSE

Der Bay has several immediate objectives. One is to develop a working list of Yiddish talent in the Bay Area. In the first issue last month, a list of bands was published. In this issue you will find 50 performers. They can be reached by contacting Fishl at 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo 94403. There is No Charge for this service to either party.

As a clearinghouse for Yiddish, another is Yiddish classes and teachers/tutors. We are assisting the League for Yiddish in compiling a list for the U.S. There is a shortage of teachers in Canada where the interest is much higher—an opportunity for individuals looking for a new career. The major universities for training are Columbia, Oxford, and McGill.

We are working to network Yiddishists interested in using computers for writing and communicating. One of the top individuals in the country is here in the Bay Area. He is Ari Davidow who writes a column called Online for the N. Ca Jewish Bulletin. Please let us know of your software experiences and interests.

Very few Yiddish clubs have a newsletter, and this is one means of "spreading the word." Der Bay is being sent to selected individuals/groups in both the U.S. and Canada, if your group is interested in networking, please contact Fishl.

Is there a Hebrew school principal or teacher who wishes to incorporate a unit on Yiddish in their classes? There is help available and also guest speakers. Finally there is a need for original articles in/on Yiddish. If they are lengthy, then assistance may be given in having them published.

### PURIM

*Sung to the tune of "Adon Olam"

Melody: ADOIN OLAM

Lyrics: Jimmie S. Gruber

Haint is Purim, Morgen is oiss:
Git mir a Penny un varft mich aroiss.
Besser noch a Human Tash,
Far a sissen Purim Nash.

Farestellen sich vie a Poyatz.
Tanz arum oif yeden Platz.
Megillah leinen in der Shiel.
Dry dem Grager vie a meel.

Az die herst min ruft sain Numen.
A dank zu Esther un Mordechai,
Unsere Yiden sennen frail
Es iz a Mitzvah bringen haint,
Shelachmunes zu die Fraind
Min soll sich sehn Gezunderheit.
Iber a Yuhr die selba Zeit!!!
Day 1  The Jewish Storyteller

Introduction.
Development of storytelling.
Jewish storytelling.
Role of genealogy in storytelling.
Class activity
Fishl's genealogy: A Case Study
  Grandparental stories
    Zelig in America
  Parental stories
    Max in the Army
    Max Meets Pearl
  Personal stories
    The One-Room Schoolhouse
    Let's Get Married Next Week
    The Flood
    How I Stopped Smoking
  Children's stories
    It's My Car Tonight
    I May Wanna Go to College
Class activity

Day 2  Yiddish and Yiddish Stories

Bilingualism
  Historical development
  Current status
  Jewish bilingualism
    Hebrew - Aramaic
    Hebrew - Yiddish
    Hebrew - Latino
Development of Yiddish
Golden Age of Yiddish
Causes of Yiddish's near demise.
  Assimilation
  Communism
  Holocaust
  Israel
English words of Yiddish origin
Yiddish Stories
  Sholom Aleichem
  Sholom Aleichem stories
  75th yahrzeit activities
Class activity
In future issues of *der bay*, we shall be adhering to the Library of Congress spelling of Yiddish. If an article is received using the traditional format, we hope you understand that only the spelling will be changed and not the content.

This has been an exciting month with presentations at Senior groups and clubs. There has been an increasing interest outside of the Bay Area and the first steps in establishing THE YIDDISH NETWORK.

"San Francisco Yiddish" is reaching out and the new areas have a bevy of inquiries. Last month it was Toronto, which has a large and active Yiddish community, and this month it is the Greater Washington D.C. Area which has a really marvelous newsletter. It has a mailing list of 3,000 and a membership of 400. Lea Singer is the dynamic and exciting person who edits the Newsletter. She exudes excitement when you speak to her about the world of Yiddish.

We are slowly developing a network of highly motivated key individuals who are interested in sharing, spreading, and making the news in Yiddish. You will find a list of categories on which the network is developing or ones which have already been published and are available free.

It has become quite apparent that there is a much greater interest in retaining Yiddish than I visualized when the Sholem Aleichem 75th Yahrzeit Project started. Now the database is over 600 and still growing. The additions are mainly Yiddish leaders from outside of the Bay Area. A statistical listing is on the last page.

With the successful start of the PJCC Yiddish Club, the launching of *der bay*, and PJCC giving me a base of operations, it has made the task easier. I shall continue to send the newsletter gratis as long as my personal funds permit. Remember to send in your Yiddish events for listing in *der kalendar* and attend the upcoming Sholem Aleichem festivities. Remember, Philip "Fish!" Kutner 415-349-6946.

---

**March**

10th, Sun., 2:00 PM Marin JCC Yiddish Club
Meets 2nd Sunday of each month
Call Flora Wyshak 383-3207

13th - 24th, Pacific Jewish Theater,
"A Shayna Maidel", Call 849-0498.

18th, Mon., 1:15 PM, Temple Beth Jacob
"Fish!", The Jewish Storyteller:
A Yiddish Connection 415-366-8481.

20th, Wednesday, 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC
in Belmont, NEW Yiddish Club Meeting,
Call 415-349-6946

29th, First seder of Passover

**April**

17th, Wed., 7:30 PM, 415-493-9400
meets 1st & 3rd Wed. of the month
A L Schultz JCC Yiddish Club

24th, Wed., Sholem Aleichem died 10th of Iyar
in New York. This was on May 13, 1916

28th, Sunday, 2:00 PM, San Francisco JCC
A Tribute to Sholom Aleichem
Call 415-346-6040

**May**

4th 8:00 PM & 5th, 2:00 PM A L Schultz JCC,
in Palo Alto "World of Sholom Aleichem:\nA Yiddish Festival" Call 415-493-9400

6th thru 11th Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Sholom Aleichem 75th Yahrzeit Week
Call 415-848-0237 for list of events

**June**

4th, Tu. 7:30 PM, Peninsula.Temple Sholom
in Burlingame 415-697-2266
Film *Mamele* (Little Mother)

5th - 16th, Pacific Jewish Theater, " Dividends"
11th Tu. 7:30 PM Peninsula.Temple Sholom
in Burlingame 415-697-2266
Film *Yidl Mitn Fidl* (Yidl with a Fiddle)

18th Tu. 7:30 PM Peninsula.Temple Sholom
in Burlingame 415-697-2266
Film *A Brivele der Mamen*
(A Letter to Mother)
THEM JEWISH CRACKERS

Fishl on the Farm

Growing up on a chicken farm outside of Flemington, New Jersey left many memories. In fact, enough for a lifetime of storytelling. When you consider that our family of four boys were the only Jews in school, it meant that we had only each other as good friends. It wasn't easy to say "no" when offered food, for it was usually treyf.

Things were very different then. I remember that we ate suppers, and dinner was eaten noontime when dinner was supposed to be eaten. Many years later mom said, "if G-d wanted you to eat dinner at night, he wouldn't have called it suppel". Mom's philosophical oration ended with, "Even the goyem know what to eat at night. They eat supper."

No holiday beats Pesach. The first seder was always at zeyde's house. He was my mother's father. We called my father's father "grandpa". Mom said that was so because her family were "greenhorns" and dad's family were "yenkees".

Mom felt that way because one side spoke Yiddish while the other used "heynglish". The distinction seemed to be more of the fact that one came before the war and the other after the war. Oh, I mean WW1.

Let's get back to Pesach and the seders. Zeyde and bobes lived on Boerum Street in Brooklyn, and we lived on the farm in Jersey. It meant a two-hour ride into The City. Our transportation was the family car--a half-ton International pick-up.

Naturally mom, dad, and Semele rode up front. Seat belts, is that what you asked? Who cared about seat belts? Blankets, blankets, and bales of straw or hay to block the wind, that's what counted.

Especially on the way home, the cold hit. Sure Pesach is in the middle of the month of Nisan, but at night in the back of an open truck, it gets very windy and cold. The worst part was the cold steel of the truck bed. We learned it was just as important to have the blankets below us as having them above.

A blanket was a koldre, and a quilt with goose feathers a perineh. Mom wouldn't let us take our perinehs. They're too valuable. It was fun at the start of the trip, but it seemed to last forever. We slept on the way back--the wine made us drowsy.

Food, food, and more food was the most important thing to mom. Of course even more important was our health. Money wasn't a problem, for we didn't have much, so we didn't use much. My folks never had a financial advisor. They never had any money to be advised about.

Food, food and more food not only occupied mom's mind, but was what hurried the boys along at their chores. A Pesach breakfast meant matzoh bray or matzoh latkes. Actually, it was usually bray for breakfast and latkes at night.

Having a chicken farm meant that you had eggs. If you had eggs, you had cracked eggs. If you had cracked eggs, you ate eggs--lots of eggs. The three-egg bray was the norm. The wood stove in the huge kitchen was always full of frying pans and the pans were always full of butter. I hated taking peanut butter and jelly sandwiches when they were on matzoh. The kids wanted those Jew crackers.

Every Pesach our Polish neighbor Zolnerchik, dropped by to get matzoh. He said that the Jews knew how to cook. His wife came over--but always alone.
DO YOU NEED ONE OF THESE LISTS?
IT IS AVAILABLE FREE.

