

1983 (ISRAEL)

17th BIENNIAL SERVAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

HELD IN NAHARIYA, ISRAEL

APRIL 5-10, 1983

ATTENDEES

Representatives participating in business sessions:

Don Fawcett . . . . .	Acting President
Barbara Whitehead . . . . .	General Secretary
Denise Waech . . . . .	Treasurer & Assistant General Secretary, Switzerland delegate
Antonie Fried . . . . .	Coordinator for Europe & Near East
Harivallabh Parikh . . . . .	Coordinator for Southern Asia, India delegate
Jorge Zoppolo . . . . .	Coordinator for South America
Kay Lazarus . . . . .	Coordinator for Caribbean & North America
Rosalind Schama . . . . .	Editor, Servas International News (Conference Minute Taker)
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Rita Weiss . . . . . Austria	Luigi Uslenghi . . . . . Italy
Ed Ayer . . . . . Canada	Lino Bugeja . . . . . Malta
Birgitte Damsgaard . . . . . Denmark	Felix Ochoa Zurita . . . . . Mexico
Guy Fargette . . . . . France	Yvonne Brown . . . . . New Zealand
Peter Brock . . . . . W Germany	Inger Amundsen . . . . . Norway
Philip Lees . . . . . Greece	Michael Daniel . . . . . Portugal
Luke Plunkett . . . . . Ireland	Karl-Gösta Brand . . . . . Sweden
Rachel Tadmor . . . . . Israel	Talmadge Neece . . . . . U.S.A.

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Others - Hosts, travelers, etc., who attended the conference:

<u>Austria</u> Wolfgang Sumner	<u>W Germany (cont.)</u> Maria Daniel Eike Offer Ulla Offer	<u>Israel (cont.)</u> Toma Sik	<u>U.S.A. (cont.)</u> Aviva Hoyer Ernie Hoyer Ruby MacDonald Grazyna Marma- jewska Saul Levinson Natalie Levinson Edith Neece Lydia Tabor Barbara Hudman Adele Vesco
<u>Canada</u> Margaret Ayer	<u>Greece</u> Ellie Emke	<u>Italy</u> Maria Soresina Alberta Uslenghi	
<u>Denmark</u> Helga Dam Hans Hannemose Ingrid Hannemose Susan Rasmussen	<u>India</u> Sumanbhai S. Patel Mr. Patel Ramsingh	<u>Norway</u> Gretel Aass (also Switzerland)	
<u>France</u> Janine Hall (NGO Representa- tive at UN Geneva)	<u>Ireland</u> Caroline Ryan	<u>Sweden</u> Theodor Katz Hillevi Sundbeck	
<u>West Germany</u> Christiane Brock Tatjana Brock	<u>Israel</u> Joseph Abileah Hadassah Bat Chaim Benjamin Jeremias (Conference Organizer)	<u>Switzerland</u> Nelly Diggelmann	
		<u>U.S.A.</u> Gary Angel (also Spain) Dorothy Boothe	

MINUTES OF THE 17th BIENNIAL SERVAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

HELD AT HOTEL EDEN, NAHARIYA, ISRAEL, 5-10 APRIL, 1983

Tuesday, 5 April 1983

Following a pre-conference meeting of the Executive Committee, the Conference opened with a dinner at the Hotel Eden, which was attended by 180 delegates, hosts and observers. There were speeches of welcome from Benjamin Jeremias, chief Conference organizer and Secretary of Servas Israel Committee, from the Mayor of Nahariya and his assistant translator.

Benjamin presented souvenir plates of Nahariya glass to the Acting President, Don Fawcett, and to Harivallabh Parikh, Coordinator for Southern Asia and chief organizer of the previous Conference in India in 1980/81. In his turn, Benjamin received a glass plate as a token of appreciation for his energetic efforts in arranging the Conference and attendant hosting of delegates. The Conference received the blessings of a rabbi.

Following dinner, we were entertained by groups of young men and women who performed Israeli and Arab dances and instrumental music with great elan and beauty. Benjamin then quoted passages from the Old Testament to demonstrate how the ideas of Servas existed in Biblical times. After that he gave details of the tour for any participants wishing to join it at the conclusion of the Conference on 11 April.

