

# 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.

On an entirely different note, I am sure that all SRRT members join me in a hearty congratulations and best wishes to **John Hostage**, former newsletter editor and Action Council Coordinator. John is one of the 1993/94

USIA Library Fellows. He will be at the Institute for North American Studies, Berlin, Germany.

There will be a small function for current Action

Council members, founding Action Councilors, and others from SRRT's early years at the ALA Treasurer's Suite during Midwinter. (Thank you, **Ann Symons**.) This is in preparation for the celebration of 25 years as ALA's conscience. For details, please contact me.

See you in Los Angeles! I hope the February date doesn't screw things up for too many of you. Note that it does wreak havoc with the newsletter schedule.

## ACTION COUNCIL AT-LARGE CANDIDATES NEEDED

Elections for at-large Action Council members will be held this Spring. SRRT members who are interested in seeking election should contact **Stephen Stillwell**, Action Council Coordinator, as soon as possible. Election forms must be filed by the close of the mid-Winter meeting.

There will be four vacancies to fill. The top three vote-getters in this year's election will serve three year terms (1994-97); the fourth highest vote-getter will serve a two year term (1994-96). This will enable Action Council to return to its mandated size and election schedule, as noted in issue 108 of this newsletter. If interested please write to: **Stephen Stillwell**, 3550 S. Fielder Road, #60, Arlington TX 76015, or call (817) 467-7324.

## CONTENTS

From the Coordinator.....	1
Task Force News.....	2-4
Editor's Inbox.....	6
Book Reviews.....	8

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR VACANCY TO BE FILLED

The current editor of the *SRRT Newsletter* will be finishing his term as editor with the July issue of the newsletter this summer. Persons who are interested in assuming this responsibility are invited to apply. The Editorial Board will conduct interviews during the summer conference in Miami, and the new editor will assume responsibilities at the end of the summer.

The editor is responsible for collecting materials from task force coordinators and affiliates; for writing, editing, and formatting these and other materials; and for complying with the editorial policies of the round table. The current editor will be more than happy to discuss the responsibilities with any interested persons. Address and phone number information can be found on the back page of this issue.

## TASK FORCE & AFFILIATE NEWS

### ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT

Sanford Berman and James Danky were the moderators for a wide-ranging task force program at last summer's New Orleans conference, focused on the "The Alternative Library Press: What Is It -- and Why Do We Need It?" Editors of eight alternative library periodicals discussed the failings of the "mainstream" library press and described their own outspoken and irreverent publications: Maria Jankowska, *Green Library Journal*; Kathy Anderson, *GLTF Newsletter*; Audrey Eaglen, *WLW Journal*; Chris Dodge, *MSRRT Newsletter*; Noel Peattie, *Sipapu*; Tom Wilding, *SRRT Newsletter*; Elaine Harger, *Progressive Librarian*; and Raleigh Clayton Muns, *Fugitive Pope*.

Sanford Berman chaired the task force meetings in New Orleans this summer. Charles Willett was elected the new Task Force Coordinator. At the business meeting, the task force endorsed the Alternative Press Center's 1994 Conference on Alternative Media at Johns Hopkins University (June 10-12). It encouraged the speedy

completion of Byron Anderson's directory of more than seventy-five librarian-recommended alternative book publishers (which will be distributed by the task force). (NOTE: *Alternative Publishers of Books in North America* has since been completed. Free copies will be available at the CRISES Press booth in Los Angeles.)

The task force chose a theme for its 1994 program in Miami. It will focus on collecting and publicizing local materials. Anyone with suggestions about issues, speakers, etc., should get in touch with a committee member: Chris Dodge (4645 Columbus Avenue S., Minneapolis MN 55407; phone: (612) 823-1214); Steven Harris (Reference Dept., Evans Library, Texas A&M University, College Station TX 77843; phone: (409) 862-1064); or Charles Willett (1716 SW Williston Road, Gainesville FL 32608; phone: (904) 335-2200).

The task force approved the establishment of a Jackie Eubanks Memorial Award. The award, which includes a certificate and a \$500 stipend, will be presented annually at AIP's conference program to a person who has significantly promoted alternative media in libraries. The first year's jury includes Sanford Berman, chair; Steven Harris; and Byron Anderson.

