

SRRT Newsletter*

A Publication of the Social Responsibilities Round Table
of the American Library Association

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FROM THE COORDINATOR

Well, our move to Texas was uneventful. The ALA Archives, which we visited along the way, proved to be quite interesting. A special thank you to Al Kagan for showing us the nightlife of Urbana-Champaign.

ALA, the ADL, and the Israeli censorship issue continue to make headlines. In addition to the articles mentioned in my last column, please check out the Fall issue of the *Middle East Labor Bulletin* and the September/October issue of the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*. The *Village Voice* ran letters following up the Friedman piece from the ADL, Peggy Sullivan, and David Williams. The *Washington Post* article finally appeared on October 19th. If any one knows of other coverage, please let me know.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR VACANCY TO BE
FILLED

SCHEDULE OF SRRT MEETINGS IN LOS ANGELES

(NOTE: Please check conference schedule
for final meeting schedule and locations)

Action Council:

Sat. 2/5: 9:30-11:00 AM
Tues. 2/8: 9:30-11:00 AM

Newsletter Editorial Board:

Mon. 2/7: 8:00-9:00 AM

Alternatives in Print:

Sun. 2/6: 8:00-9:00 AM

Coretta Scott King Award:

(All award jury meetings are closed.)

Environment:

Sat. 2/5: 8:30-9:30 AM
Sun. 2/6: 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Feminist:

Sat. 2/5: 2:00-4:00 PM
Sun. 2/6: 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
Thurs. 2/10: 9:30-11:00 AM

Gay and Lesbian:

Fri. 2/4: 8:00-10:00 PM (Steering)
Sat. 2/5: 9:30-11:00 AM (Prog.Plan)
Sun. 2/6: 4:30-5:30 PM (Read-a-Loud)
Mon. 2/7: 2:00-4:00 PM (Prog.Plan)
Tues. 2/8: 9:30-11:00 AM (Steering)
(Book Award Committee meetings are closed.)

Israeli Censorship & Palestinian Libraries:

Sun. 2/6: 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

International Responsibilities:

Sun. 2/6: 2:00-4:00 PM

ENVIRONMENT

Maria Jankowska sent a letter to Paul Graller, the staff liaison to the Exhibitors Round Table asking about environmental guidelines provided to and requested of ALA exhibitors. If none exist the task force would be willing to work with ALA to establish some voluntary guidelines.

The task force will meet twice during the ALA Midwinter Conference on Saturday at 8:30-9:30 and Sunday 11:30-12:30 (locations will be announced). For the Summer Conference the tentative program title is "Libraries in the Balance." Under consideration is a panel discussion on the role of libraries in providing environmental information. If you have any thoughts, ideas, suggestions please contact Maria Jankowska at the e-mail address anna@iduil.com or phone: (208) 885-6631.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, a part of the U.S. Public Health Service based in Atlanta, has announced that they are providing libraries with the copy of a notebook entitled *Public Health Statements*. The notebook contains information about the toxicological and adverse health effects of eighty hazardous substances most frequently found at hazardous waste sites throughout the United States.

GAY AND LESBIAN

The Program Committee 1995 is being formed and will be meeting for the first time at Midwinter (see below). The task force will be celebrating its 25th anniversary at the 1995 conference, and there is a need for many people to be involved in planning for that special occasion. Those interested in participating can contact Terry Allison at (619) 752-4358, or Wendy Thomas at (617) 495-8647.

To supplement the schedule for Midwinter, printed elsewhere in this issue, the Gay and Lesbian Task Force meetings are as follows. Please note that some of these are closed meetings. [N.B. Please note also that some of these do not agree with the schedule in the box to the left, so it is very important to check the final schedule for correct times and locations.]

(GLTF con't)

Steering Committee—Fri., Feb. 4: 8:00-10:00 PM
Tues., Feb. 8: 9:30-11:00 AM

Program 94 Committee—Sat., Feb. 5: 9:30-11:00 AM
Mon., Feb. 7: 2:00-4:00 PM

All Committees—Mon., Feb. 7: 9:30-11:00 AM*

Book Awards Committee—Sat., Feb. 5: 2:00-5:00 PM
Sun., Feb. 6: 9:30 AM-12:30 PM**

Read-A-Loud—Sun., Feb. 6: 4:30-6:00 PM

Social: Sat., Feb. 5: 6:00 PM - ***

* The Program 95 Committee will be meeting for the first time during the All Committees time slot. Anyone interested in any committee's work should attend the All Committees meeting.

** The Book Awards Committee's meetings are closed.

*** Final plans for the social are pending at press time. The plans will be announced at the Friday Steering Committee meeting and will be available at the OLOS table in the ALA Office area.

illegally searching his apartment. His family has had trouble getting the

GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION EDUCATION, TRAINING & RESEARCH

FROM THE EDITOR'S INBOX

ACCESS, under contract with the United States Institute of Peace, is conducting a survey of organizations and individuals who are engaged in conflict resolution. Respondents would be included in an international database. ACCESS is interested in surveying conflict resolution practitioners and others involved in education, training and research and is interested in learning of any individuals or organizations which should be included in this project. There is particular interest in the efforts of indigenous groups and individuals. For further information, contact Lisa Alfred at (202) 783-6050 (voice) or (202) 783-4767 (fax). ACCESS is a non-profit, non-partisan clearinghouse of information on international relations, peace, and world affairs.