Don Fawcett, the Acting President of Servas International, outlined the procedures to be followed during the plenary sessions and the subjects the representatives would tackle. He hoped that the Conference would go smoothly, without contention. He believed the participants would try to keep it short and perhaps fail in this effort. (Ed. note: they succeeded!) There could be parallel sessions of any observers who cared to conduct them, as had occurred at previous Conferences, but the non-delegates preferred to observe the official meetings.

Wednesday, 6 April 1983

In the Chair: Don Fawcett, Acting President

Note Taker: Rosalind Schama, Editor of Servas International News

Minutes Writers: Rosalind Schama, Kay Lazarus

1. Conference procedures explained

- a. All relevant documents should be handed to the Minutes Writer.
- b. All conference meetings would be conducted in English.
- c. Elections for the next Executive Committee would take place on Saturday, 9 April, by secret ballot. All other decisions would be made by show of hands, the Chairman voting only in the secret ballots and, where the show of hands was concerned, only where a tie vote had to be broken.
- d. There would be only one spokesperson and voter for each country per subject, other members of the same delegation to be deemed observers. The members of the Executive Committee would also speak and vote. An individual could not vote more than once, even if filling more than one role.

- 6. Membership in Servas International. The following national Servas groups, at their request, having ten or more hosts and/or day hosts, were unanimously APPROVED for membership in Servas International:

Greece	Portugal
Ireland	Spain
Malta	Uruguay

By a vote of 17-4-0 it was AGREED to reduce the following groups from membership of Servas International to "Contact" status, as they do not now have and may never have had ten hosts:

Egypt  
Yemen

*Yemen has no hosts.*

- 7. Letters of Introduction. Special Committee: It was DECIDED unanimously to establish a Committee of six delegates to consider some of the agenda items and report back to the Conference. The Committee submitted the following three revised proposals to the Conference.
  - a. Each country's Servas organization approving ten or more travelers in a year shall contribute to Servas International a standard amount of money per traveler approved in that country--not a fixed percentage of the money raised in that country. This was APPROVED by a vote of 20-2-0.
  - b. In the first year of this plan each national organization's contribution to Servas International shall be the equivalent of US \$5.00 times the number of travelers approved there. This was APPROVED by a vote of 13-8-0.
  - c. The final validation of the traveler's Letter of Introduction will be a Servas International stamp. These stamps are to be printed and distributed to each national Secretary or Contact. Each stamp which is used must be purchased from Servas International at the current rate per traveler. This plan will begin in January, 1984. APPROVED by a vote of 16-4-1.

*not compulsory*

The second paragraph reading: "We recommend to all Secretaries and Contacts that a recent passport-type photograph be used on the Letter of Introduction to identify the traveler." APPROVAL of this paragraph was by a vote of 15-4-1.

- 8. Host Lists.
  - a. It was DECIDED, without disagreement, that, as is at present mainly done, the Host Lists should bear the country's name in the national language of that country as well as in English.
  - b. It was DECIDED, without disagreement, that as suggested by the Coordinator for Europe and the Near East, she would not be asked to provide host lists except in the case of East European countries.
  - c. At the suggestion of the Delegate from Malta, it was unanimously AGREED that the next Executive Committee and the General Secretary should review the possibility of indicating in Host Lists the hosts who have been travelers via Servas.
  - d. It was DECIDED unanimously that in 1985 and in subsequent years all countries shall publish lists of their host members' names and addresses with accompanying information for travelers' use.

