# Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table of the American Library Association 2011 Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, California Steering Committee I Meeting Minutes

Hilton San Diego Bayfront (HIL), Room Cobalt 500 January 8, 2011 8:00 - 10:00 am

#### I. Call to Order

Dale McNeill called the meeting to order at 8:00.

### II. Introductions

Dale introduced Sue Stroyan. We went around the table introducing ourselves.

# **III. Guest Address**

Sue Stroyan is running for ALA President and will address the Round Table. Sue read a statement to Steering Committee and then solicited feedback from the Round Table on how she can address concerns we have if elected ALA President.

# IV. Approval of Agenda

No printed agenda – read agenda to committee

Motion 1
Approve Adenda – David
Seconded – K.R.
Approved

# V. <u>Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings</u>

Steering Committee I, Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., 2010

Motion 2
Approve Minutes – David
Seconded – K.R.
Approved

# VI. Report of Officers and ALA Executive Board Liaison

#### a) GLBTRT Councilor

#### Peter Hepburn

I believe I have reported this before, but to reiterate, there were two resolutions coming from the Round Table. The first, on language in job ads regarding inclusion of language on domestic partnership benefits underwent some real debate at Council I. Many Councilors were torn between what they saw as a too-prescriptive resolution and a desire to support GLBT colleagues. In the end, an amendment to soften the language came forward. I do not have the precise text at hand, but in essence it diminished the requirement of such language to encouragement for its inclusion. I voted against that amendment, but recognizing the wisdom of Tom Wilding ("Half a loaf is better than none"), I voted in favour of the amended resolution. My reaction at the end of Council may be seen here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcqIj J5bRU&feature=share

The other resolution, regarding censorship at the National Portrait Gallery, involved more work before it came to Council. I took it to the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and that body endorsed it in principle with little debate and with suggested revisions. I accepted their suggestions, and then Larry Romans and I shared it with the Committee on Legislation. That committee did not endorse it in principle as it came to them, but they indicated a willingness to do so based on contingencies they wanted. The contingencies dramatically altered the resolution, including removing two key resolved clauses. I thanked them and declined, and the resolution came to Council without any further alteration. To my surprise and delight, the only Councilor who spoke up was the Intellectual Freedom Round Table Councilor, John Moorman. He rose in support of the resolution, and with that, debate ended, a vote was called, and it passed resoundingly.

I was not able to come to RT Steering I on the Saturday morning, but I learned that all of the other resolutions that had been shared with Steering before Midwinter were endorsed in principle save for one in support of Wikileaks. I used those decisions to inform my voting at Council, though I did not vote in favour of each resolution. Some explanation:

A resolution on a "Do Not Patronize" list was debated at all three Council sessions. At the first session, Council voted to postpone until the next day when ALA Legal Counsel could advise us in person. It became apparent at Council II that she was uncomfortable not with the spirit of the resolution but with the potential for it to be challenged. A substantive amendment quickly came forward, and debate was postponed again. By the start of Council III, the amendment had been refined with guidance from Legal Counsel. I viewed the amended resolution as meeting the Round Table's endorsement in principle as well as being legally safer for the Association, and so I voted in favour of it. The amendment failed, however, and when the original resolution came up for a vote soon after, I voted against it based on how Legal Counsel had addressed the issue. The resolution failed.

There were two Wikileaks resolutions arising from the Social Responsibilities Round Table. Before either could come to the floor, however, a broader resolution on access to information

came forward from the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Committee on Legislation (<a href="http://connect.ala.org/node/127452">http://connect.ala.org/node/127452</a>). It was well-written and

considered, in my opinion, and I voted in favour of it. It passed. The ripple effect, however, is that when each of the Wikileaks resolutions came forward, Larry Romans moved to table (a permanent state) the resolution because Council had already voted on something that addressed the matter. In each case, Council voted above the 75% threshold to table the motion, and, agreeing, I was one of those who voted that way.

One other action item of particular interest to the Round Table is that the Committee on Organization (COO) (on which I sit, as does RT member John De Santis), voted to approve a name change for the Round Table so that it would become the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table. COO chair Jim Rettig brought that action item to Council in his report, and Council passed it without any debate or (so far as I could see) dissent. Changes to the bylaws to mirror the name change will come to the membership on the spring ballot.

