



FALL 1997

EX LIBRIS

THE ALP NEWSLETTER

10, RUE DU GÉNÉRAL-CAMOU
75007 PARIS

TELEPHONE: (33) 01 53 59 12 60

FAX: (33) 01 45 50 25 83

E-MAIL:
100142.1066@compuserve.com

WWW SITE:
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/alp/>

**OUR WARMEST THANKS
TO THE OFFICIAL SPONSORS
OF THE MAY 30, 1997 DINNER
IN HONOR OF**

**PHILIPPE DE MONTEBELLO
AT THE
U.S. AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE**

THE ANNENBERG FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

LABORATOIRES MERCK
SHARP & DOHME - CHIBRET

MARWAIS INTERNATIONAL

RUSSELL REYNOLDS ASSOCIATES

SEAGRAM GLOBAL BRANDS DIVISION

SIEMENS NIXDORF

Laure Schindler Levine Talks About Her New Book

In 1991, an extraordinary event took place in New York City: the Congress of Hidden Children, Survivors of the Holocaust, which I attended together with 1,400 other people from all over the world. Several messages resulted from this Congress, but the most important one was "that we, the children of these nightmarish years, are now the last links of the chain," that after us, only history books will tell the story of these events in a more or less distorted way, and that therefore this is the world's last chance to hear our testimony through interviews and writings before we disappear.

I have at last written my story. It is somewhat different from others, but then every story is unique, another essential message given at this conference. My book is entitled *The Last Links of the Chain: The Hidden Children*.

I was born in Germany and somehow survived the war in France under the Vichy regime. On December 3, I will give a program about my book, my personal story, my individual testimony, and the conclusions I am drawing so many years later as a mature adult. (See page 2 for program details.) The program will include excerpts from my book and readings from various other sources, all having a common theme: the survival of the human spirit through the darkest period of the history of mankind.



Laure Schindler Levine at about age 5 in Berlin, wearing her favorite blue dress.

I would like, however, to stress in this program the heroism which took place alongside the atrocities of this period—a heroism which took many forms, from ghetto fighters to children's poems, but mostly the voices of people who risked and gave their lives so that others might live.

In 1992, Ms. Levine retired after a 32-year career with Brooklyn Public Library. She now lives in Paris with her husband Isaac, and is an ALP volunteer. Her book will be published early next year.

IN THIS ISSUE

**Laure Schindler Levine
talks about her new book**

Evenings with an Author

1997 User Survey results

Annual Booksale

**Homework helpers
for young readers**

**Bluebonnet Books for the
Children's Room**

**1998 CAPES/Agregation
Dossiers**

Fall-Winter Hours

Thank you Hewlett-Packard!

We extend our warmest thanks to Hewlett-Packard Europe for the stunning gift of a color laser printer, which will be used by much of the staff of the Library. It prints 23 pages per minute, is huge, and is our dream printer. Special thanks to Joan Baillod, Director of Corporate Development, and Ursula Berger, Grants Administrator, both of whom are at the Geneva office.

**PEOPLE SAY THAT LIFE IS THE
THING, BUT I PREFER READING.**

Logan Pearsall Smith (1865-1946)

Library Kicks Off Membership Drive

The Library is seeking new members — and we would like you to help us. The membership drive will begin in November and run through February. For each new member you introduce to the Library, you will earn an additional month of membership. The new member, too, will benefit from a one-time introductory offer of an extra month of membership without charge.

Throughout the period of the drive, we will conduct get-acquainted tours of the Library for anyone who is interested. For information on arranging a tour, please contact Anne Lechartier, Development Officer, at 01 53 59 12 67, or Andrea Delumeau, Reference Librarian, at 01 53 59 12 62.

ALFRED E. DAVIDSON PAPERS

Alfred E. Davidson has donated his papers to the ALP. Mr. Davidson, a longtime resident of Paris, has had a distinguished career serving his country overseas with governmental organizations and in international law.

In 1964, Mr. Davidson founded and was co-chair of the Bipartisan Committee for Absentee Voting which was largely responsible for the introduction and passage of the Overseas Voting Rights Act of 1975.

SCBWI MEETING, OCTOBER 9

Bruce Balan, author and SCBWI technology advisor, presents "Using Your Computer: Writing, Technology, and the Meaning of It All."

Thursday, October 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Library.

NEW FICTION

Anne Beattie, *My Life, Starring Dana Falcon*, Knopf, 1997

When Dana Falcon arrives in a small New England town, she almost immediately becomes friends with Jean Warner, who is fascinated by Dara's secret past, her clothes, and her acting career. As Dara insinuates herself into Jean's existence, soon Jean's life, her marriage, and her very idea of herself, will be dramatically wrenched out of their seemingly innocent, if unexamined, balance.