Research Libraries in Jewish Studies
Research Archives of North America
Jewish Museums of North America
Jewish Theaters of North America
Yiddish Club Newsletters
Yiddish Videos
Universities Preparing Yiddish Teachers
Major Yiddish Organizations
Klezmer and Yiddish Bands
Yiddish Books
Yiddish Learning Materials
Yiddish Teachers
Yiddish Classes
Yiddish Clubs
Jewish Storytellers
Yiddish Entertainers
Yiddish Pen Pals
Yiddish Computer Mavens

They are free from organizations or being prepared by The Yiddish Network.
Contact Philip "Fishl" Kutner at 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo, CA 94403.
Need one not mentioned? Let Fishl know.

PJCC BECOMING A CENTER FOR YIDDISH IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

When you have an enlightened staff, and an administration with the vision and willing to give them the reins, then all things are possible. Such has been the situation of the Peninsula Jewish Community Center in Belmont, California.

Nestled in the beautiful hills, and not easy to find, this warm group of professionals now boasts a Yiddish Literature course, a Yiddish Club and the home of del'ba1).

Clara W. Sumpf, the Yiddish literature instructor, has a rich background in the subject, and has taught at Stanford University, DeAnza and Foothill Colleges.

For information on the course, the Yiddish Club or inquiries about this newsletter, contact PJCC 415-591-4438 or the editor Phil "Fishl" Kutner at 415-349-6946. Fishl's address is 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo, CA 94403.

LEARNING YIDDISH IN EASY STAGES

This modern textbook for learning Yiddish is being used by Yiddish classes for adults all over the world. Together with the audio tape that is available, it is suitable for the independent student.

LEARNING YIDDISH IN EASY STAGES involves the student gradually with Yiddish, introducing a few of the letters of the Alef-Beyz at a time. Conversations begin in transliteration and slowly move the student to full Yiddish. The lessons familiarize students with vocabulary, proverbs, poetry, and humor and have clear explanations of grammar. Information about Yiddish books, music, theater, press, and organizations is included. Songs with music and words in Yiddish and in transliteration are in a handy section at the back of the book. There is also a very useful glossary as well as a section of useful words.

The co-authors of this text, Marvin Zukckerman, Chairman of the English Department, and Professor of Jewish Studies at Los Angeles Valley College, and Marion Herbst, coordinator of the Yiddish Program at University of Judaism and instructor in Yiddish at Santa Monica College, are aware of the needs of the contemporary student. No previous knowledge of Yiddish is needed to use this book. It is also useful as a reference book for the student who has some knowledge of Yiddish. It is a high quality, sturdy, cloth bound book.

LEARNING YIDDISH IN EASY STAGES is published by Joseph Simon/publisher and can be purchased by calling 1 800 333 8122. It is also available from Workmen's Circle Education Department and from the National Yiddish Book Center.
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*Individual/family  ***Chiefly Klezmer  ****Predominantly Faculty
**Mainly South of Redwood City  *****Area Needing Development
This month is the one we've been gearing up for. This is the month when our Bay Area Jewish Community Centers begin the Sholem Aleichem festivities. Our planning to cooperate in scheduling and assistance is truly paying off.

What has been so surprising is that this giant of a man's 75th yortsayt received little national recognition and until now, so few organizations have planned affairs. Since this newsletter is now being sent to more and more areas outside of our own community, perhaps others will still make a last minute effort. Check der kalendar for updates on locations, dates, times and phone numbers.

The dates of Sholem Aleichem's yortsayt in the Jewish calendar is the tenth of Iyyar (April 24th), and May 13th in the secular calendar. For these three weeks, there will be activities from April 21 thru May 11. With at least three Yiddish clubs meeting the weeks just prior and just after these activities, it is a great time to visit San Francisco.

It is interesting to note that the three giants of the "Golden Age of Yiddish" all died in successive years. First we lost I. L. Peretz in 1915, then Sholem Aleichem in 1916, and finally Mendele Mokher Sforim a year later. This is in the reverse order in which they entered the scene.

"No man is an island unto himself" and it is time that several individuals receive full recognition for their encouragement and inspiration. One who belongs right at the top is Prof. Gella Fishman who gave many suggestions in my first attempt at Yiddish writing. ALL the errors are mine. Remember to write to der bay at 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo, CA 94403 with your articles in this format of 3.5 inch columns, and/or comments, corrections or requests.

der bay received notice of the International Yiddish conference in the USSR. This is a momentous event, for there is a wealth of Yiddish talent remaining there. We hope to bring you reports of this upcoming convention.

**APRIL**

10th, Wed., 10:15 AM Addison-Penzak JCC
A Taste of Yiddish, 4 Sessions
Call Shoshana Korthamar 408-358-3636

14th, Sun., 2:00 PM Marin JCC Yiddish Club
Call Flora Wyshak 415-383-3207
Meets 2nd Sunday of each month

17th, Wed., 7:30 PM, Call 415-493-9400
A L Schultz JCC Yiddish Club
Meets 1st & 3rd Wed. of the month

17th, Wednesday, 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC in Belmont, Yiddish Club Meeting.
Call 415-591-4438 or 415-349-6946

18th, Thurs., 10:30 AM-Noon, Contra Costa JCC in Walnut Creek, Yiddish Club Meeting.
Meets every Thursday Call 415-938-7800

21st, Sun., 2:00 PM, Peninsula JCC in Belmont
A Celebration of Sholem Aleichem
Call 415-591-4438 or 415-349-6946

24th, Wed., Sholem Aleichem died May 13, 1916
26th, Fri., 1:00 PM, Brotherhood Way JCC
Kosher Shabes Lunch $1.25/$3.50

**MAY**

4th 8:00 PM & 5th, 2:00 PM, Schultz JCC,
Palo Alto "World of Sholem Aleichem: A Yiddish Festival" Call 415-493-9400

6th thru 11th Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Sholem Aleichem 75th Yortsayt Week
Call 415-848-0237 for list of events

6th thru 30th 7:30 PM San Francisco JCC,
Gerry Tenney* Teaching the course
"Learning to Sing Yiddish Songs"

12th thru Summer Blumenthal Library of the Magnes Museum, only MTW 10-4
Sholem Aleichem Exhibit 415-849-2710

**JUNE**

2nd, Sun. 2:30 PM, San Francisco JCC,
The Jewish Folk Chorus sings
A Tribute to Sholem Aleichem
DER FARKISHEFTER MARANTSN BOYM

Dos maysele stamt fun Haiti, af dem mayrivdikn breg fun an inzl inem karabeyishn yam vos heyst Hispaniola. Es iz dortn do a traditsye az ven a kind vert geboyrn, fazeyt men a kerndl fun a frukht boym. Men gleybt az azoy vi der boym vakst, azoy vakst dos kind. Az der boym vakst hoykh un glaykh, vet dos kind azoy vaksn, ober az es vakst krum, vet dos kind nit hobn ken sheyn lebn. Siz oykh do a praktishe zayt fun der traditsye. Ven der boym heybt on tsu gebn fr ukh t, belangt es tsum kind un di frukht breyngt gelt vos belangt oykh tsum kind.

Siz amol geven a meydele vos hot gehat a shlekhte shtifmuter. Ir tate hot nit gevust az zayn tokhter hot gedarf reynikn dos gantsen hoyz yedn tog nokh der shule. Der tate hot nit gekent blaybn mit der shtifmuter un iz ayek fun ir un hot oykh ibergeiost dos meydele.

Eyn mol iz dos meydele arayngekumen nokhn lernen in shul un hot gezen a sheynym marants af a teler afn tish, zi hot ongeheybn tsu shplin zikh mit marants un shpeter ugegesn dem marants. Ven dos meydele iz fartig gevorn, hot zi gevust az di shtifmuter vet zayn zeyer broyges, un zi hot araygeton dem sholekhts un di kerndlekh funem marants in der keshene funem un gezizt fun ir kleyd. Ven di shtifmuter iz aheym gekumen un gezizt der marants is nito, hot zi bal ongeheybn tsu shlohn dos meydele.


Dan zogt dos meydele marantsn boym, tsubrekh, tsubrekh, tsubrekh un der boym hot zikh tsebrokhun un di shtifmuter iz aruntergefan tsu der erd un hot tseklapt ir kop af der mames shteyn un iz derharget gevorn. Dos meydele hot farzeyt kendi fun a marants un zeogt marantsn boym, marantsn boym vaks, vaks, vaks. Un der marantsn boym iz gevaksn, gevaksn, gevaksn. Un s'hot zikh bavizn a nayem groyen marantsn boym.

YIDDISHIST THE ENDANGERED SPECIES

As a gene pool diminishes, the survival potential of a species lessens. Keeping a wide diversity in the hereditary gene-pool permits a greater adaptation to changing environments. Survival of the fittest refers to adaptability, not to physical prowess.

Yiddish has manifested herself in varied forms; the day-to-day mame-loshn of the commoner in the shtetl, the medium of expression in some of our great writers like Sholom Aleichem, and I. L. Peretz, the vehicle of artistic productions on the Yiddish theater, and even the means of communication among Jews throughout the world needing a common language.

Hebrew served as a unifying force in the formation of the State of Israel and formed a bond between the Jews of Europe and the Americas, with those of Africa and Asia. It seemed to be the "apparent" death knell for Yiddish, and what Hitler and Stalin did, hastened what the onslaught of assimilation had started.

Returning after continued setbacks has been a trait of Jews throughout history, and so it appears is the rekindled interest in Yiddish. After avoiding her in an attempt to become "Americanized", the pull at our roots has drawn us back to our days of immigration with its lullabies, songs, humor, and stories of the shtetl.