*Not printed  
out that  
this means  
the beginning  
of the year.*

- e. It was DECIDED unanimously to send to all Secretaries a recommendation that the Host Lists should include, where appropriate, listings of opportunities for extended visits with Servas hosts, beyond 2 or 3 nights, similar to the way opportunities for extended visits (with volunteer work opportunities) are included in Italy's Host List.
  - f. The proposal that it be indicated on Host Lists whether the hosts want to received International Reply Coupons was DEFEATED.
  - g. The proposal that those travelers who receive no reply to requests for hosting should still visit the country and telephone the hosts to whom the traveler had written was NOT DISCUSSED because the proposal had not be seconded.
  - h. It was unanimously DECIDED to make an urgent appeal to Secretaries to distribute new Host Lists in early Spring. These should be received by those who will provide them to travelers no later than February. Each preceding step, from requesting information from the hosts to the arranging of the lists, should begin early enough to meet the spring deadline.
  - i. By a vote of 18-3-0, it was DECIDED to recommend to the National Secretaries that "lost" Host Lists shall not be replaced unless an additional copying charge is paid by the traveler. The only exception to the replacement of a list in which there is no added cost will be where genuine loss or theft of the list can be substantiated.
  - j. It was DECIDED without disagreement that no recommendation would be issued on the question of travelers' liability for payment for lists in various circumstances. It was AGREED that each countries should decide its own policy in this regard.
9. It was DECIDED unanimously not to approve a plan to relieve the burden on hosts in local areas where travelers are many and hosts are few, but that the appointed Standing Committee should consider this matter and report to the next Conference.
10. The proposal of the delegate from Malta that not more than 50% of the Executive Committee be from one country was WITHDRAWN.
11. Administration.
- a. It was DECIDED by a vote of 21-0-1 that since some executives are unable to perform all of their duties, therefore each should be allowed a deputy or assistant. These additional officers need not be added to the number provided in the Statutes. The executive needing but lacking an assistant (such as the Peace Secretary) should choose one.
  - b. The proposal to have regional host coordinators (particularly in overused cities), who would be familiar with the schedules of the hosts and who could be listed in the international lists of Secretaries and Contacts, with their telephone numbers, the hours available to give help, etc., was not seconded and so was NOT DISCUSSED; but it was AGREED, however, to bear this matter in mind.

*Is this implemented in regard to Zeru Michael for instance?*

- c. It was DECIDED unanimously that instead of spending as much money as formerly in assisting delegates to attend International Conferences in which more than half of our groups and contacts are not able to participate, then grants from our funds would be made to the Regional Coordinators, in order to enable the coordinators to travel in their region in order to help in keeping lists up to date as well as to maintain contact with the local Secretaries. This could well be cheaper and more beneficial than via the rather costly alternative of assisting the attendance of delegates at International Conferences. Regional Coordinators should be kept informed and assisted, wherever possible, of the travels, Conference results, etc., of both national and International Servas executives and of other members as well.

12. Publicity:

- a. It was DECIDED without disagreement that the nonpartisan character of Servas should be emphasized in the statement of purpose along with an indication of the possibilities for day hosts. The statement of purpose now reads:

"Servas is an international cooperative system of hosts and travelers established to help build world peace, good will, and understanding, by providing opportunities for deeper, more personal contacts among people of diverse cultures and backgrounds. Visitors are invited to share life in the home and in the community, and to share their concerns on social and international problems, their interest in creative activity and mutual responsibility for their fellow beings."

By a vote of 20-1-0, the second part of the statement was AMENDED as follows:

"There are Servas hosts (mostly individuals and families, plus some folk high school, neighborhood centers, ashrams and communities) in more than eighty-five countries in six continents. Servas travelers can visit "Open Doors" for two nights or sometimes longer, or "Day Hosts" for a few daytime or evening hours. Travelers may choose hosts whose activities have special interest for them."

- b. The proposal that National Secretaries or Contacts increase publicity efforts was not seconded and so was NOT DISCUSSED.
- c. A proposal to revise Servas literature to include the statement reading, "To allay the fears, suspicions and hatreds that lead nations into unyielding militarism, Servas encourages creative exchanges of ideas about reconciling divergent points of view, and resolving conflict peacefully," was DEFEATED by a vote of 4-14-2.
- d. As per the request of the Conference but of necessity in a slightly different form, the press release to the Nahariya newspaper consisted of a bilingual "thank you" notice acknowledging their recognition and welcome as had been accorded the conferees and others via the Nahariya newspaper statements. Our press release also included a statement of the ideals for which Servas stands. There was no national publicity or recognition of the Servas International Conference.