In other business, the task force endorsed two amendments to acquisitions guidelines being proposed by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), and these were presented to the ALCTS Acquisitions Section. One points out the responsibility of acquisitions librarians to acquire a broad range of material from alternative perspectives and sources. The other articulates the need for them to refuse to be intimidated or coerced.

In Los Angeles, the task force will meet on Sunday, February 6, 8:00-9:00 AM. Members will also make an excursion to the Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, 6120 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles. This special library has a pamphlet collection documenting social and progressive movements in the L.A. area since the 1930s. Interested persons should speak to Charles Willett at the CRISES Alternative Press Exhibit (Booth no. 1201/1202) to arrange a convenient time to visit, probably on Tuesday, February 8.

## 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@idui1](mailto:anna@idui1) 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.

## **PEACE INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Beth Sibley has volunteered to serve as the new Task Force Coordinator. She can be contacted at: Government Documents, 350 Main Library, UC Berkeley, Berkeley CA 94720; phone: (510) 643-9346; email: esibley@library.berkeley.edu .

The Midwinter agenda includes the usual information exchange and a discussion of the Miami program on Options. Information on the National Peace Project will also be presented.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the SIRS/SRRT Peace Award panel. Please contact the coordinator at the above address if you are willing to serve.

SRRT Newsletter

## **KANSAS SRRT**

Kansas Library Association (KLA) Councilor Leroy Gattin has asked ALA members in Kansas to respond to the question of whether ALA should be more involved in international or national issues. In the *KLA Newsletter*, Gattin reported that "extensive debate of the Israeli Censorship Resolution increased the frustration of many ALA members over the amount of time spent discussing international issues rather than issues 'closer to home'."

## **SRRT ARCHIVES NEEDS MATERIALS**

In issue 107 of the newsletter, there was a request for materials for the SRRT Archives, maintained as part of the ALA Archives at the University of Illinois Libraries in Champaign-Urbana (or Urbana-Champaign) if you prefer. Having spent some time there this Fall doing research on the history of the round table, the Action Council Coordinator and the Newsletter Editor are making a plea to past and present task force coordinators and others as well, that if you have materials relevant to the history, growth, and development of your task force or the round table as a whole, please forward these to Stephen Stillwell, 3550 S. Fielder Road, #60, Arlington TX 76015.

## **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL/IRTF PROGRAM AT WORK**

The Amnesty International/IRTF program has been described several times in this newsletter. Program participants write letters on behalf of the victims of human rights violations all over the world. Journalists outnumber any other group for whom the program has gone to work, but university professors, writers, a poet, and even a library science student have all been the subject of these letters.

In October letters were written about a student and a writer. Miguel Bru, a student of journalism in Argentina has been missing since 17 August 1993, after filing a complaint about members of the local police station

illegally searching his apartment. His family has had trouble getting the authorities to investigate the case adequately. Program participants were asked to express their concern that his disappearance may be related to the complaint that was filed and to ask for a thorough investigation.

In South Korea, Hwang Suk-yong was arrested in April 1993. He is a leading member of the South Korean Association of Writers for National Literature and has written over twenty novels and essays. His arrest took place after he returned to South Korea from a self-imposed exile abroad. He has been accused of making an unauthorized visit to North Korea and of contacting North Korean officials. Hwang Suk-yong explains his actions as part of his work toward the re-unification of the two Koreas. Amnesty considers him a "prisoner of conscience" and is asking for his immediate release.

If you are interested in supporting this effort but do not have the time available to write letters, you may be interested in a program in which you would authorize Amnesty International to send telegrams and faxes in your name. For further information about this program, please contact ALA/Urgent Action FAPP, Amnesty International USA, P.O. Box 1270, Nederland CO 80466-1270. To be placed on the mailing list for Amnesty International, write to Cheryl Martin, 3237-1/2 Rosedale Ave., Dallas TX 75205.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**TO:** SRRT Action Council, the SRRT Coordinator, the SRRT Newsletter, and supporters of intellectual freedom and human rights in the American Library Association

**FROM:** Participants in and/or supporters of the SRRT Task Force on Israeli Censorship and Palestinian Libraries

We commend SRRT and those within SRRT who worked to place (and keep) the American Library Association officially on record against Israeli censorship and human rights violations. Through these efforts, long overdue public attention was focused on a problem area in which the United States shares much moral responsibility, and the reverberations of this controversy in the ALA will provide many lessons about the meaning of social responsibility and the universal application of freedom of information and general human rights.