There were other action items in various reports that came to Council beyond these that I've listed. Council actions should be linked from the page at

http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/council/council\_actions/index.cfm

soon. All the votes are a matter of record. You may see how I voted on any matter through the link that should soon be posted to this page:

http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/council/attendance voting/vote tally2004 2010/in dex.cfm

In closing, I again thank all of you for what you do to make Midwinter and the work of the Round Table a success, even if you were not there in San Diego or if I did not get an opportunity to talk with you. I invite any and all of you to use the list to debate the actions by Council, and I similarly invite you to contact me directly with questions or conversation about them.

#### b) Co-Chairs

#### Anne Moore & Dale McNeill

Highlights – Conference calls with Miguel and GLSEN (Laura Gottfried). GLSEN will promote Stonewall winners, Rainbow Project, and Over the Project on their website. Conference call with Lambda Literary Foundation – sharing book reviews, large database of book reviews, collaborating on similar projects. David discussed collaboration with database.

#### Co-Chair Report

For the past two months, we have been working with the help of Miguel Figueroa to establish collaboration with two lgbt organizations, GLSEN and Lambda Literary Foundation. On November 19, Miguel and Anne had a conversation with Laura Gottfried, Senior Director for Programs at GLSEN. Several projects are in the works between the GLBT RT and GLSEN. One of the most visible and immediate is posting and linking to Stonewall Children's / Young Adult Book Awards, the Rainbow Project and C-YA reviews from the newsletter on the GLSEN Booklinks page. In addition, the newsletter will include articles in upcoming editions on

GLSEN's projects and work. Future projects and collaborations potentially include Safe Space training as RT programs at ALA and other library conferences, promotion within the RT of GLSEN's 'Days of Action', and posting of the GLSEN toolkit on the RT website.

Don Weise and Tony Valenzuela from Lambda Literary Foundation spoke via a conference call with Miguel and Anne regarding potential collaborations with the RT and LLF. Some of the action items discussed included creation of a 'LGBT canon', creation of comprehensive lists of all LGBT books published in any given year (with links to reviews), promotion of each other's websites, and having the RT utilize the LLF 'Our Authors/Our Advocates' initiative. At this point, this is simply an action list, lacking specific details and time lines. It is quite exciting to have these collaborations in the works.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of John Amundsen, Communication Specialist in the ALA OLOS office, for writing a number of press releases for the RT. Many of these will appear in upcoming issues of Cognotes.

During the Midwinter conference, COO (Committee on Organization) will review a motion to change the name of the RT to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Round Table. If approved by COO, the proposal will go to Council. The name change is simply changing 'Transgendered' to 'Transgender'.

The day of the midwinter social has been changed to Saturday from Sunday. This was due to a communication glitch and the availability of what we believe is a great location for the Saturday evening. We appreciate everyone being willing to make this change. A location for the social in New Orleans has been identified and we are moving ahead with booking this venue, which is in the French Quarter.

A special thanks to everyone in the Round Table who has worked so hard this year to make our programs, projects and initiatives so successful. We would also like to thank the ALA staff; Elliot Mandel, John Amundsen and Miguel Figueroa.

#### c) Treasurer Report

Ellen Bosman

Dale – Round Table okay financially, spent a lot of money in D.C. Endowment at \$97,000 – goal is \$150,000.

<u>Treasurer's Report, Midwinter Conference, 2011, San Diego, CA Report Prepared, January 7, 2011</u>

Fiscal Year Close Summary

At the end of Fiscal Year our revenue for the twelve months ending August 31, 2010 was \$17,098.41, with \$10,239.38 coming from dues. Our closing balance was \$24,953.60, which will be our beginning balance for fiscal year 2011. This is \$5,595.06 below our previous year starting balance.

The lower starting balance is largely a result of losing money on the brunch and social. Originally budgeted at \$8,500, we actually spent \$14,945, or \$6,445 more than budgeted. While we did receive revenue at annual from donations, t-shirt sales, program ads, and tickets sold at the door, the resulting total of \$1,260 did not offset expenditures. We also over-

expended the awards line by \$1,000 due to the addition of the honorarium for the YA book award winner.

Dues were budgeted at \$12, 300 but we only collected \$10,239.38 for a difference of \$2,060.62. Last year's dues were \$10,307.22, so our membership income remained steady.

The endowment lost a small amount of money. At Annual, the value based on April 2010 report was \$90,382.67. For the twelve months ending August 31, 2010 the balance was \$87,312.23.

#### Recommendation

The RT needs to look at either raising more money or cutting expenses. There is little room for reallocating the existing budget to offset potential future loses of the magnitude suffered with the brunch. At best, reallocating or lowering existing lines would offset approximately \$3.000.