*no 'starbed' news that I heard about except Siks' comment on Bhai's photo - (India not in diplomatic relation with Israel)*

- e. A revised proposal re the publicizing of Servas, its work and its goals was also offered for consideration by the conferees. The proposal was worded as follows: "Servas members and executives should forward to the General Secretary and the General Secretary should supply samples of good Servas publicity to Contacts and Secretaries on request." APPROVAL of the proposal was unanimous.

13. Peace Secretary and United Nations Participation

- a. Although interest in the establishment of Peace and Social Justice Committees somewhat similar to what U.S. Servas enjoys was noted; however, at this time the proposal that other Servas groups consider the establishment of such committees was not seconded and therefore NOT DISCUSSED.
- b. The official relationship of Servas with the United Nations was considered, and it was proposed that, despite mounting costs, Servas should continue to be represented as a Non-Governmental Organization at the United Nations. APPROVAL was unanimous. (Representatives are nominated by the Peace Secretary, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.)
- c. An amendment concerning the recruitment of the position of national Peace Secretary (or Peace Committee) was proposed and considered. The approved and amended version reads as follows: "A national Peace Secretary (or Peace Committee) should be recruited from among the members of each Servas branch by the National Secretary or governing Committee with duties corresponding, as far as possible, to those of the Servas International Peace Secretary as defined in the Servas International Handbook." This amended version was APPROVED by a vote of 17-0-4.
- d. The proposal to define the meaning of "peace" to Servas was neither seconded nor discussed.
- e. Recommendations regarding National Servas participation in UNO/NGO activities, International Youth Year and Disarmament, etc., were distributed to conferees.
- f. A proposal that the title and office of "Peace Secretary" of Servas International be replaced by the title and office of "United Nations Representative" was DEFEATED by a vote of 2-19-1.
- g. The proposed budget submitted for covering representation at the United Nations of a total expenditure of U.S. \$747.00 was AGREED on by a vote of 16-2-4.
- h. A proposal to appropriate U.S. \$100.00 on the Tree Project for United Nations International Youth Year, 1985, was DEFEATED by a vote of 6-13-2. However, a collection for the project among delegates and observers raised the sum of U.S. \$100.00.

*This was good idea. I should prefer it to the Israel one.*

14. Servas Handbook.

- a. It was DECIDED, by a vote of 20-1-0, to establish a committee to revise and simplify the present Handbook to really essential information; the committee to contain several members whose home language is not English. Members appointed to the Committee were:

Don Fawcett (U.S.)	President
Maria Soresina (Italy)	Vice President
Kay Lazarus (U.S.)	General Secretary
Jorge Zoppolo (Uruguay)	Coordinator for South America
Barbara Whitehead (U.K.)	Retiring General Secretary

*good idea + I'm distributing remainder of present handbook, prior to doing a revised draft, which I hope will be new + much smaller!*

All suggestions concerning matters to be studied by the Committee should be directed to the President.

By a vote of 2-10-0 it was DECIDED TO REFRAIN from discussion of items needing revision and to refer them to the committee established for study and recommendation.

15. Location of Conference.

- a. The two proposals regarding consideration of the military stances of countries desiring to host a Servas International Conference were not seconded, so were NOT DISCUSSED.
- b. The proposal that all national groups vote on the location of the International Conference was not seconded or discussed.
- c. It was DECIDED without disagreement that the next Conference location would be decided by a special ballot of the Executive Committee. The General Secretary will circularize all invitations received from national groups for comment and will send a postal ballot to the Executive Committee members.

I hope we have time to receive comments from any secs or contacts.

16. International Funding for Offices.

- a. An amended proposal to the effect that a Servas International office should be established, and clerical staff support should be made available during regular hours through the recruitment of staff volunteers and/or the employment of paid staff members was DEFEATED by a vote of 3-15-2.
- b. The proposal to the effect that the application by Servas ESW (England, Scotland, Wales) for a £500. advance to continue running the London office for joint ESW/Europe benefit should be submitted to the International Conference for approval, was DEFEATED by a vote of 0-19-1. It was DECIDED that the Special Committee will consider this question and make recommendations to the next Conference.

at least they were not favouring bureaucracy where it can be avoided + I think Kay will try to be economical.