With the recent peace agreement between Israel and the PLO, the situation is clearly entering a new phase. Whatever the virtues, ambiguities, flaws, and ultimate fate of this historic agreement, libraries and educational institutions in the so-called "autonomous" zones will need a great deal of assistance, material and otherwise, from librarians and others on behalf of the hitherto deprived Palestinian population. We believe that there is, therefore, a need to continue the SRRT Task Force on Israeli Censorship and Palestinian Libraries and that the main emphasis of this Task Force should be on helping to assist these institutions in whatever form may be appropriate.

We also feel that as long as major issues pertaining to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict remain basically unresolved - such as the continued presence of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, control of land and water resources, the status of East Jerusalem, the denial of genuine Palestinian sovereignty, etc. - the problems of overall Israeli domination and potential human rights abuses (including censorship) still linger and may have to be further addressed. Therefore, the dual focus of this Task Force remains relevant.

Finally, we strongly believe that this Task Force should be free - like any other Task Force of SRRT, in accordance with SRRT tradition - to choose its own coordinator without outside interference, and that such a coordinator should have the motivation, energy, and competence to effectively direct the work of the Task Force in this new phase.

Initial SRRT Signees: Jan De Sirey, Chris Dodge, Mary Engle, Roland Hansen, Elaine Harger, Vincent Jennings, Brian Kinkel, Stephen Peter LaBash, Mary Kay Kaibke, Melissa Riley, Mark Rosenzweig, Daniel Tsang, David Williams

[ADDENDUM: In expressing his support for this statement, Brian Kinkel also enumerated some specific issues which he feels are most germane to SRRT and the library community in relation to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict: censorship of books and periodicals, of course; closure of schools, universities and their libraries - obstacles to Palestinians pursuing certain fields of study (e.g. nuclear physics, aeronautical engineering, etc.); the lower literacy rate and scarcity of books in general for Palestinians; and the failure of Israel to make any commitment to make things better for the great majority of Palestinians still under Occupation.]

## GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION EDUCATION, TRAINING & RESEARCH

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.

## 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 UMI'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 *Sparticist*.

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.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S INBOX

\* The *American Indian Libraries Newsletter* is published quarterly by the American Indian Library Association. It is available only by subscription. Subscriptions are \$25.00 for libraries, institutions, and agencies; \$10.00 for individuals; and \$5.00 for students. For subscriptions contact Joan Howland, Law Library, University of Minnesota, 229 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55455.

\* Minnesota SRRT (MSRRT) presented a program at the recent Minnesota Library Association conference in which sixty alternative publications and audiovisual materials were reviewed within ninety minutes (*Sixty in Ninety*). The list of items reviewed is a good source, and copies of the list are available from Chris Dodge, 4645 Columbus Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55407.

\* *Claire of the Moon*, a movie based on the novel of the same name by Nicole Conn, was released November 3, 1993. The 102 minute VHS tape is listed at \$89.95. For information about this, and other lesbian titles from Naiad Press, call their toll free number, 1-800-533-1973.

\* *10 Percent*, a new magazine being published by Terry Turrentine, bills itself as "the first national magazine that's inclusive and inviting." Features include lesbian visual artists, lesbian writers and poets, a regular finance column, as well as in-depth journalism and stunning visuals. Subscriptions to the quarterly are \$9.95, and complimentary copies are available. For information, write to *10 Percent*, P.O. Box 885448, San Francisco CA 94188.

\* *Down There Press/Yes Press* has issued *Femalia*, edited by Joani Blank, which is described in a press release as "a singular book which will be of special interest to all women and many men, as well as to therapists and health care providers. It is a frank, open resource for enlightening and empowering women, clinicians and health educators about the diversity and

natural beauty of the female body." Individuals may order from the publisher (938 Hoard Street, #101, San Francisco CA 94103). It is priced at \$18.25.

\* *Blueprint for Social Justice*, a newsletter founded in 1947, is published by the Twomey Center for Peace through Justice. There is no subscription rate, but tax-deductible donations are accepted. For further information contact the center at Box 12, 6363 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans LA 70118-6195.