#### **Current Report**

Based on the November 2010 statements from ALA, which are the most recent available:

Dues: We've currently collected \$2,591.66 of the \$12,300 for which we've budgeted. This is slightly ahead of where we were at last year. Our current operational budget balance is \$27,146.4 whereas last year at this time our balance was \$32,640.93

The endowment has increased nicely since the fiscal year close. The current balance is \$97,732.53, which included a \$5,000 donation from Target as part of its partnership with ALA. We really need to get the balance to \$150,000 to continue support for three book awards.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully Submitted, Ellen Bosman

d) Secretary Report

Jason D. Phillips

e) ALA Liaison will speak at SC II

# VII. Reports of Committee Chairs

#### f) External Relations Committee Report

Vacant Chair

Anne announced this position is vacant

# g) Fund Raising Committee Report

Vacant Chair

Dale and Anne have been unsuccessful in finding a chair. As simple as soliciting donations from members. ALA office can now assist with this process.

h) Membership Promotion Committee Report

**Larry Romans** 

Larry has been contacting people who have dropped, added, or renewed membership – most replies when members drop is because the cost of ALA dues. Need to recruit people to serve on the committee. Two candidates – David for Co-Chair and Dale for Treasurer.

#### i) Newsletter Committee Report

Sarah E. Wright

Feel free to contact Sarah if you want to contribute something to the Newsletter. Anne brought up linking book reviews to Amazon, work with Lambda. Collaboration with GLSEN and Lambda to publish articles in newsletter.

#### 2011 Midwinter Report of the Newsletter Committee

Two issues have been produced since 2010 Annual. The look and content of the Newsletter remains the same, focusing on roundtable and ALA news and reviews. There was a failed attempt in the fall to do a themed issue in response to the newsletter survey.

David Vess continues to support the newsletter committee by converting publisher files to PDF and posting them on the website.

Following annual I reached out to members who have filled out volunteer surveys indicating their desire to join this committee. Two individuals have joined/been appointed to the committee, Nel Ward and Derek Daniels.

We continue to print submissions of articles by members and friends, as well as interested library science students. Article submissions from GLBTRT committee chairs and officers, to keep the membership informed and engaged, are always welcome.

We printed 100 copies of the winter 2010 issue and will make them available at the kiosk and at the Social.

Sarah E. Wright

Editor, Newsletter Committee of the GLBT Round Table of the American Library Association

#### Reviews Sub-committee Report

The Newsletter Committee currently has an average of 25 active reviewers. In 2010, we reviewed 65 books and films, in total. Following is a breakdown by genre.

#### **ADULT**

Monographs

Fiction: 19Nonfiction: 16

Audiobooks

o Fiction: 3

• Film

Drama/Comedy: 12Documentary: 8

#### YOUNG ADULT

- Monographs
- Fiction: 6
- Film
  - Documentary: 1

After the Winter issue of the newsletter is published, I will post a list of all titles reviewed this year in the Reviews (and the News blogs if you think that's necessary).

David Vess has done a wonderful job filling you in about our transition to WordPress, so I won't repeat that here. He was modest in his report, however. He did all of the initial work. We've been working closely since the transition, and I've picked up WordPress pretty quickly, but David and his committee were alone in the early days. I'm now posting all of the reviews to the blog, and I love the changes that David has implemented.

As you can see from the above list, we've begun reviewing audiobooks, and our film reviews have exploded. We didn't review any graphic novels this year or children's books. I've been in contact with numerous authors and publishers, and hope to do better with these two genres next year. Small, independent presses can always be counted on to send books and films, but it's still a challenge to keep the Round Table on mailing lists with mainstream, corporate publishers. University Presses are not much better. I'm open to any helpful hints or advice in this area.

#### Two goals for next year

- 1. Music reviews
- 2. Getting our reviews published on Amazon.com

This is all that I can think of to tell you at the moment. Thus, my first report as Reviews Editor comes to an end.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Nectoux

Reviews Editor, Newsletter Committee of the GLBT Round Table of the American Library Association

#### j) Program Planning Committee Report

K. R. Roberto

Discussed programs planned for ALA Annual, guest speakers expected. Dale suggested it's not too early to suggest programs for future Annuals. Elliot said preliminary deadline for Anaheim is January 21.