Yiddish courses, are increasing in number. The National Yiddish Book Center has had a tremendous growth in book-handling and membership. New Yiddish clubs are now being formed, Yiddish classes are springing up in universities, and computer networks have been a boon for people in different countries. Our Yiddish is an international language like Latin, but it is far from being a dead one. It is more than merely stories, jokes and "cute" words incorporated into the English language.

PENINSULA JCC LEADS OFF FESTIVITIES

This Belmont JCC will open the 3 weeks of Sholem Aleichem tributes. Judy Edelson, the JCC director has assured us of a great affair April 21 at 2:00 pm.

Starting the activities will be a presentation by Fishl on The Life and Times of Sholem Aleichem. This will be followed by a performance of the Yiddish Lullaby Lady, Eva Metzger.

After an intermission for sweets and beverages, will come the original storytelling of Flossie Lewis. Then Rick Fisel, the lead male vocalist for the Yiddish choristers will sing and play the guitar, accordion and banjo.

Finally a feature of the afternoon will be the highly talented husband-and-wife team of Vladimir and Regina Karpovich playing melodies and singing Yiddish songs from Sholem Aleichem's homeland.

TWO-DAY YIDDISH FESTIVAL

The world of Sholem Aleichem will spring to life at the Albert L. Schultz JCC on Saturday May 4th, at 8:00 pm and Sunday May 5th at 2:00 pm. These events will highlight festivities in the south peninsula region celebrating the 75th yortsayt of the author of Tevye the Milkman. It will also be a time to celebrate the joys of Yiddish

On Saturday this JCC will feature two one-act plays from "The World of Sholem Aleichem". These plays will be performed in English under the directorship of Judy Dresch, founder and director of the Manhattan Playhouse. Top flight local talent will delight you in performances of A Tale of Chelm and The High School, at the Rollnick Auditorium.

The Yiddish film Mame-Loshn will also be shown as well as exhibits to be viewed. There will be displays of many books and Yiddish newspapers.

Sunday, the Keynote speaker will be the renowned Yiddishist Prof. Blume Goldstein. Following her appearance will be Prof. Joyce Penn Moser and well-known local lecturer, Clara Sumpf.

Readings will be presented by two of the best Yiddish teachers in the Bay Area—Layah Laks and Tybil Kahn. Under the baton of Lottie Solomon, the Yiddish Choristers will perform a series of Yiddish songs to delight all ages.

Nostalgia and "noshery" are features as we salute Sholem Aleichem. For theater reservations call 415-493-9400. The events on Sunday are free.
VISITING THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, OR JUST MOVED IN?

When visiting our beautiful Bay Area, call/visit any of these, to learn about our Yiddish activities. For a list of Klezmer bands, Jewish storytellers, Yiddish clubs, Yiddish courses, shops that sell Yiddish books, etc., call der Bay for a free newsletter with its list of Yiddish events.

Addison-Penzac JCC of Greater San Jose, 14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos 95030, Call Faigie Rosen, 408-358-3636

Berkeley/Richmond JCC, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley 94709 Call Karen Andersen, 415-848-0237


Contra Costa JCC, 2071 Tice Valley Blvd. Walnut Crk. 94595 Call Shoshana Elihu, 415-938-7800

der Bay Yiddish Info of the Bay Area 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo 94403 Call 'Fishl" Kutner, 415-349-6946

Friendship Circle, Congregation Beth Ami 4676 Mayette Ave, Santa Rosa 95405 Call Bernice Fox, 707-528-4222


Peninsula JCC, 2440 Carlmont Dr., Belmont 94002, Call Mildred Friedman 415-591-4438

San Francisco JCC, 3200 California Ave., S.F. 94118 Call Jason Gaber, 415-346-6040

Albert L. Schultz JCC, 655 Arastradero Rd., Palo Alto 94306 Call Dr. Frank Kushin, 415-493-9400
With three successful Sholem Aleichem programs successfully held in April at the Peninsula JCC, Brotherhood JCC and the star-studded cast at the San Francisco JCC, we now look forward to a marvelous weekend at the Albert L. Schultz JCC in Palo Alto, and a potpourri of week-long festivities at the Berkeley/Richmond JCC.

See der kalendar for updated information on locations, dates, times, and phone numbers of these festivities. Also note the Yiddish club meetings. There will be a wonderful Yiddish film series coming up next month at Peninsula Temple Sholom.

You will notice several new items in this issue of der bay. Excellent contacts have been made in Israel with the key people in theater, journals and universities. There is a greater interest than I ever imagined.

Our new PJCC Yiddish club, at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center in Belmont, continues to grow. At the third meeting we had 21 eager participants, and after an hour of discussion and readings, we viewed the Yiddish Theater on Second Avenue narrated by Herschel Bernardi.

We have wonderful Yiddishists nearby. David Ditchek and his friends called to say they were coming in from Sacramento to see the Sholem Aleichem performance at SF JCC. Another region worthy of note is Santa Cruz with its small but dynamic Hillel under director Jeff Sokolow, and the very active Center & Temple, Beth El.
From the Jewish Folk Chorus of SF

For over 60 years we've been singing and performing Yiddish folk music. We welcome new singers, and our rehearsals are Tuesday evenings, from September through early June. For more details call 415-533-3903. Also don't forget our 65th ANNUAL CONCERT on June 2nd, 2:30 pm at the SF JCC. Admission is only $4 general & $2 seniors.

We began back in 1926 as part of a loose network of Freiheit Workers Choruses that started in Chicago in 1914. We all shared a vision. Let our progressive Yiddish culture be strengthened, and let our songs ring out from coast to coast, under the slogan of the Jewish Music Alliance: A People Who Sing, Will Not Perish.

From humble beginnings, ours has been an exciting path. In 1939 we performed at the SF World's Fair on Treasure Island. We presented "The Yiddish Folk Album" with costumes, songs, and dancers before 1800 people at the old Alcazar Theater. In the 1960's we sang "The March to Selma", an original cantata by Malka Gottfried about the Civil Rights Movement. In 1970 we were at the 120th anniversary of Congregation B'nai Israel in Sacramento. Each year we give two great concerts at the SF JCC; sing at the Jewish Home for the Aged in SF; and sing resistance songs for Yom Ha Shoa.

Our repertoire includes Ladino, English, Russian, Hebrew, and wonderful Yiddish selections. We sing songs of the Jewish workers, songs of struggle and hope, songs of love, lullabies, and resistance songs. Under the inspiring leadership of Jose Luis Moscovich, our talented conductor, we are 40 singers strong. Come sing with us, we'd love to have you.

Renee Enteen  415-533-3903
President, Jewish Folk Chorus of SF

THE YIDDISH NETWORK

Last month the last page of der bay gave the names, addresses and phone numbers of individuals to contact in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, on the first page of each issue is der kalendar giving the Yiddish events, locations and phone numbers.

If every Yiddish community had this available--FREE, it would be a boon for travelers/vacationers keenly interested in hearing/seeing Yiddish programs and meeting others interested in Yiddish.

The Yiddish Network is on its way in having a pivotal individual in 33 major areas and the list of cities is now available. Next month, the system will be fully in place. At this time Fishl will serve as the hub, to collect and forward all requests for a given area. This airlines-approach will give us a handle on the statistical distribution, and if they are individual or institutional. For the members of the Yiddish Network, the contacts, sharing and inspiration are the reward.

To keep the cost to a minimum, the requests must contain a self-addressed stamped envelope. Thus, the only effort needed on the part of the Yiddish Networkers is to keep a calendar of Yiddish events and stuff the already stamped and addressed envelope. In my case, I'll send the front page of der bay.

The Yiddish Network believes that you start with what you have available, and when a new request comes in, go after it. There is no need for a particular city contact if no requests come in.

If you are a Yiddish teacher or member of a Yiddish club and would be willing to be a contact for your city, write Fishl. If there is a need, he will send a "how to" packet of instructions.
ALL I GOT WAS WORDS

When I was young and fancy free
My folks had no fine clothes for me.
All I got was words:

got tsu danken – נפשמזדיק

got vet gebn – נפשמעבך

זולמןלולאהליפשהזיוין

When I was wont to travel far
They didn't provide me with a car.
All I got was words:

gey gezunt – עניןבעזרות

gey pamelekh – ענייןפשיטלך

hob a gliklekh rayze. – הובאןלייקלסערレイז

I wanted to increase my knowledge
But they wouldn't send me to college.
All I got was words:

hob seykh! – הובטשקל

zay nisht ken nar – זיינישטעקינער

toyre iz di beste skhoyre. – הווירזאידיבסטסק確かに

The years have flown, the world has turned,
Things I've forgotten, things I have learned.
Yet I remember:

zog dem emes – זאיגדעםאמת

gib tsdoke – גיבעטדוקה

hob rakhmones – הובראכמון

zay a mensh – זייאמנש

ALL I GOT WAS WORDS. ALL I GOT WAS WORDS.
Neophyte Yiddish Thespians

Our Yiddish Folk Theater will perform The World of Sholem Aleichem at both the SFJCC and the Berkeley/Richmond JCC. It is a comedy about a confidence game and is entitled "Oylem Habe". See der kalendar for further information. SFJCC April 28 and B/RJCC May 6.

