

אגוד הרבנים המתקדמים

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

Founded in 1889



28 Iyar 5767
May 16, 2007

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to inform you that we are now in the final steps towards publication of *Mishkan T'filah*. Your support, patience and suggestions have provided valuable help along this process.

We have signed a written contract with Rose Printing for the production and delivery of the Siddur. With the contract in hand, Rose Printing is ordering the new paper selected by CCAR (with the guidance of our consultants). We are told that the paper should arrive in about a month. Following receipt, Rose Printing anticipates an eight to ten week production schedule.

Recent Developments

Since their site visit at the Rose Printing plant, the print production consultants we retained have placed approximately fourteen discrete print jobs with Rose Printing (at no cost to the CCAR). These jobs took approximately ten weeks to complete. By monitoring each of these printings, our consultants continued to test Rose Printing's abilities, including its production strengths and weaknesses. Based on these experiences, and their site visit, the consultants have insisted on a number of quality assurance standards for printing *Mishkan T'filah*. With the help of legal counsel, the contract incorporates the printing standards expected of Rose Printing.

The same print production consultants have agreed to oversee and shepherd the final printing of the Siddur on our behalf. Essentially, they will serve as the outsourced project managers. Among other things, they will detail the manufacturing schedule with Rose, receive and check all page files, traffic blue lines for approval by the CCAR, and make site visits at Rose Printing for press checks. This also includes monitoring both the press run and the bindery work.

Our Next Steps

The next significant milestone is receipt of the paper by Rose Printing. As noted above, once received, Rose Printing anticipates an eight to ten week production schedule to print the various versions of *Mishkan T'filah* which have been ordered (transliterated and non-transliterated versions of the complete Siddur, Shabbat only, Weekdays and Festivals only, as well as the large print and gift editions). We anticipate that the transliterated versions will be ready to ship first, followed by the non-transliterated versions. In order to expedite delivery, we have made arrangements with Rose Printing to ship directly to you, rather than processing the books through our warehouse which is our normal procedure.

The road from the discovery of printing defects to a new contract has been longer and bumpier than anyone could have anticipated. However, design and printing are complex processes, with many technical, legal and financial decisions along the way. We have learned much on this journey that will also ensure the quality and timeliness of future CCAR publications.

Like you, we eagerly look forward to the arrival of *Mishkan T'filah* at our places of worship and the beginning of a new era in the Reform Movement's religious life.

Shalom uvracha,

Rabbi Peter S. Knobel
President

Rabbi Steven A. Fox
Executive Vice President