#### **GLBTRT Program Planning Committee Report**

ALA Midwinter 2011

The Program Planning Committee has organized two programs for Annual 2011 in New Orleans:

- 1. Vampirism Just Got a Little More Colorful: Queer Vampires will be held on Sunday, June 26, from 1:30-3:30. Confirmed speakers are Jewelle Gomez and Dean James.
- 2. Out of the Closet and Into the Library: LGBTQ Programming will be held on Monday, June 27, from 1:30-3:30. Confirmed speakers are Bleue Benton from Oak Park (IL) Public Library, Lise Dyckman from California Institute of Integral Studies, Jim Patterson from Northwestern Connecticut Community College, and Jennifer Teitelbaum from Lemon Grove (CA) Public Library.

We are excited about these programs, and plan to start discussing future program topics before Annual.

Respectfully submitted, K.R. Roberto Chair, Program Planning Committee

#### k) Rainbow Project Committee Report

Lynn Evarts

Losing four members – looking for more people to get involved.

The Rainbow Project Committee report—San Diego Midwinter 2011

Our projects since Annual Conference, Washington DC 2010 were as follows:

- We will be examining 63 books at Midwinter. We are proud to say that several of the
  titles are from smaller presses. We had a relatively good response from publishers,
  particularly after books were nominated. The small presses were the most enthusiastic
  about participating in our list. The final decision will be made and published at
  Midwinter, 2011.
- Of the nominated titles, 33 books have enough votes going in to Midwinter to make the list. This includes a non-fiction series of 16 titles.
- Our list will include books published 18 months prior to the January 2011 date of the
  final list. It is intended to help teachers, librarians and young people select quality
  books. It can be used as a collection development tool, a reader's advisory tool and a
  recommended reading list. As a practicing high school librarian, I know, personally,
  how incredibly important a list of this sort is for both the teens and the librarians to have
  as a support.
- The list of nominated titles can be found at <a href="http://rainbowlist.wordpress.com/">http://rainbowlist.wordpress.com/</a>
- The 2011 Rainbow Project committee includes John Andrews, Washoe County Library System (Reno, NV); Michael Cart; Lynn Evarts, Sauk Prairie High School (Prairie du

Sac, WI); Christie Gibrich, Grand Prairie Public Library System (Grand Prairie, TX); Nanci Milone Hill, Nevins Memorial Library (Methuen, MA); Michael Santangelo, Brooklyn Public Library (Brooklyn, NY); Victor Schill, Harris County Public Library (Houston, TX); Laurie Spurling, Denver Public Library (Denver, CO); and Zeke White, Baltimore County Public Library (Baltimore, MD).

No agenda items.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Evarts

Rainbow Project, Acting Chair

#### I) Stonewall Book Awards Committee Report

**Lisa Johnston** 

Deliberations today because social is tonight. CYA award will be announced Monday morning – ceremony begins at 7:45. CYA winner is embargoed until Monday morning.

Jason asked about the name of the CYA award – Dale said it is paused at the moment.

Stonewall Book Awards Committee Report. Midwinter, San Diego 2011

The 2010-2011 Stonewall Book Awards committee had a total of 197 books in contention for the 2011 awards.

The Barbara Gittings Award for Literature and the Israel Fishman Award for Non-fiction winners and honor books will be announced at the Midwinter Social on Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup> immediately following our meeting on that very Saturday afternoon.

The Stonewall Book Award for Children's or Young Adult Literature will be announced on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at the ALA Youth Media Award Ceremony which begins at 7:45 a.m. in the ALA PIO.

http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/mediapresscenter/presskits/youthmediaawards/alayouthmediaawards.cfm

Many thanks to John Amudsden, Communications Specialist for OLOS and Miguel Figueroa, Director of the ALA Office of Diversity and Acting Director of OLOS for their help in getting so much press for the C/YA Award and for helping to make it's announcement a part of the ALA YMAs. The publicity has been incredible.

I would like to thank Incoming Chair, Lewis Day, and all of the committee members for their stalwart work this year.

m) Stonewall Book Awards Celebration Committee Report Andy Johnson

Anne reported for Andy – Andy is coordinating the celebration in New Orleans. We need to move quickly on who to get as a speaker. Suggested quotes from past award winners, will invite them to attend. Solicited ideas for speakers. Andy-afj@nwlink.com

#### n) Website Committee Report

David S. Vess

Requested chairs send updates so David can update the web page. Asked book lists, bibliographies, and book awards include ISBNs to use with Library Thing. Soft roll-out of blogs and migrated into an ALA-hosted platform. Three blogs – GLBT news blog, reviews blog, and Over the Rainbow. David discussed the number of visits to the blogs, visitors, average time spent during visit. Discussed facebook presence – Nov 15 – Dec 20 over 15,000 views of posts from facebook page. WorldCat permalinks project – linking to books from book lists, bibliographies, and book awards.