Di Shpilers of the Yiddish Folktheater have been performing for several years all around the Bay Area. To delight the audiences, performances are in Yiddish with English supertitles. Under the expert tutelage of Adele Proom, and Asst. Director Joanne Sultar, the group recently did "The Card Game" written by Sholem Aleichem.

Do join our troupe. A keen interest in acting is all that is required. We'll help you with the Yiddish. Call Adele Proom at 415-843-5082.

The Jewish Grandpa Moses Exhibit

Harry Lieberman started his artistic work at the age of 80, and continued until his death at 107. The Jewish Community Museum of San Francisco has been looking for seniors fluent in Yiddish to help translate Mr. Lieberman's commentaries. Ruth Z. Bolotin, Education Coordinator, noted that the show will run from May 25 thru August 31st.

Cincinnati Emigrant Responds to Forward Article

On March 1, this weekly published a very kind article of Fishl's effort to spread the word of Sholem Aleichem's 75th yortsayt and mentioned that the renowned Yiddish columnist Y Hamer, the pen name of Joseph Mlotek, would transmit letters sent to him for Fishl. Two weeks later a new American wrote, and it was forwarded with a beautiful note. It was answered in Yiddish and proved more difficult than writing this column.

A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto

This photographic exhibit subtitled "A Birthday Trip to Hell" will be shown at Santa Clara University. These photographs were taken by a German Wehrmacht soldier on his own birthday. Docents will be trained at the Holocaust Center of Northern California, May 14 and May 16. Don't forget to view this exhibit. It is truly remarkable that it still exists.

In the Digest of the Yiddish Press

Rabbi Raiskin sent in an article by Rabbi Sam Silver of Temple Sinai Millersville, PA. He wrote in the Digest of the Yiddish Press about the 75th yortsayt of Sholem Aleichem and how Fishl fostered interest in having commemorative affairs.
From Portland Maine to Portland Oregon
The Yiddish Network is in place. The
75th yortsayt of Sholem Aleichem
programs were successful and thus
completed The First Annual Yiddish
Festivals in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Next year's theme of The 75th Yortsayt
of Mendele has been chosen, and thus we
have the organization, the time and the
credibility needed to have a successful
Second Annual Yiddish Festival.

Fishl is on the WELL! From a long term
perspective this may be the most
significant accomplishment for der bay.
Thanks go to Ari Davidow, who literally led
him step by step through the purchase of
the modem and installed it. As a
computer consultant in our area, he is
second to none.

This month we have a completely new der
calendar, for last month covered only May.
Note the updated information on
locations, dates, times and phone
numbers of the Yiddish club meetings.
There is a wonderful Yiddish film series
this month at Peninsula Temple Sholom.

G-d willing, our next issue of der bay will
be in Sept. Fishl has come to the end of
the line and needs a grant. If you have a
suggestion, please write. If this fails, he
will ask for voluntary contributions to the
PJCC which has been printing the
newsletter. Until then, remember the
Yiddish in Yiddishkayt, un zay gezunt.
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The Yiddish Theater of Israel

Shmuel Atzmon, director of the Yiddish Theater of Israel located in Tel Aviv, sent a package of posters, articles and play bills. His group is exciting and we look forward to his return to the US.

Now the literature is appearing in Yiddish, Hebrew, English and Russian. Mr. Atzmon states that "A considerable number of the artists whom we have absorbed into the theater are new immigrants from Russia who have come with a rich past and impressive achievements in Russian theater". Also mention was made of Shlomo Mikhoels, the famous Yiddish actor and director of the Moscow State Jewish Theater, who had been murdered some 40 years ago.

From the varied types of plays undertaken, it is apparent that the depth of talent and calibre of acting is very high. The company performs Sholem Asch's Motke Ganev (Motke the Thief), and Sholem Aleykhem's Shver tsu zayn a Yid.

Then there is The Bible Songs of Itzik Manger. There is a beautifully blended mixture of comedy and tragedy in Manger's writings. "Yiddish became, through generations of use, the folk language--easy to handle in daily life. It was the lively language spoken by wagon drivers, maids, synagogue functionaries, and tailors". They became the familiar figures of Bible history and transformed into the singers of The Bible Songs.

Another play is Shimele's Kholem--one of Sholem Aleykhem's soap operas. This is a real mixture of highs and lows. It tears at your emotions as you follow the trials and tribulations of the tailor, the stingy landlord, the beautiful daughter and results of winning the 200,000 ruble lottery.

The Workmen's Circle is Greatly Involved with Yiddish

The Workmen's Circle is well-represented in The Yiddish Network. Naomi Kadar is WC's educational director, and the New York contact in The Yiddish Network now located in 37 cities in the US, Canada and Israel. Chava Lapin, WC's dynamic director, has revitalized the national office.

It's great to have contact with their national bookstore manager Stephen Dowling, who has been a real find for Fishl. He is very pleasant, and one of the most efficient individuals Fishl has contacted in the national Yiddish community. Perhaps best of all is the list of available Yiddish materials WC has for beginners.

Sunny Landsman of Miami, editor of the Circle of Yiddish Clubs Newsletter said that there are now 125 Yiddish clubs in their circle and 94 are in Florida. Sunny will be teaching Yiddish at the annual WC training conference in the Catskills.

For Yiddish to maintain/revive, it must do so at the grass-roots level. Local Yiddish clubs and Yiddish classes with good PR is the best means for stimulating local interest. Workmen's Circle is the only national Yiddish organization with local branch offices. The local San Francisco branch will begin to develop a Yiddish support system. Contact Fishl.

There is a definite growth of interest in Yiddish over the last 9 months. Whether this is temporary or a lasting trend, time will tell. As an example, each of the San Francisco Area's Sholem Aleichem Festivals had a larger than expected attendance of 25 to 100 percent.

Workmen's Circle National Headquarters:
Yiddish Play Nominated for Awards

Eleanor Reissa in a recent phone call told Fishl that for the first time a Yiddish play was nominated for a Tony award. *Those Were the Days* had two nominations—Bruce Adler for best male supporting actor in a musical and Ms Reissa for best director of a musical.

Tel Aviv Bound

Ann B. Cohen, our Pittsburgh contact for The Yiddish Network, writes that she will be in Tel Aviv on June 3rd and making additional contacts for us.

Yiddish on the IBM

Dr. Allan Blair, the contact for Columbus, Ohio, sent a beautiful letter in Yiddish using his IBM. This is a family in which both the husband and wife (Judy) are excited about Yiddish revival. Fishl is thankful that Allan used a large font.

A Recommendation

Fishl has avoided recommending an product, but here is an unsolicited one. This is a good place to highly recommend an excellent anthology for readers who need LARGE TYPE print. *mir zenen do* is printed by Eagle Publishing Co. Ltd. Montreal Quebec.

This wire bound, hard cover, 200 page book has an excellent selection of short stories, poems and jokes which include works by Bialik, Sholem Aleichem, Mendele, I. L Peretz, Sholem Asch and other greats in Yiddish writings.

Astrology & Yiddish?

Jim Perilman, director of the Harbin Astrology Center, Box 82 Middletown, CA asked for Sholem Aleichem's birth data Fishl found Jim's name in a Miami paper: obituary of Jim's dad who was a very well-known rabbi in a large New York temple.

Peninsula
Jewish Community Center
2440 Carlmont Drive
Belmont, California 94002
(415) 591-4438

address correction requested
"From Portland Maine to Portland Oregon The Yiddish Network is in place." That was the start of June's editorial. Over the summer many new people, keenly interested in Yiddish, have been added to the database. The Yiddish Network is now in Melbourne Australia and our contact Barbara Zylberman would be happy to escort visitors to her school, the Sholem Aleichem College. Also we have expanded and now have a contact in Mexico. Maya Ajzen has been very helpful telling us about their Yiddish Teacher three-year training program.

Inside is the updated list of Yiddish/Klezmer Bands. On the last page is additional information. Joyous Jewish occasions should have Jewish music. There still is no charge for any of our lists or information. Several people have sent generous donations to the PJCC which is helping me to defray some of the costs of publishing der bay.

Compilers run into the problem of whom to include or exclude--me too! Compilers have a greater difficulty in tracking down the last ten percent than the rest--me too.

Lists get outdated. The intent is to act as a clearinghouse and run new computer printouts when a request comes in. All of Fishl's lists are free--send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Fishl's new address is Philip "Fishl" Kutner 400 Laurel St. #202, San Carlos, CA 94070. The new home phone number is 415-593-0275.


October 8th, Tu. 7:00-8:15 P.M. SFJCC Yiddish Class-Harvey Varga Call 346-6040 16th, Wed., 1:30 PM, Peninsula JCC Belmont, Yiddish Club Meeting, Call 415-591-4438, 593-0275 (Fishl) 19th, Sat., 7:30 PM "Kumsitz at the Goldins" Potluck singalong, Call 415-461-6090
Amol iz geven an alter, ayngeboygener man. Er hot govoynt in a vald--aleyyn. Er iz geven der eyntsiker geblibener fun zayn familye. Er iz geven a kranker, zeyer a shvakher--er hot koym nisht gehat di koykhes opstukokhn a bisl kashe oyf iberbaysn.

Eyn mol shteyt er oyf in der fri, un derfilt az es iz im zeyer kalt. Git er a kuk aroys funem fenster un zeyt az es falt a gedikhte shney. Vey, vey, trakht er zikh, es iz do veynik holts oyf tsu makhn fayer. Muz er aroys geyn zikhn holts in der shney, anisht vet er kholile derfroyrn vern.