* The *American Indian Libraries Newsletter* is published quarterly by the American Indian Library Association. It is available only by subscription. Subscriptions are swerN TR-£a

UMI AND ALTERNATIVE PRESS CENTER PROJECT

UMI and the Alternative Press Center, publisher of the *Alternative Press Index*, have entered into an agreement which will result in the microfilming of alternative newspapers and journals from the Center's extensive holdings. This will constitute the third supplement to UMT's *Underground Press Collections*, a comprehensive microfilm edition of publications from 1963-1985. Among the publications to be filmed are *Burning Spear*, *Desperate Living*, *Fag Rag*, *Feminist Bulletin*, *Haiti Alert*, *Palestine Focus*, and *Spartacist*.

Originally known as the Radical Research Center, the Alternative Press Center was founded in 1969 to "create an index to the publications which amplify the cry for social change and social justice." The first issue of the *Alternative Press Index* covered seventy-two periodicals; today, each quarterly issue cites more than 5,000 articles from a broad array of publications.

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* The first issues of *Whole Terrain* have been issued by the **Antioch New England Graduate School Department of Environmental Studies**. Topics explored are the relationship between ecological identity and professional choices and the tensions and satisfactions that pervade environmental work. Issue *Wi* will deal with conventional ethics and the workplace. The journal is available for \$5.00 per issue. The address for information and subscriptions is Roxbury Street, Keene NH 03431.

* Hampton-Brown Books has issued its 1993-1994 catalog, featuring a variety of publications and educational materials which promote language and cultural diversity. Offerings include both Spanish and English language materials and new ESL materials. For a copy of the catalog, contact the publisher at 1-800-333-3510.

* **Hughes Press** has announced the publication of the second volume of *Computer Health Hazards*, a compendium of legal and medical research that details the ever growing complications arising from power lines and the use of other electronic equipment. The volume can be ordered from the publisher for \$55.45 prepaid, or \$58.00 by purchase order at 2400 Virginia Ave., N.W., Box C501, Washington DC 20037.

Steven R. Harris, Book Review Editor

*ALTERNATIVE LIBRARY LITERATURE.
1990/1991: A BIENNIAL ANTHOLOGY.*

Edited by Sanford Berman and James P. Danky. Jefferson IUC: McFarland, 1992.

Sanford Berman and James Danky's biennial anthology of the best of the alternative library press pulls together

articles from a diversity of sources, including regional, special, or alternative publications, as well as previously unpublished pieces. Most of these sources are not likely to be in many libraries, and this anthology provides a perspective which is generally not well represented. This is reason enough to purchase it. However, even if these articles were scattered throughout a library's collection, the format groups diverse viewpoints on like themes together in a way that compliments and stimulates the material, providing greater context and texture for the reader.

Like the previous anthologies in this series, this edition offers refreshing fare amidst the dull material that constitutes much of our professional literature. Articles are grouped into the areas of: People/Work, Women, Peace, Censorship/Human Rights, Alternative Publications, Service/Advocacy/Empowerment, Kids, Books and Reading.

There is also a special section devoted to national treatment of the Columbus Quincentenary. While the Quincentennial is over, the issues raised here are still very much relevant. We are asked to consider how we present important historical events in libraries. The Columbus Quincentennial is offered as "a teachable moment," an opportunity to consider a familiar story from an unfamiliar vantage point, namely, that of its victims. Articles and resolutions concerning the Quincentennial represent many different groups creating an impressive impact. Libraries often jump on popular events like this as a means of promoting "our product." What the commentary on the Columbus Quincentennial asks us to do, is to consider what we are doing more thoughtfully. A number of creative and enlightened responses for approaching an historical event like this are included.

The voices in this anthology speak with a sense of urgency and passion about libraries, literature, and literacy. They speak with a vision of what it is that we are all about, of where our responsibilities lie to our constituencies, and to the core principles of our profession. These are not voices that are heard much within our literature or our institutions. For a rank and file librarian isolated within a large bureaucracy, these voices offer me contact with a larger community that shares my concerns about the social role of our

profession, as well as some much needed inspiration. *Alternative Library Literature, 1990/1991* has been out for almost a year now, so if your library hasn't ordered it yet, it's time to put in a request. Recommended for all libraries.

—Suzanne Tronier, University of Washington Libraries,
Seattle WA.

*PREJUDICES AND ANTIPATHIES: A TRACT
ON THE LC SUBJECT HEADINGS
CONCERNING PEOPLE.* By Sanford Berman.

stereotyping, rejection, recognizability, and retribution. An extensive bibliography is included in the book as well as an index. Also included are numerous appendices, one of which features a copy of the *Guidelines for Treatment*

WOMEN AND UNIONS: FORGING A PARTNERSHIP. Edited by Dorothy Sue Cobble. Ithaca NY: ILR Press, 1993. 464p. (ISBN 0-87546-300-2) hbk., (ISBN 0-87546-301-1) pbk.

Much of the recent movement in organized labor today is due to the increased presence of women in the workplace. *Women and Unions* provides an informative addition to the dialogue on how unions and their leaders can best serve the needs of workers in this new climate.

The collection of writings addresses the topics of the wage gap between genders, family needs, temporary, part-time and home work, the future of organizing and representing women, and female leadership in the labor movement. Each of these areas is covered by several essays, commentary from additional viewpoints, and references for further reading.

Editor Dorothy Sue Cobble (Rutgers University) sets as her task the inspiration of debate over the issues, thoughtfully collecting the work of forty authors of

Titles Received:

THIS PARTICULAR EARTHLY SCENE. POEMS by Margaret Lloyd.
Alicajamasbooks, 1393.