

SRRT Newsletter*

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COORDINATOR'S MEMO
TO: SRRT MEMBERS
FROM: GAIL P. WARNER

In April, a memo was sent to all SRRT Action Council members and Task Force Coordinators requesting items for the Action Council agenda. But, as usual, the most interesting agenda items will undoubtedly come out of Council and Membership business during the San Francisco Annual Conference. We expect to have several proposals/resolutions dealing with the issues of election campaign funding and ALA's election timing.

The Action Council meeting schedule for San Francisco is: Saturday, June 27, 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Sunday, June 28, 2:00-4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, June 30, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The SRRT Membership meeting will be held on Sunday, June 28, 2:00-4:00 p.m. (combined with Action Council meeting). Please plan to join us.

This is my chance to recognize Action Council members whose terms are up after the conference. Doris Kirschbaum served as an able Action Council Coordinator in 1986, and is currently Action Council Secretary. Susan Vaughn has been an informed and expert Treasurer, Kay Cassell worked on Conference Arrangements, and Betty-Carol Sellen has been a dedicated and tireless Action Council member. Thank you to all of them, and to Linda Pierce, past Coordinator, who served as Conference Arrangements liaison in 1986.

If you have not signed up to serve a stint at the SRRT booth during the conference, it's not too late. Cut the coupon out of the last issue of the newsletter and send it to James Danky. It's a great way to get - or stay - involved with SRRT.

See you in San Francisco!

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INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ALERT

The Intellectual Freedom Committee of the New York Library Association is initiating a project to alert librarians nationwide to the need for attention to issues not covered by current state laws and by library policies and procedures governing confidentiality of library records. The Committee is gathering information on gaps in existing legislation and library practices and needs

This incident raises such questions as: should pre-search interview forms contain a permanent record of patron identity? are records of online searches necessarily included among the other library records protected by confidentiality laws?

If you can identify and/or have had experience with such issues or other situations not covered by the laws in your state or the regulations of your library, please send a description of same (and copies of forms and other relevant material) to Carol F.L. Liu, Vice-Chair, NYLA TFC, Queens Borough Public Library, Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432 (tel. 7180990-0752) by June 15, 1987.

- NYLA Press Release

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ANN FAGAN GINGER TO SPEAK AT
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The International Human Rights and Peace Information Exchange Task Forces will co-sponsor a program on "Peace as a Third Generation Human Right" on Saturday afternoon, 2:00 to 4:00, at present scheduled at the Convention Center.

Ann Fagan Ginger, our speaker, is the Executive Director of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute, Berkeley, a long-time home of research and support for civil liberties in this country over the past decade and more, expanding that interest to international human rights and peace law. She is a truly outstanding speaker, with lots of information as well as anecdotes at her beck. Do not miss this chance to hear her!

The Peace Information Exchange Task Force will hold the usual number of four meetings in an effort to reach out to the many busy librarians who come to the

ASSRTIONS: HENNEPIN COUNTY

The indefatigable "Sandynist.a," Sandy Berman, sends the SRRT Newsletter material from time to time on developments nationwide and in the environs of Minnetonka. While it's interesting to read that writers have formed a union, and that the Governor of California has ordered an investigation of the approval by the state Bicentennial Commission of a racist textbook, the most fascinating items deal with Berman's own employer, the Hennepin County Library. A calendar of National Library Week events reveals that a community library in the county system presented a program on literacy,

Other Midwinter developments:

There will be a PIETF table at the Annual Conference exhibits.

Bill Delzell agreed to produce a list, of the ten best books on peace published in 1986-1987, for distribution at Annual Conference.

Lotte Larsen will develop a short resource guide, annotated for librarians' use, for finding information on peace organizations and activities.

1987 marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Peace Information Exchange Task Force. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Adapted from Elizabeth Morrissett's minutes

RECOMMENDED READING

Coleman, Jean Ellen. "ALA's Role in

SRRT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Well, folks, we are going to have to

REVIEW

ALTERNATIVE LIBRARY LITERATURE,
1984/1985; A BIENNIAL ANTHOLOGY.
Edited by Sanford Berman and James P.
Danky. Jefferson, NC: MacFarland &
Company (Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640)
\$35.00.

One of the first things you notice upon opening the 1984/1985 edition of Alternative Library Literature is the choice of cataloging data. LC cataloging appears on the verso of the title page in predictable form, complete with five subject tracings, all ending with "- Addresses, essays, lectures." The alternative version gives credit to the illustrator, Jackie Urbanovic, lists partial contents, and features sixteen on-the-mark subject tracings, such as "Librarians- social responsibility"; "Disabled persons' library services"; and "Libraries and nuclear warfare." Sixteen subject headings may seem a luxury to anyone trying to maintain a card catalog, or any other type of catalog, but., like the articles which follow, they do provide choices as well as indicate the rich diversity in professional literature reflecting social concerns.

The second edition of this anthology contains a total of 56 selections, most of which are reprinted from a combination of alternative (or small press) and standard publications. Examples of the former are Women Library Workers Journal and New Pages; RQ, Collection Building, and the Canadian Library Journal are representative of the latter group. The volume is dedicated to the late Brad Chambers, who headed the Council on Interracial Books for Children, and begins with several tributes to Chambers originating in these pages. There are sections on working conditions, women, peace, censorship, service to children, etc., and a welcome collection of humorous articles. There are also two original articles, "The Co-Production of Library Services for Racial Minorities," by Isidro D. Ortiz and Salvador Guarena, which describes a Santa Barbara Public Library project to improve services to

the Spanish speaking population, and "Apartheid and the Social Involvement of Public Libraries," by Mary Lee Bundy and Wendy Simmons, part of a special section on South Africa.

The user-friendly index facilitates access to the contents. The volume is printed on acid-free paper. Jackie Urbanovic's illustrations are lively and in keeping with the work's tone of good-humored seriousness.

This collection has special significance for SRRT members. Its message goes to the core of what. SRRT is all about: Librarians and libraries have a role in social change. From the courageous actions of Zoia Horne in support of intellectual freedom (portrayed in Noel Peattie's interview in Sipapu) to the conflict at COSMEP regarding advertisers (reported in New Pages). we are motivated by example and challenged by controversy, and we owe thanks to Sandy Berman and Jim Danky for bringing this

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