Derfint er a shtrik, bindt er es arum zikh vi a gartl, un geyt aroys in vald zukhn halts. Er veyst az er muz gefinen, a gefalener, farfoylter boym, vayl er hot shoyn fun lang nisht gekont hakn holts. Geyt er in di shneyen, un geyt, un ot gefint er take a lang-gefalener boym. Shrekt er oys der shtrik oyfn shney, un brekht op a tsvaygl, un a tsvyeter un azoy vayer, biz er hot gemakht a kleyn kope holts. Bindt er es tsamitn shtrik, un nemt es oyfheybn. Kon er nisht. Vi shtark er shlept, mit ale zayne geblibene koykhes, kon er nisht. Er iz tsu shvakh, nebakhn.

Kukt er in himl arayn, un shrayt oys, "Oy Got mayner shikt mir qik toyt." Bald oylf der minut derzeyt er der Malekh Hamoves--kumt im antkegn un zogt, azoy oyf hoykh, "Du host oyf mir geshlkt? Vos vilstu?"

Der alter vert zeyer dershrokn, fangt on tsu tsitern, un in a tsaplendike kol, entfert er der Malekh Hamoves, "Efsher kont ir mir helfn oyfheybn dos bintl oyf di pleytseh?"

A.A. Friedman
29500-116 Heathercliff Rd.
Malibu, CA 90265

Come with me to the land of my childhood where my zeyde and bobe spoke to me Yiddish and I understood them. There, where words were colorful, and curses were bizarre and harmless. There where the stories were of hard times in a foreign land, and where the joy of being in America was oh so great.

It was a time when family was important, and respect for parents was expected and given. It was a time when God was still alive, and for a man to know a woman, he had to marry her--a time when having children out of wedlock or marrying out of the faith was a shande.

There was that land where the iceman was a weekly guest, and vegetables were bought at the push-cart. You could buy hot chestnuts and yams that burned your fingers, but tasted oh so good. There were the meals of herring and onions, of shmaltz, griven, kishke and heldz. It was a time when everything was stuffed—even the menshn.

Even the holidays were special. Each one had its special foods. Most of all I remember the sweets. They always had raisins, nuts and honey. Passover with all of its restrictions had special foods. Who ever heard of matzoh balls that floated? Mom had to be careful when she ladled them into the chicken soup so that she didn't break the bowl.

It was a time when you had to make Bar Mitzvah speeches that you wrote yourself but which the rabbi changed so you didn't recognize it. Every Bar Mitzvah boy chanted the best maftir and mom cooked and baked for a week before the party.

It was a time when girls had little to say, that is until they got married. It was a time when everyone thought that the tate was the boss, but mame knew better. Also nice Jewish boys weren't suppose to fight or to see "bad" girls.

There always were little blue and white boxes for coins for the poor people. The fact that we were also poor never was considered, for there was always someone poorer than us.

It was a time when Joisey was as far away as Russia. If you moved across the Hudson, you might just as well have gone back to the old country.

One had to learn what to do with mezuzzahs, teflin, talesm, tzitz kefones, and the yarmulke. Learning to be a Jew was a full time job. Those were the days when Yiddish was our mame-loshn.
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<td>Rose</td>
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<td>2020 E 37th St.</td>
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<td>Baltimore Klezmer Orchestra</td>
<td>Aaron</td>
<td>Bussey</td>
<td>3000 Clift Rd.</td>
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<td>Musikanten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Di Yiddish Bande</td>
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<td>CHESTN</td>
<td>124 Donegal Dr.</td>
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<td>Viva Klezmer</td>
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<td>Jaime Bronstein Klezmer Band</td>
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<td>Epstein Brothers Klezmer Band</td>
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<td>7005 Twelve Oaks Blvd.</td>
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<td>2456 Carriage Dr.</td>
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<td>210 Walnut Drive,</td>
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<td>Mennin</td>
<td>1921 Conita Road SW</td>
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<td>87105</td>
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<td>Ellis Island Band</td>
<td>Barry</td>
<td>Pekarek</td>
<td>6623 Spring St.</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
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<td>90037</td>
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<td>The Electric Carpathians</td>
<td>Jeff</td>
<td>Shapira</td>
<td>743 Geller Blvd</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>92114</td>
<td>619-263-2247</td>
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<td>Milk &amp; Honey</td>
<td>Doron</td>
<td>Fels</td>
<td>269 Minerva St.</td>
<td>Daly City</td>
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<td>415-876-9793</td>
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<td>Band of Gold</td>
<td>Gordon</td>
<td></td>
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<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nigun Trio</td>
<td>Corey</td>
<td>Weinstejn</td>
<td>1003 Plymouth St.</td>
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<td>CA</td>
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<td>Anatoly Makline Band</td>
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<td>Maklin</td>
<td>150 Corona St.</td>
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<td>Mishna's Band</td>
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<td>Klezmannias of San Francisco</td>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>Brussell</td>
<td>50 Fuentes Ave.</td>
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<td>The Katzmans</td>
<td>Olya &amp; Alex</td>
<td>Katsman</td>
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<td>Zeitgeist Band</td>
<td>David Julian</td>
<td>Gray</td>
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<td>Simcha Orchestra</td>
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<td>Kenin</td>
<td>1025 55th St.</td>
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<td>The Klezmer Manilx</td>
<td>Kalita</td>
<td>Flexer</td>
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<td>Touristan</td>
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<td>558 Boulevard Way</td>
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<td>Hot Borscht Band</td>
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<td>The Klezartm</td>
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<td>Ellis Island Old World Folk Band</td>
<td>Carol</td>
<td>Ginsburg</td>
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<td>Lewis</td>
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<td>Marjin</td>
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<td>Klezmnianics</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Levy</td>
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<td>3912 Wood Creek Lane</td>
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<td>Not Quite Kosher Klezmer Band</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Hubbard</td>
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<td>Serenade Band</td>
<td>Rick</td>
<td>Concaff</td>
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<td>OR</td>
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<td>503-452-3882</td>
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<td>Oomph Klezmer Band</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Falk</td>
<td>P.O. Box 3151</td>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>98109</td>
<td>206-282-7298</td>
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<td>Mazel Tones</td>
<td>Wendy</td>
<td>Marcus</td>
<td>2012 3rd Ave. N</td>
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</table>
October's theme is Yiddish outside the United States. This last month has shown a remarkable growth in both interest and contact overseas and in neighboring Canada & Mexico. As we start a Jewish New Year, it is quite propitious that recognition be given to the effort and endeavors of Yiddish in the communities abroad. Everyone I contacted was excited in hearing about der bay. I have had no contact with Eastern Europe, and will devote a future issue to the wonderful activities in Israel on behalf of Yiddish.

This month additional cities which added contacts to The Yiddish Network include; Izzy Young in Stockholm, Lillian Dubb of Cape Town, Jack Wiegman living in Amsterdam, Majer Bogdanski in London, Joachim Hemmerle of the Mannheimer Morgen in Mannheim and Francois Lilienfeld near Zurich.

There still is no charge for any of our lists, newsletter (selective circulation) or information services. All that is needed is an (SASE) Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope. Several people have already sent generous donations to the Peninsula JCC which is helping me to defray some of the costs of publishing der bay.

Nothing is copyrighted—you are urged to share this information with your Yiddish classes and Yiddish clubs. All letters have been answered within 72 hours. Fishl's new address is Philip "Fishl" Kutner 400 Laurel St. #202, San Carlos, CA 94070. The new home phone number is 415-593-0275.

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der kalendar

EVERY Tues. 7:00 PM, at SFJCC
Jewish Folk Chorus
Call Renee 415-533-3903
Wed. 7:30 PM, Albert L Schultz JCC
Yiddish Club, Call 415-493-9400
Thurs., 10:30 AM-Noon, Contra Costa JCC
Yiddish Club, Call 415-938-7800
Mon., 10-Noon Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Yiddish Culture Club, every Monday
Call 415-848-0237
Mon., 7:30 P.M., Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Yiddish Conversation Group
Call 415-848-0237 or 415-644-1245
Mon. 1-2 P.M. Berkeley/Richmond JCC
East Bay Yiddish Folk Chorus
Call 415-848-0237
Tues., to Nov 26, 7:00-8:15 P.M. SFJCC
Yiddish Class-Call 415-346-6040
Wed. 7:30 P.M. Temple Beth Am
Yiddish Class, Call 415-886-1888
Sun., 2:00-4:00 PM Marin JCC
Marin Yiddish Club Call 415-383-3207
Mon. 2nd 1:00 P.M. Montefiore Sr. Center
Call Rae Mintz 415-346-6040 xt210
Wed., 1:30-3:30 P.M. Peninsula JCC
Belmont Yiddish Club Meeting,
Call 415-591-4438 or 593-0275 (Fishl)
Sat., 7:30 PM "Kumsitz at the Goldins"
Poduck singalong, Call 415-461-6090
Sat. 1:30 PM Temple Beth Torah Yiddish Club
Call 415-490-5560 or 415-656-7141
Wed. 1:30 P.M. Oakland-Piedmont JCC
2nd & 4th Wed. Yiddish Singing
Call 415-593-9220
Th., 8:00 PM, Humanities Bldg., SF
The Jewish Storyteller (Fishl)
Call 415-572-4367,or 415-593-0275
Sun., Yiddish Song Circle - Berkeley
Call 415-841-7528 or 415-532-2358
Mon., 11:30 A.M., Berkeley/Richmond JCC
Yiddish in the Bay Area (Fishl)
Call 415-848-0237 or 415-593-0275
Th., 7:30 P.M., Mame-loshn Yiddish Club
Call 415-574-3634, 415-595-5492, or
Fishl at 415-593-0275
Klezmer Band of the Month

BRAVE OLD WORLD is a new klezmer ensemble which brings together four leading exponents of the American klezmer revitalization: Michael Alpert (vocals, violin), Alan Bern (accordion, piano), Stuart Brotman (cimbalom, wind and fretted instruments, and percussion), and Joel Rubin clarinets. The group has concertized, recorded and taught since 1987 throughout North America and Europe.