Caroline Preston, *Jackie by Josie*, Scribner, 1997

"What does Josie – wife, other, and decidedly unglamorous grad student – have in common with Jackie Onassis? Much to her dismay it might be a lot more than she ever had reason to believe. This engaging and entertaining novel is about motherhood, infidelity, and the elusiveness of truth. It's as charming and full of surprises as the former first lady herself." Stephen McCauley

Evenings with an Author Fall Programs

**Wednesday, October 1
Dr. Douglas Schwartz,
"Santa Fe:
Biography of a Creative Community,"
with a slide presentation**



Dr. Schwartz, President of the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, discusses and illustrates the unusual continuity of creativity in Santa Fe, a community of artists for over 1,000 years.

**Wednesday, October 8
Alberto Manguel
A History of Reading,
with a slide presentation**



Alberto Manguel is a writer, translator, and editor of international reputation. His many books include *The Dictionary of Imaginary Places* and the award-winning novel *News From a Foreign Country Came*. In his book *A History of Reading*, he explores the 6,000-year-old conversation between the written word and the reader.

Phyllis Michaux Develops American Community Archives Project



Phyllis Michaux (left), a longtime Paris resident, has launched the American Community Archives project at the ALP. Sponsored by the Mona Bismarck Charitable Trust, the project will provide a central-

ized source of information on the history of the American community in France. A number of organizations will participate, including the American Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1894, and the American Cathedral, founded in 1859.

The collection will provide access to information on American non-profit groups, providing a short history of each, with a description of the organizations' historical documents.



**Wednesday, November 5
Diane Johnson,
*Le Divorce***
Diane Johnson is the author of 11 previous books and is a two-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award.



Ms. Johnson will discuss her best-selling book *Le Divorce* about Americans in Paris, French cultural superiority, and American innocence.

**Wednesday, December 3
Laure Schindler Levine
The Last Links of the Chain: the Hidden Children
(pre-publication)**

Ms. Levine, presently a volunteer at the American Library in Paris, will discuss her soon-to-be-published book, in which she tells the story of her childhood and adolescence in France and Germany during World War II. She will also talk about the "Hidden Children" convention which took place in New York City in 1991.

(See related article on the first page.)

All Evenings with An Author programs begin at 8:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

...THAT PERFECT
TRANQUILITY OF LIFE,
WHICH IS NOWHERE
TO BE FOUND BUT
IN A RETREAT,
A FAITHFUL FRIEND,
AND A GOOD LIBRARY.

Aphra Behn (1640-1689)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Molly Wurzer Donates Award-Winning Books

On June 18, Molly Wurzer and her father, Marvin Wurzer, and ALP Trustee Catherine Coste came to the Library to present Molly's donation of 20 award-winning books to the Children's Room. The books are from the 1997-1998 Master List of entries for the Texas Bluebonnet Award.



(Left to right) Marvin Wurzer, ALP Trustee Catherine Coste, and Molly Wurzer

Molly, an avid reader and library lover, brought the books all the way from Houston, Texas. The books are by such noted authors as Laurence Yep, Virginia Hamilton, Betsy Byars, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, and Sid Fleischman.

The Texas Bluebonnet Award is a project of the Texas Library Association. The award is designed to encourage Texas children to read more books, to explore a variety of current books, to develop powers of discrimination, and to identify their favorite books through the voting process.

I Want to Be ...



Stephanie Maze of Washington, D.C. has donated four of her books from the *I Want to Be* series published by Harcourt Brace & Company. These beautifully illustrated books are written to help young people make career decisions.

*I Want to Be...
an Engineer...
an Astronaut...
a Dancer... or... a Veterinarian*

Children's Story Hours for Fall

Story Hours for 3- to 5-year-olds are held on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Programs include fingerplays, songs, stories, and filmstrips. Parents are welcome to join in the fun! Non-members may attend one story hour to see if their children would enjoy this activity.

OCTOBER

- 1 All About Giants
- 8 In the Eyes of a Cat
- 15 Meet Author Bruce Balan
- 22 Hop Aboard!
- 29 Halloween

NOVEMBER

- 5 Seasons Change
- 12 Check it Out! (Children's Book Week)
- 19 Native American Tales
(November, Native American Month)
- 26 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 3 Winter Celebrations
- 10 Hanukkah
- 17 Christmas

HOMEWORK HELPERS

HISTORY

Who Were the Founding Fathers? by Steven Jaffe (J 973.3 J18W)

Life during the French Revolution by Gail B. Stewart (J 944.04 St49I)

Hell Fighters: African American Soldiers in World War I by Michael L. Cooper (J 940.4 C786h)

GEOGRAPHY

The Young People's Atlas of the United States by James Harrison and Eleanor Van Zan (Reference J 912.73 H246y)