\* Island Press, "the leading provider of practical information for those working to solve environmental problems," is celebrating its tenth anniversary. It has recently issued its 1994 *Annual Environmental Sourcebook*, a catalog of titles ranging from biodiversity and wildlife to environmental health. To obtain a catalog, call 1-800-828-1302.

\* The Second National Conference of African American Librarians, sponsored by the ALA's Black Caucus, will be held in Milwaukee WI, August 5-7, 1994.

\* Carl T. Rowan has been awarded the 1993 Annual Scribes Book Award for his book, *Dream Makers, Dream Breakers: The World of Justice Thurgood Marshall*, published by Little, Brown & Co. Scribes is the American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects.

## SRRT ACTION COUNCIL, OFFICERS, AND LIAISONS 1993-1994

Coordinator

Secretary

Treasurer

Conference Arrangements

Exhibits Coordinator

Membership/Recruitment

ALA Staff Liaison (*ex officio*)

Newsletter Editor (*ex officio*)

Members-At-Large:

(Terms expire 1994)

(Terms expire 1995)

(Terms expire 1996)

Task Force Coordinators:

Alternatives in Print

Civil Rights

Coretta Scott King Award

Environment

Feminist

Gay & Lesbian

International Responsibilities

Israeli Censorship & Palestinian Libraries

Library Union

Peace Information Exchange

Affiliate Member Liaisons:

Kansas SRRT

Minnesota SRRT

Oregon SRRT

Progressive Librarians Guild

Washington SRRT

West Virginia SRRT

Wisconsin SRRT

Liaisons to Other Bodies:

ALA Standing Committee on Membership

ALCTS-CCS Committee on Cataloguing

Freedom to Read Foundation

Library Education Assembly

Literacy Assembly

Planning & Budget Assembly

Newsletter Editorial Board (Term expires 1994)

(Term expires 1995)

(Term expires 1996)

Book Review Editor

*Stephen J. Stillwell, jr.*

*Debra L. Gilchrist*

*Roland C. Hansen*

to be named

*Charles Willett*

*Denise E. Boto*

*Matyie Nelson*

*Thomas L. Wilding*

*Denise E. Boto*

*Sherre L. Harrington*

*Debra L. Gilchrist*

*Steven H. Murden*

*Dorothy Granger*

*Alfred Kagan*

*Becky A. Ray*

*Theresa A. Tobin*

*Deirdre Conkling*

*Stephen J. Stillwell, jr.*

*Charles Willett*

*Donnarae MacCann*

*Carolyn L. Garnes*

*Maria Jankowska*

*Theresa A. Tobin*

*Roland C. Hansen, male co-chair*

*Wendy Thomas, female co-chair*

*Mark C. Rosenzweig*

*David L. Williams*

*Ray Markey*

*Beth Sibley*

*Paul Hawkins*

*Sanford Berman*

*Jos Anemaet*

*Elaine M. Harger*

*Christine M. Livingston*

*Yvonne S. Farley*

*Marge Loch-Wouters*

*Denise E. Boto*

*Sherry L. Kelley*

*Daniel C. Tsang*

*Carol R. Boria*

*Denise E. Boto*

*Roland C. Hansen*

*Mark C. Rosenzweig*

*Theresa A. Tobin*

to be named

*Steven Harris*

\* 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 #3 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 NC: 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. Jefferson NC: McFarland, 1993. 211p. (ISBN 0-89950-828-6) \$19.95 pbk.

Received with accolades and outrage in 1971, Berman's analysis of the subtle and blatant biases in subject headings opened the doors to an unprecedented rate of change in headings. This 1993 edition, with a forward by Eric Moon, reminds librarians that while the profession has made great strides towards removing biases, the task is not finished.

The book is organized into sections that focus on related subject headings, including those for race, religion, colonialism, politics, gender, children, and mental illness. The terms come from the 7th edition of *Library of Congress Subject Headings* (1966) and the 9th ed. of *Sears List of Subject Headings* (1965). Each entry includes the subject headings under analysis; the page citations to *LCSH* and/or *Sears*; a detailed and often footnoted discussion of why the terms are inappropriate, incomplete, or not balanced by corresponding headings; and Berman's "remedy."