Not only virtuosos as performers, but the four members of BRAVE OLD WORLD are also recognized teachers and scholars in Yiddish musical and cultural studies. All are on the staff of the YIVO KlezKamp in New York.

BRAVE OLD WORLD offers a unique cultural and educational opportunity: hands-on workshops in Yiddish song, klezmer music, and traditional Yiddish folk dance, as well as lectures and discussions focusing on the history and cultural content of Yiddish music up to the present day.


Additional performances were at the Jewish Community of Frankfurt; Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin as part of the concert series "Israel, the Second Generation: Between Memory and the Present"; and "Funfsik yor fun der heym avek", lecture-concert as part of the symposium "The Contribution of Jews to American Society and Culture", Amerika Haus Berlin.

This renowned group is celebrating the release of its new CD "Klezmer Music" on Flying Fish Records, Chicago [FF 70560]. An excellent recording by an earlier formation of the group, the "Joel Rubin Klezmer Band", was released on Global Village Music, New York [C122].

For more information on overseas klezmer music and the BRAVE OLD WORLD band, contact Michael Alpert, 308 West 103rd St, Apt 2A, New York, NY 10025, (212) 666-5028.

Yiddish on the Computer

Few people use a computer with Hebrew fonts to communicate in Yiddish. There are several reasons for this including:

1) Many of the seniors are apprehensive about learning to use a computer.
2) While the price of computer hardware is dropping rapidly, it costs thousands of dollars for a complete set-up.
3) While there is progress in developing "Yiddish" software, it can't match English word-processing programs.

Thus learning, cost, and quality have been factors in retarding rapid growth in the use of computers to communicate in Yiddish. However, there are signs of change and several very knowledgeable people among our readers who do use a computer because of the following two reasons.

First, the use of transliteration permits a cheap and simple method with a short learning span. It is imperative that writers use the standard spelling developed by YIVO and accepted by The Library of Congress. For a set of these rules check several beginner's texts, contact YIVO, or send Fish! an (SASE) self-addressed stamped envelope for a simple list of rules.

Second, there is a growing number communicating online, using a modem to send and receive messages over the telephone through their computers. Fish! is in the very early preliminary stages of using this wonderful means of contacting others around the world. The high speed and lower cost makes this the way of the future.

Here are several very knowledgeable people who have proven helpful to me and represent a varied geographical area.

Dorothy Wasserman of Wasserman Associates, New York City
R. Lea Singer editor of Yiddish in Greater Washington, Washington DC
Ari Davidow columnist, Oakland, CA
David Sherman Toronto, Canada online
Lorin Sklamberg YIVO, NYC
Al Sobel Boulder, CO
Harry Bochner Somerville, MA
Max Drucker printer, Durham, NC

For addresses of above, someone in your area, or commercial vendors of Yiddish material, send SASE to Fish! at his new address 400 Laurel St. #202, San Carlos, CA 94070 phone 415-593-0275.
At the Yiddish Club

How sweet is the tongue learned in childhood, when little ones sheltered midst voices round their hearth. That first tongue, heard once again in adulthood, now electrifies the heart.

The old family members who are no more, those fixed stars in our firmament of yore, spoke a Yiddish that we drank in, a rich elixir of love's vitamin.

For so many the tongue ne'er continued as we thoroughly Americanized, we left it behind, with never a mind, till here, by its power surprised.

The spell of the old words upon us fountains up easy laughter, sweet tears! Cascading us back to that world, to those days when we knew all would hold, and forever would last.

Summer '87 at Chatauqua, NY
Ethel Olicker
Beechhurst, NY

Where Are You?

If you know of a Yiddish teacher Yiddish club, or Klezmer band not on our list, or a correction tell us. Write or call with the current where-abouts of:

"Where are you list"

David Brown    Klezmer Band Leader
Toby Erlich    Yiddish School Chicago
Janice Hamer    Was in Bryn Mawr area
Dr. Jean Joffen    Yiddish Teacher
Albert Kaminsky    Yiddish Teacher
Hal Katzman    Klezmer Band Leader
Irena Klepfisz    Writer
Ruth Korman    YiddishTeacher
Nitsan Lavie    Israeli Musician
Lev Lieberman    Musician
Kevin Linscot    Musician
Bob Me(h)lman    Klezmer Band Leader
Norman Miller    BB on Yiddish Studies
Stanley Miller    Klezmer Band Leader
Steve Reuben    Was in Riverdale, NY
Mickey Spencer    Was in Berkeley CA
Larry Topol    Performer

Peninsula
Jewish Community Center
2440 Carlmont Drive
Belmont, California 94002
591-4438

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Belmont, Calif.
Our Canadian Friends

der bay's largest group of "overseas" Yiddish contacts, is in Canada. As it is in most areas, the concentration of Yiddish is in the major cities, with the sole exception of Quebec (open for a contact).

There is a shift from Montreal to Toronto due to the political climate in Canada. A Yiddish graduate program exists at McGill. It is one of only three Yiddish doctoral programs I'm aware of.

Montreal boasts the world-renowned Saidye Bronfman Yiddish Theater and its director Dora Wasserman, our dedicated contact.

The Yiddish Network contact, in Toronto, Sylvia Lustgarten, has been a prolific correspondent and is great to visitors. Dave Sherman has a computer center for Yiddish contacts. Dave Buchbinder's Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band also calls this place home. Yes, Toronto is a must for visitors.

Winnipeg--does not have the number of Yiddish speakers as do Montreal or Toronto, but on a one-to-one basis it is just as strong. Especially, the effort of the local Yiddish radio announcer, Noah Whitman, and our enthusiastic contact Oscar Antell. It is the home of my own favorite Yiddish mentor, Layah Laks, and her wonderful husband, Joseph, and the home of the Finjan Klezmer Band.

Our smallest list is in Calgary. Thanks to Riva West, I'm in touch with Lila Mydlarski, the Yiddish teacher who really does justice to that title. When you visit their roundup, write Lila, our contact.

Vancouver is a beautiful city. Prof. Seymour Levitan, our contact, has been one of the best resources on both Sholem Aleykhem and Mendele. Vancouver also has the wonderful Odessa Klezmer Band.

See TYN List in the September issue of der bay. For a list with new European contacts, please send an (SASE) Philip "Fishl" Kutner 400 Laurel St. #202, San Carlos, CA 94070.

Objectives of TYN

At the present, The Yiddish Network (TYN) is centered at der bay office operating out of Fishl's home at 400 Laurel St. #202, San Carlos, CA 94070; phone (415) 593-0275.

Printing and distribution is at the Peninsula Yiddish Center located at the Peninsula JCC in Belmont, California.

TYN is a loosely knit group of highly motivated and dedicated Jews, in 49 cities around the world (not in the East Europe area--yet), dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of Yiddish. If you send an (SASE) to the contact person you will receive a list of Yiddish activities for the next month for that city and the names of several Yiddish speakers.

Below is a list of free materials from TYN, or others who distribute them free or at very low charge. Donations may be sent to Fishl and made out to the Peninsula JCC.

To receive these lists, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Fishl (address above). Please make only one request per month up to a total of 5 pts.

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Nothing is copyrighted—you are urged to share this information with your Yiddish classes and Yiddish clubs. All letters have been answered within 72 hours. Fishl's address is Philip "Fishl" Kutner 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo, CA 94403. This is south of SF. His phone is 415-349-6946.

Each issue is like a new child. Somehow it develops its own personality. This month has been spent responding to twice the mail in any previous month and the requests required greater detail and research. There appears to be an ever-increasing interest in computers, and the requests for computer maven lists show the greatest percentage increase of all requests.

The second difference this month has been the emphasis in developing the very large Florida Yiddish community. Our TYN contact has been extremely helpful, but it requires phone calls to each to update and verify all data. Merely updating all the returned mail with address changes and those sent in has been very time-consuming.

In this issue you will find an article on a new course being offered at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center in Belmont, California. It is entitled "My Yiddish Roots: A Course for Beginners".

Next month marks the last issue of my first year in publishing der bay. I'm looking for suggestions for a sponsor befitting the anniversary issue.

der kalendar

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My Yiddish Roots: A Course for Beginners

Have you wanted to start right from the beginning? Are your Yiddish skills weak or non-existent? Are you rusty in the use of the language of YOUR parents or grandparents? Would you like to learn how to trace your genealogy back to your Yiddish Roots? Do you yearn to hear klezmer music or the Yiddish lullabies?

If the above drew a positive response, then you are in for a treat, for this course will put you on your journey.

Here is a unique opportunity to start right at the beginning with the multi-talented editor of *der bay*, the newsletter of the San Francisco Bay Area Yiddish Community. Share and search for your roots along with others just like you. Meet people who also wish to search and share. Background, age and knowledge will cover the gamut. Your classmates may be complete novices (onheybers) in one area and experts (mavens) in another.