#### Contacts Page Updates Requested

Check your contact information on the GLBTRT Contacts page. Ask your committee members to verify their information. Is the email listed on this your preferred email for ALA business? Send in changes to <a href="mailto:glbtrt@gmail.com">glbtrt@gmail.com</a>. In the coming months, the Committee and Contacts pages will somehow be merged. More will be forth coming about this.

#### **Blogs**

During September 2010, the original GLBTRT blog was migrated to ALA's upgraded, in-house WordPress platform. The content of the original GLBTRT blog was parsed into two blogs: the GLBT Reviews blog and the GLBTRT News blog. The original GLBTRT blog's contents warranted the creation of two. Since we hope to promote our reviews beyond our membership (thus the name GLBT Reviews and not GLBTRT Reviews), it was best to extract information that was oriented for GLBTRT / ALA members. The extracted items logically warranted / fit into a GLBTRT News blog. The Over the Rainbow Project (OTR) blog was also migrated into the ALA hosted system just after Annual 2010 from their wordpress.com blog.

On the GLBT Reviews blog, the posts (about 130at the time) all contained character encoding problems that resulted in question mark glyphs in place of all quote, apostrophe and question marks. Over Summer 2010, all posts on the reviews blogs where edited to repair these charactering encoding problems. Since traffic on GLBT Reviews is increasing, all previous posts will be reprocessed: add consistently sized cover art; clean up other minor formatting issues; add carefully selected WorldCat record link. More about WorldCat links is shared in the WorldCat link section below. A worthwhile future project for website committee and reviewers to undertake is the addition of all reviews ever written in the Newsletter to be added to GLBT Reviews. The completion of the Newsletter archive project, noted below will facilitate this possible project.

The hard work on the blogs as paid off in terms of hits (views). Google Analytics (GA) was tested on GLBT Reviews beginning in September. It will be implemented on the News and the Over the Rainbow List. The following numbers are small but we are in the early days of our web presence nodes rising up in search engine results lists. Note that the following numbers do include the reviews editor and the web committee working on the site. GA's feature to block certain IP address is not working and it will not be fixed soon. We are investigating a

tool to use GA that will add IP address blocking. At worse case, the reviews editor and web committee members account for about 100 hits.

Brief Statistics for GLBT Reviews (September to mid-December 2010):

- The blog had 810 visits with a total of 1,812 page views
- There's a total of about 535 unique visitors coming to the blog
- Every month, about half of the visitors are new
- Average time spent on the site per visit is 3 minutes and 22 seconds
- Search Engines account for leading 424 or (51.90%) of our visitors to us
- Referring Sites account for leading 215 or (26.32%) of our visitors to us
- Direct Traffic (bookmarks) account for 178 or (21.79%) of our visitors to us
- 817 visits came from 43 countries/territories

The following is a snap shot of the top 10 countries sorted by Average time spent on the site.

Country/Territory	Visits	Pages /Visit	Avg. Time on Site	% New Visits
Taiwan	1	9	0:12:53	100.00%
South Africa	12	2.67	0:07:51	66.67%
United States	657	2.41	0:03:54	64.23%
Mexico	2	1.5	0:02:21	100.00%
Austria	2	3	0:02:10	100.00%
Turkey	1	2	0:02:09	100.00%
Canada	27	1.67	0:01:41	85.19%
Togo	1	2	0:01:18	100.00%
Croatia	2	2	0:01:14	100.00%

The hard work on the blogs, and lacing the web presence together has also paid off in terms of search engine results. Searches for Over the Rainbow books (trade out 'books' with: list, book list, etc), all fair well in being on the first page of results. Searches for GLBT Reviews, LGBT Reviews, etc. also fair well. Searching for LGBT Reviews, results in our blog coming in second right after Gay & Lesbian Review. Note these searches are done without quotes.

In the coming months every effort will be made to get our award lists, reviews, and book lists to be in the first page of results on searches for book titles and/or authors. Google searches for book titles and authors have already lead people to GLBT Reviews; without much search engine optimization (SEO). As noted above, search engines account for leading 424 or (51.90%) of our visitors to the reviews blog. Note also that the traffic from search engines almost always means the person is a new visitor. The following is the top twenty searches (of 189) performed in search engines, which lead people to GLBT Reviews. Starting with the 21<sup>st</sup> search, all the gueries lead to one visit.