17. Unsuitable Travelers.

- a. A substitute proposal to raise the minimum age for Servas travelers not accompanying their parents from the present 18 years to 21 or 22 years was WITHDRAWN.
- b. A substitute proposal to grant approval to travel applicants between the minimum age of 18 and 22 only if the individuals seem to the interviewer (or other person authorized to grant approval) to be especially responsible and worth of Servas travel privileges was APPROVED by a vote of 14-4-1.
- c. A substitute proposal to allow hosts to indicate in the Host Lists whether they will accept "Travelers over age 21 only" was WITHDRAWN.
- d. A substitute proposal to allow hosts to specify in the Host Lists "older travelers preferred" was WITHDRAWN.
- e. The amended proposal reading, "The country in which an approved traveler causes problems should, when possible, take the responsibility of re-orienting the traveler and clarifying expectations. At the point of departure from expected behavior, the traveler can then be put back on the right track for the benefit of future hosts as well as themselves." This was APPROVED by a vote of 21-0-1.

This should be implemented by all hosts + secs + sorted out where necessary between secretaries concerned

- f. The proposal that any host or traveler who behaves in an offensive manner will be obliged to return all Host Lists and Letter of Introduction to their national Secretary was APPROVED by a vote of 21-0-1.
18. Servas International News.
- a. A revised proposal that two issues per year of Servas International News reach national Secretaries and Contacts by March 1st and September 1st of each year was APPROVED unanimously.
  - b. A proposal that there should be a classified advertisement section in SIN for such things as members wanting to arrange privately (for instance, child or home exchange), that do not form a part of the goals and purposes of Servas, was not seconded and so was NOT DISCUSSED.
  - c. It was DECIDED without disagreement to remind all concerned that it is Servas policy for every English-speaking and/or English-reading host to receive free issues of Servas International News. The Editor must be kept constantly informed by Secretaries and Contacts of changes in numbers of copies required, as distribution is by airmail and is costly.
19. East-West (International) Relations.
- a. The amended proposal that extra effort should be made to establish Servas in those nations where regulation of outward travel by residents, incoming travel by foreign visitors, and flow of information from foreign sources is most restrictive was not seconded and therefore NOT DISCUSSED.
  - b. The proposal that government-controlled organizations providing experiences similar to "day hosts" should be listed as resources, but separate from Servas hosts in those countries, and that travelers must understand that they must not give names of Servas hosts to such organizations was not seconded or discussed.
20. Progress Reports from Servas International. This proposal that Servas International should present interim reports of implementation of recommendations from Conferences, pointing out that without such feedback, participants may question the value of their input, was APPROVED by a vote of 17-0-3.
21. Communications.
- a-d. Proposals that couriers be used more to carry Host Lists from one country to another, that lists of outgoing travelers be sent at year's end to each country they visited to assist the countries in estimating how many Host Lists to send out the next year, that national Secretaries become informed as to the time of mail passage from a person in their country to recipients in other countries, thus enabling the traveler to plan better, and that hosts indicate times of day they can be reached by phone -- all were without seconds and so NOT DISCUSSED.
  - e. This revised proposal that hosts answering a request for hospitality, by letter or phone, should stress that the traveler must confirm in advance whether they are actually coming, because there are numerous instances of individuals who do not turn up, perhaps preventing other travelers from staying with the host concerned, was approved by a vote of 15-2-5.

