

These are teaching materials used by Nelly Trocmé Hewett when she is invited to speak about Rescue during the Holocaust

Documentaries:

1. *Weapons of the Spirit* produced by Pierre Sauvage (video and DVD)
There are two versions of this documentary. (A 90 minute version and a classroom version that runs about 35 minutes.) Narrated by Pierre Sauvage who returns to the village of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon where he was born in France. The village of Le Chambon is one of 12 Protestant parishes located on the Plateau Vivarais-Lignon. The residents of this area helped or saved a large number of refugees during WWII. A PBS interview of Pierre Sauvage by Bill Moers immediately follows the film. It brings up serious concepts that are an integral part of the teaching package.
2. *The Children of Chabannes* produced by Lisa Gossels and Dean Wetherell
Portrays how the people of Chabannes, a tiny non-religious village in unoccupied France, chose action over indifference and saved the lives of 400 Jewish refugee children. Filmmaker Lisa Gossels returns to Chabannes with her father and uncle, two of the children who were saved. Through intimate interviews with her father and the other “children” of Chabannes, the filmmakers recreate the joys and fears of daily life in that village. This film is suitable for young audiences.

For further information, please visit the website: www.childrenofchabannes.org

3. *Safe Haven*, produced by Paul Lewis
Addresses the one legitimate effort made by the United States government to save Holocaust refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe in August, 1944. This rescue was largely facilitated by Ruth Gruber and resulted in about 1,000 persecuted victims securing safe haven in Fort Oswego, New York.

Order from: plewis@fox61.com

4. *The Courage to Care* video
A 30 minute documentary produced and directed by Robert Gardner in 1986. It was nominated for an Oscar in the “short documentary” category. It highlights the personal testimonies of 5 Jews and non-Jewish rescuers in occupied Europe during World War II.

Order from the Anti-Defamation League at: www.adl.org/catalog/ Purchase Price is \$69.95 plus \$7.80 shipping and handling.

Books:

1. *The Courage to Care* by Carol Rittner and Sondra Myer. New York Press, 1986
Features a collection of 15 personal interviews conducted with Holocaust survivors and rescuers during the Faith in Humankind Conference held in Washington, DC in September, 1984.
ISBN: 0-8147-7397-4
2. *LaForce du Bien*, in French by Marek Halter
Collection of rescue stories with happy endings. The excerpts are short and excellent for the French language classroom.
ISBN: 2-221-08056-4
3. *Stories of Deliverance* by Marek Halter
An English translation of the book mentioned above. Mr. Halter speaks with men and women who rescued or were rescued during the Holocaust.
ISBN: 0-8126-9364-7
4. *Greater than Angels* by Carol Matas
A historical novel written for young readers based on the testimonies of children hidden in Chambon-sur Lignon. Published by Simon and Schuster in 1998.
ISBN: 0-689-81353-8
5. *Une lumière dans la nuit: les enfants du Chambon* by Carol Matas
A French translation of *Greater than Angels*. Published by Livre Poche Jeunesse #803-Hachette in 1999.
ISBN: 2-01-321690-4
6. *Shoes for Amélie* by Connie Colker Steiner
This touching children's story takes place somewhere on the Plateau Vivarais Lignon during World War II. It contains accurate cultural details. Illustrated.
Published by Lobster Press in 2001.
ISBN: 1-894222-37-7
7. *Le Livre des Justes* by Lucien Lazare, in French
A study of French Jewish rescue: their work, isolation, and the dangers that they encountered during World War II.
ISBN: 2-01-278809-2
8. *Rescue as Resistance* by Lucien Lazare
English translation of the book mentioned above. It was published by Columbia University Press in 1996.
ISBN: 0-231-101244

Reference Books:

1. *Dictionnaire des Justes de France* by L. Lazare. In French. A well illustrated reference text listing alphabetically all the Righteous Gentiles honored by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem up to 1999. (Many more people have been honored since then.) The first of 8 volumes that will honor the rescuers of 8 different countries. Published by Yad Vashem and Fayard, Paris in 2003. ISBN: 2-213-61435-0.
2. *The Encyclopedia of the Righteous Among the Nations*, same as above, in English, published by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem in 2003. (Must be ordered directly from Yad Vashem as it is not yet available in the United States.) No ISBN.