Teaching this course will be Philip "Fishl" Kutner, a master teacher and Jewish storyteller who has plied his trade from preschoolers, to octogenarians in Florida, Metropolitan New York, and throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Guest performers and specialists will supplement this program.

With two new Yiddish clubs, we have become a center in Yiddish revival. Whatever your motivation, here is your opportunity to start with the basics. For the first time storytelling, genealogy and the Yiddish language and heritage are in a single course. It recognizes that our area has students whose religious interest varies from nil through advanced training. All are welcome.

The Peninsula JCC in Belmont is excited about its role in fostering this area's latest interest in Yiddishkayt. Contact Carol or Mildred at the PJCC office for details. Phone (415) 591-4438 or Fishl at home (415) 349-6946.

Yidish far Kinderlakh

A young American couple decided: before they were married, that should they be blessed with children, they would raise them speaking Yiddish.

In our next issue there will appear Toby Erlich and Henry Jelen's own article on their experiences with raising their four year-old daughter.

We all comment on the need to bring Yiddish to our young people, but most of us do nothing about it. Toby and Henry together traveled uncharted waters in developing a program for their daughter, and in doing so made it possible for other children to benefit.

Be sure to see the next issue of *der bay* and read their personal account of their difficult, and often humorous story. Read also of the unselfish effort of a retired Yiddish teacher who never taught pre-schoolers, but who now is sharing in the joy of passing on our Yiddish to the next generation.

Judaiaca

Rabbi Irvin D. Ungar, of nearby Burlingame, wrote to tell of an interesting issue of the Forward that he has in his collection of Judaiaca.

Rabbi Ungar noted that the headlines are in red, and takes up the top third of the front page. It reads "krieg endigt in Eyrope". The issue is dated Tuesday, May 8, 1945. Throughout its 8 pages, the now scarce issue addressed the war's end.

He is the owner of Holy Land Treasures and does lectures and workshops on rare manuscripts, books, also ritual and ceremonial Judaiaca.

Lists of Judaiaca abound. It is a specialized and lucrative field. Requests for Judaiaca information often come in, and I always send a varied list. Rabbi Ungar has been very helpful with my reference needs. He is at 1200 Edgehill Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010.
**Home Grown "Klez"**

After a year of collecting data, it seems appropriate to evaluate the Home Grown "Klez"--the locals. How does the San Francisco Bay Area compare with other areas.

As a group, musicians chase rainbows. This seems to be the nature of artists. These dedicated people may be in it for the money, but for most of them, it's almost as lucrative as being a school teacher, but with many more hours of "practice". There is a very high turnover rate within bands, and the lack of band longevity seems to be the norm. Yes, we have the few well-known success stories, but the struggling masses is the norm.

From a per-unit population perspective, SF Bay Area runs away with the award for number of Klezmer bands. My US list has 84 now and will probably peak off at about 100 when I locate the recalcitrant and hideaways.

There are about 20 Klezmer bands in the San Francisco area and fully three-quarters can be labeled as serious-minded and dedicated to the art. It drew enough interest that YIVO's KlezKamp was held here a few years ago. One of the peripheral benefits of this interest, and a measure of the dedication, is the keen interest these young musicians show in learning Yiddish.

In the last few months the number of inquiries of people looking for "Klez" bands to perform at Jewish functions has grown along a steep rising curve. There is a definite trend to use them instead of the more popular song and dance bands for Jewish affairs.

A mutual benefit was derived between the bands and the communities when Yiddish Festivals arrived last May 13th. These were the celebrations, all around the Bay, of Sholem Aleykhem's 75th Yortsayt. The Berkeley/Richmond JCC incorporated this festival into their annual festival which has been an ongoing event.

**American Assn. of Professors of Yiddish Will Meet in San Francisco**

Professor Joseph Landis, head of the AAPY, announced that this prestigious organization will hold presentations as part of the Modern Languages Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco from December 27-30, 1991.

There will be a discussion group "Contemporary Critical Approaches to Yiddish Literature". Included in the program will be "feminist, psychoanalytic and deconstructionist" aspects.

The AAPY Yiddish session is entitled **Yiddish Literary Critics, Manifestoes, and Movements: Critical Positions in Yiddish Literature.** It will be held at the Marriott Hotel.

**Yiddishland: Registration Pending**

We are proud to announce that our contact for the Washington DC area has this beautiful word **Yiddishland** being recognized. Ms. R. Lea Singer is the editor of The Greater Washington Yiddish Newsletter. Lea notes that she has been using this term for the last five years and according to the Patent Office, in 4 to 6 months it will be registered. In Fishl's opinion her publication is the finest Yiddish club newsletter in the U.S.

The Greater Washington Area, especially the section within Maryland, is where Yiddish is very strong. This area is among the top five most dynamic Yiddish areas in America.

As Fishl has learned through many conversations and communications, Lea is also an excellent community information specialist. She specializes in planning, developing, and executing long-term information and communication projects. In addition, she runs the Rivka Network

We appreciate the effort by the TYN (The Yiddish Network) with individuals like R. Lea Singer.
UC Berkeley Yiddish Club Formed

Last summer five students from the San Francisco Bay area attended the Weinreich Summer Program at Columbia University in New York City. Since returning, they decided to continue their interest in Yiddish by forming Yiddish clubs.

At the time of writing this article, the group has had two meetings and established the rule that conversation at meetings will be strictly in Yiddish. They listen to Yiddish songs and read Yiddish poetry and stories.

It was decided to open the club to anyone in the community who desired and was capable of communicating solely in Yiddish.

Another group is in the process of organizing at Stanford University and it is hoped that the two groups will cooperate on programming and have periodic joint meetings.

Where Are You

If you know of a Yiddish teacher, Yiddish club, or Klezmer band not on our list, please let me know. If you know of a correction, or deletion, in the information, please tell us. You found 5 from the last list.

"Where are you list"

David Brown  Klezmer Band Leader
Avrum Goldblatt  Telecommunications
Dr. Alice Kessler Harris  Rutgers U.
Albert Kaminsky  Yiddish Teacher
Hal Katzman  Klezmer Band Leader
Ruth Korman  Yiddish Teacher
Lev Lieberman  Musician
Kevin Linscot  Musician
Bob Me(h)man  Klezmer Band Leader
Stanley Miller  Klezmer Band Leader
Steve Reuben  Was in Riverdale, NY
Dr. Gary S. Schiff  Gratz College
Jack Szupak (spelling?)  Atlanta, GA area
Rabbi Reuven Tradburks  Band Leader

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der bay

Newsletter of the Bay Area Yiddish Community

DECEMBER 1991 Vol I No 10

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Yiddish teachers, Yiddish clubs, and Klezmer bands, this newsletter is your clearinghouse. Philip "Fishl" Kutner, 1128 Tanglewood Way, San Mateo, CA 94403, 415-349-6946 is your editor. All of the directories and lists are free. To receive a list or be listed, send Fishl a (SASE) self-addressed stamped envelope. Gigs and teaching positions are handled by the parties involved, and all der bay does is to act as a no-fee resource— it's a mitzvah.

Our TYN (The Yiddish Network) has contacts in 53 cities throughout the US and in eleven foreign countries. When you move or travel, the contact person will send you a list of Yiddish activities and names of several Yiddish speakers. All you need do is send the contact a SASE.

To meet the urgent need for computer information in the Yiddish community, we start a three part series on English-Yiddish Computing by Dorothy Wasserman, one of the top people in the field.

Our Miami Area contact, Sunny Landsman, has just co-authored a book to help in organizing new clubs and be an aid to existing ones. See The Wonderful World of Yiddish in this issue.

Fishl has compiled an index of der bay's first year—ten issues, and it is free. Back issues and library subscriptions are available at two dollars per issue. Foreign requests add a dollar an issue. All checks should be made to PJCC (Peninsula JCC).

This month marks the last issue of my first year in publishing der bay. I'm looking for suggestions for a sponsor befitting the anniversary issue.

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Yiddish Conversation Group
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2 Mon., 1-2 P.M. Berkeley/Richmond JCC
East Bay Yiddish Folk Chorus
Call 510-848-0237
3 Every Tues., 7:00 PM. at SFJCC
Jewish Folk Chorus, Call 415-533-3903
3 Tues., to Nov 26, 7:00-8:15 P.M. SFJCC
Yiddish Class—Call 415-346-6040
4 Every Wed., 7:00 PM, in Bolinas
Yiddish Class. Call Jeff 415-868-2309
4 Wed., 7:30 P.M., Albert L Schultz JCC
Yiddish Choristers, (Every Wednesday)
Call Lottie 415-941-9066 or 415-493-9400
4 Wed., 7:30 P.M., Albert L Schultz JCC
Yiddish Club, Call 415-493-9400
4 Wed., 7:30 P.M. Temple Beth Am
Yiddish Class, Call 415-886-1888
5 Thurs., 10:30 A.M.-Noon, Contra Costa JCC
Yiddish Club, Call 510-938-7800
8 Sun., 2:00-4:00 P.M. Marin JCC
Marin Yiddish Club Call 415-383-3207
9 Mon., 2nd 1:00 P.M. Montefiore Sr. Center
Call Rae Mintz 415-346-6040 x210
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Prof. Dov Noy - Jewish Folklore
Call 591-4438 or 349-6946 (Fishl)
Sun., Yiddish Song Circle - Berkeley
Call 510-841-7523 or 532-2358
21 MLA Annual Conference, SF
The Wonderful World of Yiddish

Sunny Landsman and Fred Silberstein have just published The Wonderful World of Yiddish. Here is a must for every Yiddish club. Sunny is the Miami Area contact for The Yiddish Connection. Both authors are among the most dedicated and tireless workers for the preservation and revival of Yiddish.