Everything You Need to Know About Geography Homework by Anne Zeman and Kate Kelly (J 910 Z4e)

The World Almanac for Kids, 1997
World Almanac Books
(Reference J 031 W893a)

ART

Black Artists in Photography, 1840-1940
by George Sullivan (J 770 Su53b)

History of Art for Young People
by H.W. Janson and Anthony F. Janson
(Reference J 709 J267h)

SCIENCE

Guide to Microlife
by Kenneth G. Rainis and Bruce J. Russell
(Reference J 576 R135g)

The Story of Oxygen
by Karen Fitzgerald
(J 546.721 F576s)

Black Holes
by Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest (J 523.8 C832h)

ENGLISH

Checking Your Grammar
by Marvin Terban
(J 428.2 T27s)

Punching the Clock: Funny Action Idioms
by Marvin Terban
(J 428.1 T27p)

The Scholastic Rhyming Dictionary
by Sue Young
(Reference J 423.1 Y87s)

Visitors from Maine

For the second year in a row, the American Section of the Lycée International has hosted the winners of a French-American exchange contest sponsored by the Willard School in Sanford, Maine. The contest was conceived and organized by former Willard School Principal Robert Powers and former American Section Director and ALP Trustee Nancy Willard-Magaud, after whose parents the school was named.

Entrants must write an essay and give an oral presentation about why they would be good candidates for a trip to Paris.



On March 19, this year's three sixth-grade winners (above), Jennifer Gagner, Christie Rowde, and Brianna Baker, paid a visit to the Library to donate, on behalf of the Willard School, a copy of *Ice Country: One Boy's Adventure in the Arctic with Commander Donald MacMillan* by Maine author Mary Morton Cowan.

ANNUAL BOOKSALE

The Library will hold its Annual Booksale on Sunday, November 16. The sale is open to members only from 12:00-1:00 p.m. and to members and the general public from 1:00-6:00 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the booksale, please call Assistant Director Adele Witt at 01 53 59 12 65.

FALL-WINTER HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

HOLIDAYS

Saturday, November 1, 1997

Tuesday, November 11, 1997

Wednesday-Thursday,
December 24-25, 1997

Wednesday-Thursday,
December 31, 1997-
January 1, 1998

EARLY CLOSING HOURS

4:00 p.m.,
Saturday, November 15, 1997
to prepare for
the Annual Booksale

From the Reference Department

1997 USER SURVEY: THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING



In January 1997, Reference Librarian Andrea Delumeau (left) conducted a general satisfaction survey among ALP members. The survey was developed by Julie Bockenstedt, a graduate student at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Iowa.

The response rate was very high: 80% of the Library members who received the survey responded. The survey showed that the most common activity was searching for books (83.5%), followed by returning items to the Library (45.9%), a literature search by computer (45.3%), browsing (42.9%), and asking a reference question (32.3%).

Over 80% of Library members found the Library easy or very easy to use, and 80% were satisfied or very satisfied with their visit to the Library. Many participants used the opportunity to express individual comments or concerns regarding the Library. These were carefully read and evaluated, and some of the suggestions have already been implemented.

IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS ABOUT HOW WE CAN IMPROVE LIBRARY SERVICES...

Please leave a note in the suggestions box located near the Welcome Desk or call Library Director Kay Rader at 01 53 59 12 63 or Assistant Director Adele Witt at 01 53 59 12 65.

NEW RESEARCH GUIDE

Thanks to Annie Prunet, an intern from the Institut National des Techniques de la Documentation, the Library has a new research guide entitled *Ethnic Diversity in the United States*. In addition to giving access to the Library's holdings on ethnic diversity, the guide includes a list of useful Internet sites on the subject.

CAPES/AGREGATION DOSSIERS ARE READY!

Every year the Reference Department compiles bibliographies and dossiers of critical articles for the CAPES/Agrégation exams. During the summer months, Smith College interns Amy Pieck and Kathryn Rotondo helped on this project.

The dossiers for the 1998 exams cover the following authors and civilization subjects:

Daniel Defoe: *Moll Flanders*

George Herbert: *The Temple*

Hanif Kureishi: *The Buddha of Suburbia*

Katherine Mansfield: *Selected Short Stories*

N. Scott Momoday: *House of Dawn*

William Shakespeare: *As You Like It*

Jean Toomer: *Cane*

Mass Media in the United States since 1945

The dossiers from previous years are still available and can be requested at the Circulation Desk.

If you would like to have an in-depth tour of the Research Center and the Reference Collection, please call Andrea Delumeau at 01 53 59 12 62.

AT THE LIBRARY SHOP

LIBRARY BOOKBAG 40FF
PIERRE LE-TAN POSTER 50FF



10, RUE DU GÉNÉRAL-CAMOU
75007 PARIS