A comparison of *Prejudices and Antipathies* with current LC and Sears subject headings reveals that many of Berman's remedies have been implemented, or at least approximated. "Yellow peril" and "Jewish question" no longer exist. The infamous "Women as..." and "Women in..." constructions have been contracted in most cases, and the terms "Negroes," "Mohammedans," and "Mexicans in the U.S." are now "Afro-Americans" or "Blacks," "Muslims," and "Mexican Americans." Yet

Christianity is still the norm for most religious terms, "Man" still refers to men and women, and in *LCSH* (though not *Sears*) the "Children as..." constructions remain.

New to this edition are petitions addressed to the Library of Congress which request either changes to current headings or the establishment of new headings. While these petitions probably won't effect across-the-board subject heading decisions, they continue the momentum of the original book.

In general, the arguments in *Prejudices and Antipathies* are easy to follow, and can be read as much for enjoyment as for information. Librarians, linguists, and others with an interest in the power of words will appreciate the historical and contemporary value of this work.

—Sheryl Hewlett Eldridge, Texas A&M University, College Station TX.

***HOMOSEXUAL CHARACTERS IN YA NOVELS: A LITERARY ANALYSIS, 1969-1982.*** By Allan A. Cuseo. Metuchen NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1992. 516p. (ISBN 0-8108-2537-6) \$49.50 hbk.

Cuseo's literary analysis examined 69 young adult novels published between 1969 and 1982 which featured homosexual characters. Because few studies parallel this examination of the homosexual character in the literature published for young adults, this analysis fills a major gap in the field of young adult literary research.

The study had three primary goals: 1) to evaluate the literary merit of the novels; 2) to analyze their use of homosexual characters when compared to the nonfiction information available to adolescents; and 3) to discover if the portrayal of homosexual characters in the novels was negative. The analysis revealed that because of an acceptance of societal myths many authors negatively portrayed homosexual characters. Five key flaws in the literature were identified by the author: silence,

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 of Gay Themes in Children's and Young Adult Literature* prepared by ALA's Committee on Children's and YA Literature.

Cuseo's work is based on his 1987 doctoral dissertation, "A Literary Analysis of the Homosexual in Novels Published for the Young Adult, 1969-1982." This is both the strong and weak point of the book. The strength of the book lies in its contribution to the body of knowledge in this field. The weakness rests in the fact that its reads like a dissertation; at times the writing is cryptic. For example in the first chapter, in which the author describes the background and methodology of the study, the author uses key terms which are never defined.

Because of the book's length and the manner in which the material is presented, primarily researchers will be interested in reading it. Academic libraries will want to order this title for their collections because so little is available on the topic.

--Monika Antonelli, University of North Texas, Denton TX.

**MODERN HOMOSEXUALITIES: FRAGMENTS OF LESBIAN AND GAY EXPERIENCE.** Edited by Ken Plummer. New York: Routledge, 1992. 281p. (ISBN 0-415-06421-X) \$15.95 pbk.

Ken Plummer, author of *Sexual Stigma* (Routledge, 1975) and *Making of the Modern Homosexual* (Barnes & Noble, 1981), presents a thought-provoking anthology that challenges historically strict conceptions of gay and lesbian people and their community. He has compiled a diverse array of relational, gendered, political, social and spiritual experiences, capturing the new constructs of the post-Stonewall gay society worldwide. As Plummer notes, gay and lesbian studies have now been wrested from the scientific community and are voiced here in

writings from its members. Through nineteen essays covering a broad spectrum of issues, Plummer confronts readers' preconceived notions and presents a fresh glimpse at the future.

Arranged topically, each essay captures unique fragments, snippets, and snapshots of contemporary gay life. In the introductory chapters, Plummer presents a critique and overview of gay and lesbian studies. New areas of research are pointed out, and the editor reveals how these studies will act as a catalyst for future understanding and development of the gay community.

Parts two through eight focus upon critical issues in the gay and lesbian community. Stephen Murray's essay on gay men in Mesoamerica and Huseyin Tapinc's study of male homosexuality in Turkey denote the globally divergent lives of gay men. Diane Richardson and Anna Marie Smith articulate the international reformulation of lesbian desire and changing conceptions of sexuality. Essayists Judith Schuyf, Valerie Jenness, and Peter Davies reveal how the formation of community and development of a unique identity have been crucial to the queer experience of the 90's. Peter Nardi discusses the role of friends as family, while others address issues of gay and lesbian spouses, lesbian motherhood, marriage, and the redefinition of the family by the gay movement. Tim Edwards outlines the role of AIDS on the lives of gay men and how it shaped their view of mortality. Concomitantly, Beth Schneider discusses the ramifications of AIDS upon the lesbian community. Lastly, the role of gay politics, whether confrontational or assimilationist is openly debated. An extensive bibliography provides further sources of information.