This publication was an outgrowth of many years of experience with The Circle of Yiddish Clubs, which also has a newsletter, undzer shtime. Experience learned in fostering Yiddish clubs, teaching many Yiddish classes, and running programs has given the authors invaluable insight in writing this book. Fishl has not come across anyone who has had more experience in organizing and coordinating Yiddish clubs than Sunny Landsman. She is a true leader.

Last summer Fishl met Sunny and her husband at their son's home in the Bay Area. While he did not see the final copy, he was very impressed.

It is divided into fifteen chapters. Included is a chapter all in Yiddish for the advanced reader. At the beginning is a section on practical tips in setting up a club. Fishl has seen four new Yiddish clubs formed this year in the Bay Area, and three more are in the process of being formed. Most people do not know how to go about getting a group started. The Wonderful World of Yiddish is an excellent addition to existing Yiddish Club libraries as well as to those of us interested in starting a new club.

The next section is full of information with chapters on humor, proverbs, poetry, and songs.

This wonderful book is not for sale, but will be given to new members of the Circle of Yiddish Clubs and libraries which have large Yiddish collections.

Sunny said, "Both of us are deeply involved with the Arbeter Ring, The Workmen's Circle, for this international organization is deeply committed to fostering Yiddish."

Sunny can likewise be contacted at the Circle of Yiddish Clubs c/o JCC 6501 W. Sunrise Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33313

"Songs of My Grandfather"

This cassette is a family affair, produced by the company they formed, Mame-Loshn Music, and inspired by the poet grandfather, Menke Katz, who selected the songs. This unusual collection truly combines traditional melodies with quite contemporary arrangements, and recorded in 24-track.

It all started in 1988, while mother and father, Troim and Frank Handler, were attending the summer Yiddish program at Oxford, England, which Troim's brother, Dr. David Katz, heads. While the parents were away, Sheh-sheh, and her sister Claudia first recorded grandfather Menke's favorites at his country home in Spring Glen, New York.

Sheh-sheh the professional singer, and Claudia then turned Menke's simple singing into dazzling arrangements, created by Joe Jedrilinic. From over 200 songs, the twelve selections captured the magic and charm of Menke's childhood in Lithuania.

In addition to Menke's nine books of Yiddish poetry and nine books of English poetry, he had compiled a book of lyrics, Yiddish Songs for Oxford, for his son's program. Unfortunately, Menke Katz died April 24 of this year.

When Troim and Frank Handler returned from Oxford, Troim produced the cassette insert, containing all the lyrics in the original Yiddish, as well as English translations and transliterations. Those songs are not the too-oft repeated favorites, but special selections, such as "Shvartse Oygen" and other beloved but hard-to-find songs. The Forward gave the cassette an excellent review in its Yiddish edition.

Troim, is a well-known Yiddish teacher in the NY area. It is wonderful to see such a talented family involved in helping us enjoy our beautiful language.

Fishl was very pleased to see the lyrics included with the cassette. However, the print was small, and he had to enlarge it. This makes an excellent learning supplement.

Mame-Loshn Music is at 61 Sylvia Drive, in West Islip, NY 11795
English-Yiddish Computing, 1
by Dorothy Wasserman

This article is the first in a series which Fishl Kutner has invited me to write. "Tell us," he said, "how we can word process in Yiddish, print, produce learning materials with sound, send our files to each other using modems, and whatever else is possible that I haven't thought of. But, don't get too technical."

My interest in Yiddish on the computer stems from a non-technical source -- my mother's death. In addition to the obvious loss, I could no longer converse with her daily in Yiddish. At the same time the old Yiddish presses were literally folding; the actual typefaces were being sold, given away or abandoned. The few people who needed to communicate in Yiddish print had no way to do so economically.

As a computer consultant and desktop publisher, I was helping people to get their ideas into print inexpensively. Why not in Yiddish? For Yiddish to continue, more young people need to be involved. And where are they? Many are sitting in front of a computer.

Beginning in 1987, I was part of a group evaluating Hebrew -- English -- Yiddish (HEY) word processors. In addition to what you would expect from a regular word processor we included at least five essentials.

The Yiddish letters must flow into the text from right to left. Words must flow from line to line in the correct direction (word wrap). The user must be able to edit the Yiddish letters on the screen and then print them. All three languages must mix correctly, each in its proper direction, even on the same line. And all the Yiddish letters must be included in the Hebrew set of letters. As you will see in forthcoming articles, these five essentials will come into play again and again as we focus on software for Yiddish use.

In the next article I will review NB LINGUA, from Dragonfly software for IBM compatibles, and NISUS from Paragon Concepts for Macintosh machines. Both are excellent programs.

Dorothy Wasserman, computer consultant, with clients world-wide, specializes in sales and service of multilanguage computing hardware and software. She can be reached at D. Wasserman Associates, Inc., 1841 Broadway, #715, NY, NY, 10023, 212-246-6158.

Ed. Dorothy Wasserman is one key in our "Yiddish on the Computer Contacts". We hope to develop a large base of Yiddish users. If you need advice on "writing" in Yiddish please contact Dorothy. She is very knowledgeable and a wonderful resource. She will either respond soon or put you in touch with someone as near to you as possible. As mentioned in previous issues, one of our lists is of "Computer Mavens".

Yiddish Parent Toddler Group

For Khasidic Jews to speak Yiddish is a great accomplishment. The everyday household language can often be Yiddish. For a four year old child of non-Khasidic parents, to be raised speaking Yiddish in middle America, is quite another matter.

A Yiddish speaking class of young children does exist in New York; however, when Toby Ehrlich and her husband Henry Jelen started a preschool for their daughter in Chicago it was another matter.

Toby and Henry are both children of Holocaust survivors. Henry is the President in Chicago of the Association of Children of Holocaust Survivors. Before they were married they decided that if they had any children, they would be raised knowing Yiddish.

When they could not find a Yiddish preschool, Toby decided to start her own. She decided that it should not meet in homes where it my turn into a coffee klatch for mothers. After much searching, she was able to find a synagogue which gave her a room.

Approximately ten children come weekly for an hour and a half of Yiddish play and learning. It is a requirement that a parent accompany the child and speak only in Yiddish during the hour and a half session.

While Toby teaches the arts and crafts, she felt the need for a professional Yiddish teacher to teach the Yiddish. Luckily she found Pearl Kahan a retired Yiddish teacher who had taught in Hillel at the University of Chicago, and in Poland before coming to America. It was a new experience for her to teach very young children, but Pearl feels that this is her contribution to keeping Yiddish alive.

To improve their background, Toby and Henry went to Yungtruf's Yiddish Velv and were greatly impressed with both Yungtruf and the people at the retreat.

As with all teachers, Toby is looking for new material for the group. She mentioned another child of a Holocaust survivor, author Maurice Sendak. "It would be wonderful if someone would translate into Yiddish Sandek's Where the Wild Things Are."

Toby has scoured the old Yiddish books to find fresh material for the preschoolers. She came across a 1917 translation of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears."

Toby is eager to make contact with anyone else who has had any experience with teaching Yiddish to the very young child. She is not only resource for others who may be interested, but she and Henry are people whom we truly admire.

In another article in this issue, Fishl mentions the interest in establishing a clearinghouse for Yiddish club programming. There is likewise a need to have materials for other groups. While the academic value of the prestigious institutions cannot and should not be underestimated, the need for Yiddish survival at the grassroots is essential to get the basic support necessary to carry on the language and culture.
Yiddish Materials Exchange

Someone had to mention this sooner or later. I received a request from Deena Prigosin, Director of the Workmen's Circle in Cleveland, and Simon Swirsky of the Yiddish Cultural Committee.

Their interest is in sharing materials for Yiddish club meetings. It isn't a matter of teaching materials as much as short stories, poems and songs. As a new club leader, there is plenty of material available for me; however, for clubs which have been around a few years, they need to get fresh material.

While I have discussed this with Dr. Alan Blair of Columbus, we never decided to proceed on the matter.

I contacted the CAJE (Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education) and received their Yiddish materials from their Curriculum Bank. It has a points system so that contributors receive credit for their efforts. CAJE is the largest and most dynamic organization of Hebrew School Teachers and Administrators.

Several of our TYN contacts are members, and the chairperson of its Yiddish section is our contributor Marcia G. Levinsohn of Silver Spring, MD.

It is not practical for me to undertake this endeavor at this time. Who will act as a clearinghouse for these materials? It would require maintaining a list of materials and source recognition. Individuals using this service would send in a self-addressed stamped envelope.

As for cost, it should be very close to reproduction cost—surely not more than a dime a sheet. There are individuals who need to make a living from Yiddish, but our intent is to get the widest possible coverage at the lowest possible cost.

If we do not get someone to run this project, I'll act as a clearinghouse only to the extent of listing the materials and the producer. It would be up to you to then contact each producer individually. This would require sending several inquiries instead of one central source. Let's see what the mail will bring this month with ideas and volunteers.