*useful, if implemented.*



- f. A committee was ESTABLISHED to consider economical mailing systems and the general question of communication. It will report to the Executive Committee and the next Conference will review its recommendations. It is to consist of:
 

Chair, Philip Lees (British)	Servas Secretary, Greece
Inger Amundson (Norway)	Servas Secretary, Norway
Peter Brock (W Germany)	Treasurer
Birgitte Damsgaard (Denmark)	Servas Secretary, Denmark
Talmadge Neece (USA)	US Delegate to Conference
Felix O. Zurita (Mexico)	Mexico Delegate to Conference

22. Open International Meetings.

- a. Many Servas friends have expressed their desire to take part in international meetings, besides those which are reserved just for Secretaries. It was proposed to consider this possibility (for example, meetings about a specific matter, border meetings, north-south, east-west meetings, common study visits and meetings within a certain region). The organization of such meetings (not to be done by hosts) could be, in part, undertaken by Servas International, above all in the poorest countries. Consideration of this proposal was RECOMMENDED.

23. A proposal to establish a special development fund was DEFEATED by a vote of 2-15-3.

*Note for Handbook*

24. By a vote of 13-7-2 it was DECIDED that the Servas International Handbook be revised to the effect that, on the recommendation of the appropriate Regional Coordinator, the Executive Committee may decide to give a new Servas national group up to the sum of U.S. \$100.00 (or the equivalent in other currencies) and that a report on how the money has been disbursed will be required before a second request for financial aid may be considered.

25. There having been discussed the possibility of holding the next International Conference in (a) Zambia, (b) New Zealand and (c) Italy, it was agreed to leave this decision to the Executive Committee after further consultation with the groups concerned. It was also agreed by a vote of 9-8-0 that the next Conference should not take place before the middle of 1985, and preferably in 1986.

ELECTION FOR THE OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SERVAS INTERNATIONAL

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Vote</u>
President	Don Fawcett (USA) (Retiring Vice-President & Acting President)	Returned unopposed
Vice-President	1. Maria Soresina (Italy) 2. Reva King (USA) 3. Felix O. Zurita (Mexico)	Elected 18-3-2

General Secretary	Kay Lazarus (USA) (Retiring Coordinator for N. America & Caribbean)	Elected unopposed
Treasurer	1. Peter Brock (W Germany) (Co-Secretary W Germany) 2. Finn Anderson (Denmark) Joanna Hansen (jointly)	Elected 19-4-0
Peace Secretary	1. Jo Graham (USA) (US Sponsor of Servas International) 2. Mary Emma Hibbard (USA) 3. Reva King (USA) (Retiring Peace Secretary and NGO Representative at UN, New York)	Elected 13-3-8
Editors, Servas International News, jointly	1. Janine Hall (France) (NGO Representative at UN, Geneva) & Denise Waech (Switzerland) (Retiring Treasurer, & Asst. Gen. Secretary; Secretary Switzerland) N.B.: They will serve alter- nately on the Executive Com- mittee, beginning with Denise. 2. Jo Graham (USA)	Elected 18-4-1
Assistant General Secretary	1. Lino Bugeja (Malta) (Asst. Secretary Malta) 2. Mary Emma Hibbard (USA) 3. Reva King (USA)	Elected 19-1-4
Regional Coordinator, Africa	1. Zeru Michael (Africa) 2. Lydia Jones (USA)	Elected 19-3-1
Regional Coordinator, SE Asia	Takashi Aoki (Japan) (Secretary Japan)	Elected unopposed
Regional Coordinator, N America & Caribbean	Rodrigue Aristide (Guadeloupe) (Secretary Guadeloupe)	Elected unopposed
Regional Coordinator, Europe & Near East	Antonie Fried (W Germany) (Coordinator Europe & Near East)	Elected unopposed

Regional Coordinator, Southern Asia	Harivallabh Parikh (India) (Regional Coordinator Southern Asia; Secretary India)	Elected unopposed
Regional Coordinator, South Pacific	Nan Smith (Australia) (Regional Coordinator, South Pacific)	Elected unopposed
Regional Coordinator, South America	Jorge Zoppolo (Uruguay) (Regional Coordinator, South America)	Elected unopposed

Tellers during the elections were Janine Hall, and Ernie Hoyer, a U.S. interviewer and Conference observer.

During the course of the elections, the following delegates spoke:

Lino Bugeja expressed the members' gratitude to Barbara Whitehead, the retiring General Secretary, and wished her well.