*Modern Homosexualities* is a valuable addition to the field of gay and lesbian studies. Instructors, along with activists and community leaders will find very relevant materials here.

--Mike Lutes, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN.

**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 prominence in the field of labor, activists and academics alike. In spite of her effort, the essays do not vary much in political outlook or assumptions about the essential "goodness" of unions. The well-organized, documented and indexed collection will nevertheless provide a timely and useful resource for general and college level readers.

—Nancy Turner, Louisville KY.

**THE LONG ROAD HOME.** (VHS video) By Andrea Leland. Available from: Andrea Leland, 1122 North Milwaukee Ave., Chicago IL 60622. Phone: (312) 278-2948 or (708) 864-7746.

The last forty years of Guatemalan history have been a tragic string of right-wing fanaticism, military coup, rampant murder, and political persecution. It is no secret that the US has played a large part in this reign of terror.

From the CIA's backing of dictators to the Reagan Administration's willful blindness toward human rights violations in order to resume interrupted military aid, we have had our hand in their domestic pie for over half a century. It's appropriate, then, that Americans see some of the fruits of their political meddling. Andrea Leland gives us a glimpse into the lives of Guatemalan refugees in her documentary film *The Long Road Home*.

Hundreds of thousands of Guatemalans have fled their country and the brutality of the military government, for the uncertain and painful life of refugee camps in southern Mexico. Mexico has not accepted these people openly; the refugees are confined to particularly hostile areas, and have little hope of actually making a living or fending for themselves from the environment. They are almost wholly dependent upon international relief.

Amongst all this pain, Leland actually relates a story of incredible hope. The film follows Ricardo Hernandez, a former refugee now living in Chicago, as he returns to the camps to see how his people are faring. Despite the bleakness of their situation the people are extremely optimistic. They continue to look with certainty toward the day when they will return to Guatemala, freely and safely. But rather than idly await that day, they have opted to organize themselves. Teachers are appointed and schools constructed; makeshift doctors receive training in medicine; representatives for each group are elected to speak with the UN about aid and their voice in negotiations for their eventual return to Guatemala. (N.B. Mexico and Guatemala signed an agreement in late 1992 for the return of refugees, but it remains to be seen how quickly this task can be accomplished.)

The film dwells not so much on political and economic conditions in Guatemala and Mexico, but rather on the spirit of these much abused people. Some might find fault with this indirect approach (fingers are not emphatically pointed), but the end product is still educational and stimulating. Highly recommended for school and academic libraries, particularly those with Central and Latin American interests.

—Steven R. Harris, Texas A&M University, College Station TX.

**Titles Received:**

*THIS PARTICULAR EARTHLY SCENE, POEMS* by Margaret Lloyd. Alicejamesbooks, 1993.

*TRAVELING MERCIES, POEMS* by David Williams. Alicejamesbooks, 1993.

*A CERTAIN TERROR: HETEROSEXISM, MILITARISM, VIOLENCE & CHANGE* edited by Richard Cleaver. American Friends Service Committee, 1993.

*TO SEE THE DAWN, BAKU, 1920-FIRST CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLES OF THE EAST* edited by John Riddell. Pathfinder, 1993.

*NELSON MANDELA SPEAKS: FORGING A DEMOCRATIC NONRACIAL SOUTH AFRICA.* Pathfinder, 1993.

*NOTEBOOK OF AN AGITATOR* by James P. Cannon. Pathfinder, 1993 (1950).

*THE TRUTH ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA: WHY WORKING PEOPLE SHOULD OPPOSE INTERVENTION* edited by George Fyson. Pathfinder, 1993.

*WHO WILL SAVE THE FORESTS: KNOWLEDGE, POWER AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION* edited by Tariq Banuri. Zed Books, 1993.

*GAY AND LESBIAN CHARACTERS AND THEMES IN MYSTERY NOVELS: A CRITICAL GUIDE* by Anthony Slide. McFarland, 1993.

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