The Courage to Care Documentary

Short summaries of Rescue Testimonials featured on this film

Rescued -Odette Meyers -- remembers when she was a child in Paris hiding from the Nazis. She was seven years ago when she went into hiding with her mother in an upstairs apartment of a two-story building. She was rescued by her landlady, “Madame Marie” and her husband, “Monsieur Henry”. Odette tells us that among the thirteen thousand Jews arrested in Paris in July, 1942, four thousand fifty one were children. Without the supportive assistance of this caring couple, she could have easily been number 4,052.

Rescuer -Marion Pritchard – was a woman who was on her way to the School of Social Work in Amsterdam when she saw Jewish children being thrown into a truck to be taken away. She watched as two other women went after these officers and they too were abusively thrown into the moving vehicles. This is when she decided to help the Jews. In 1943, she was asked to take in three Jewish children and their father. These children ranged in age from one week old to four years old. When the Gestapo came the family hid in a hiding place in the living room. To get into their hiding place took them only thirty seconds to accomplish. However, a short while later, a Dutch police officer returned and was shot by Marion. She had the local undertaker put the dead body in a casket with another deceased person. So, the undertaker actually buried two people in one casket.

Rescuer -Irene Opdyke – was a maid for German officers in Poland. She would serve them breakfast, lunch and dinner. She was very good at what she did and could speak fluent German. The major asked her to do the laundry for the officers. She agreed and met twelve Jewish people whom she befriended while completing the laundry duties. Then, the ghettos were being liquidated and Irene’s new friends had no place to live. About that time the major asked Irene to come to live with him and be his housekeeper. This was a opportunity for Irene to save her newly found friends. Subsequently, she moved the family of twelve into the cellar of the Major’s house and they stay there undetected until the Major came home one

afternoon without any forewarning. Needless to say, Irene was able to convince him to spare the Jews and not have her executed by hanging.

Rescued - Emanuel Tanay – remembers when he was 14. At this time, he lived in the ghetto and left for Krakow where he went to live in a monastery. No one knew he was Jewish except the prior. Eventually, the Gestapo found out that he was hiding there so he crept into the organ to escape their search team and avoid deportation. He then left with a family friend was taken to a new hiding place. He did not have any official papers. One day he went to use the telephone at the home of a village elder and was interrogated by the Nazis. These Nazi officials discovered that he had no official papers and were about take him away when the village elder announced that Emanuel was the son of a local resident. The storeowner also paid a fine on his behalf and Emanuel went on his way. Emanuel reports that he never knew the storeowner who have saved his life, but will always be grateful for his courageous act of bravery.

Rescuers - André and Magda Trocmé – helped many persecuted individuals during the Holocaust as did many other people who lived in Le Chambon sur Lignon and the surrounding area. According to Magda, these rescue efforts were taken because they were morally the right thing to do. She shares these inspirational words, “Remember that in your life, there will be lots of circumstances that will need a kind of courage, a kind of decision of your own, not about other people but about yourself. I would say no more.”

Materials to Teach about “France and the Holocaust”

By Barbara Barnett

Books

Visages de la Shoah: Marcel Jabelot by Barbara P. Barnett (in French) \$12.95. The compelling story of French Holocaust survivor Marcel Jabelot: his arrest in Southern France, deportation to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the loss of his entire family, the Death March, and his eventual return to Paris. The book concludes with Marcel Jabelot’s moving testimony about life after Auschwitz and advice to young people. Available through Beach Lloyd Publishers, www.BeachLloyd.com

Faces of the Holocaust: Marcel Jabelot by Barbara P. Barnett (English translation of the above) \$12.95. Available through Beach Lloyd Publishers, www.BeachLloyd.com

Videos and DVD’s

Visages de la Shoah: Marcel Jabelot by Barbara P. Barnett – available in video or DVD (60 minute oral testimony from French Holocaust survivor, Marcel Jabelot) \$30.00. Is available through Beach Lloyd Publishers, www.BeachLloyd.com

La France Divisée by Barbara P. Barnett and Eileen M. Angelini -- available in video or DVD (\$25). This 36-minute documentary explores resistance and collaboration in Vichy France through first person oral testimonies of one French Holocaust survivor, three Hidden Children, two historians and one member of the Resistance. Is available through Barbara P. Barnett at www.francedivided.com Study guide for La France Divisée, \$5.00

Teacher’s Resource Manual

A 75-page resource manual on the Teaching of the Holocaust including bibliography, videography, and suggested activities. May be downloaded (free of charge) from www.francedivided.com Under “Film Resources” on Home page, click on “Teacher Guide”.

For additional information, contact Barbara P. Barnett at bbarnett@agnesirwin.org