Jorge Zoppolo thanked one and all for their assistance in making it possible for him to be at the Conference, and he presented a token of appreciation, in the form of a silver pendant with the Servas symbol, to Barbara.

Barbara then returned thanks.

Peter Brock conveyed to Denise Waech, the retiring Treasurer, the appreciation felt by all for her eleven years as Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer.

Rachel Tadmor Sde Chen expressed appreciation of Rosalind Schama's contribution as Editor of SIN for the past two years, to which Rosalind replied.

Yvonne Brown requested the U.S. Delegate, Talmadge Neece, to convey the deep appreciation of all members to Reva King for her marvelous and long-standing work, and added that she hoped a written tribute would be sent to her.

Talmadge responded on behalf of Reva and commiserated with her in the heart-breaking predicament she was in.

Rosalind suggested that perhaps it would be an appreciative gesture if the monies collected for the U.N. Tree Project were donated in Reva's name as a tribute to her untiring work for Servas and peace.

Don Fawcett responded to his election by acclamation as President.

Lino expressed his thanks for being elected Assistant General Secretary.

Kay Lazarus thanked the delegates for trusting her with the responsibility of General Secretary and said she would do the best job that she could.

Maria Soresina told the Conference of her gratitude for having been elected Vice-President.

Rosalind Schama conveyed the thanks of all participants to the Israel Committee, all the wonderful hosts who had received the delegates and observers so warmly and given them such a splendid welcome, and, last but not least, their gratitude went to their good friend Benjamin Jeremias, who had worked so indefatigably to ensure that the Conference ran smoothly and that all were looked after so comfortably. It had been a rare privilege to see all aspects of life in Israel and to hear so much about it from a variety of people.

Barbara Whitehead announced that she still had copies of the Peace Diary available for anybody who required one.

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After the conclusion of the Conference, a meeting of the new Executive Committee was held at 11:00 a.m., at which it was decided to co-opt the following additional members:

Yvonne Brown  
Reva King  
Janine Hall  
Barbara Whitehead

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#### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Among the fascinating and enjoyable events arranged for the participants by the Israeli hosts were the following:

\*An excursion to the Kibbutz Rosh Hanikra and the Arab village Goren on the Lebanese border, to the grottos there, and a call on Eliahu Avivi in "Achzibland," his "personal territory."

\*Visits to Kfar Yassif and Beth Naemek Kibbutz and Yirka, a Druse village.

\*Beginning on 11 April after the conclusion of the Conference, a number of the participants visited Jerusalem and its environs and then went on to the UNWRA Camp for Palestine Refugees, a visit arranged by Reva King and Janine Hall with the UNWRA Director.

\*During the course of the Conference, delegates, observers and hosts were delighted to hear talks by:

Joseph Abileah (Israel's sponsor for Servas International), on peace work in Israel

Hadassah Bat Haim (Host) on the development of Nahariya

Toma Sik (Host) on peace work in Israel

Felix O. Zurita (Mexico delegate), audio-visual presentation

\*Various interested individuals took advantage of Edith Neece's presence to learn about her functions as U.S.A. National Peace Secretary.

\*Postcards with Servas themes and small self-adhesive labels bearing the Servas symbol were distributed gratis to participants by the representatives of Germany, Israel, Denmark and Norway. Birgitte Damsgaard asked for potential numbers of orders for a card to be produced by the Danish group with a poem donated by the famous Danish poet Piet Heim.

The participants spent 10 April in a day of "do-it-yourself." Some explored Israel on their own, some were homeward bound or proceeded on their travels to other countries. All lunches and dinners during the Conference were eaten at the Hotel Eden, except for Saturday the 9th, when the guests all dined with their hosts, a great pleasure as they had seen so little of one another due to the intensive work schedule they had adhered to in order to finish in such good time. There were, however, opportunities for wonderful personal contacts both with our Servas hosts and with the people of Israel. There were many delights to be savoured in Nahariya itself--the beaches, the Museum, the glass factory, the pavement cafes, and just the sheer pleasure of resting a short while.