Keyword	Visits	Pages/Visit	Avg. Time on Site	% New Visits	Visits
lgbt	48	1.041667	20.29167	0	48
glbt round table newsletter queer	8	11.5	2078.875	0	8

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To meet the goal of our award lists, reviews, and book lists to be in the first page of results on searches for book titles and/or authors, a collection of terms is already being complied in the website committee's ALA Connect space <a href="http://connect.ala.org/node/92293">http://connect.ala.org/node/92293</a>. Over the coming months, more terms will be gathered from the GLBTRT community that will be used to apply search engine optimization techniques to all the main nodes of the round table website (each link in the left navigation bar is a node on the site) as well as the GLBTRT blogs. There's a number of SEO pluging for WordPress that will be investigated.

David of the Website Committee will be attending SEO training in an online course offered by ALA on January 20 and 27. Techniques learned will be immediately applied to the GLBTRT web presence.

It is recommended that any new GLBTRT blogs should be developed in the ALA hosted WordPress this platform because:

- ALA staff will always have access to these sites/accounts so the round table will never lose:
- access in cases where one person happens to be the only admin, and they drop out of contact:
- ALA is paying for this service, they host it on their servers;
- There is support available from ALA staff;
- Having round table blogs in the ala.org domain has assured that search engines send our blogs, and their individual entries, up in search results. Additionally, having this web presence (website, blogs, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) all interlinking only adds to our "lightness factor" in search engine results. Ultimately, this will lead to a powerful platform to share resources we develop as they will be discovered by people;
- URLs will professional, they will be uniform (this also helps our lightness factor);
  - o glbtrt.ala.org/reviews
  - glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow
  - o glbtrt.ala.org/news

#### WorldCat Permalinks Project

Currently, all titles in the Stonewall Book Award List and Over the Rainbow Book List are linked to WorldCat records. All reviews published since Summer 2010 on GLBT Reviews are linked to WorldCat records. As noted above in the Blogs section, all GLBT Reviews posts prior to Summer 2010, will be processed in the following manner: add consistently sized cover art; clean up other minor formatting issues; add carefully selected WorldCat record link. Since this processing needed to happen anyway, it is easy to add a link to WorldCat. Links to all Rainbow Project titles will also be gathered and shared with the Rainbow Project blog manager.

These links allow the user to see a particular title in libraries (who participate in WorldCat) near them, as well as provide links to purchase the books from several vendors. In cases where WorldCat has multiple records, (ebooks and other reasons) the record linked to is carefully chosen. While this is not a perfect solution, it does get people closer to finding a book they might be interested in.

#### Social Networking

#### *Integration*

Our social networking presence is continuing to flourish. As we have added accounts to different social networking sites the need to streamline account maintenance by a single person became critical. Hootsuite allows us to instantly share or schedule updates to our Facebook Page, Twitter and MySpace accounts at one time, in one place. Additionally, Hootsuite has been configured to monitor the RSS feeds of all the

GLBTRT blogs and the ALA PR office's GLBTRT feed. Any time a post is made to the blogs or a story about the GLBTRT is in American Libraries, a notification will be posted automatically to our Facebook Page, Twitter and MySpace. Hootsuite also allows for multiple accounts and project/task assignments. In November HootSuite went from a free to pay model. All the services that the website committee relied on for free for about a year now cost \$5.99 per month. The free account will not allow the number of feeds the application monitors and number of networking sites it can post to. David is paying for the costs of Hootsuite.

#### GLBTRT Feeds on Website

Long term, the goal is to combine all RSS feeds of all our blogs and social networking pages have updates (no duplicates) appear dynamically in one feed on the GLBTRT's home page as seen on the LITA website. Rough tests of such a feature are being tested now on the main GLBTRT page as well as the GLBTRT News page.

#### <u>LibraryThing (LT)</u>

Maintaining a presence in LT does require some hands-on work of web committee members but the results are worth the time.

- Generally promotes LGBTQ titles in LT
- promotes the GLBTRT's Stonewall Book Award books, List books and Reviewed books through using consistent tags to identify books by award, list and review tags in LT
- Using LT means that we can do nice things with the covers of books
  - Side bar widget on Over the Rainbow Book List blog: glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/
  - Embed of covers on the Over the Rainbow Book List home page: <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/popularresources/overtherainbow.cfm">http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/popularresources/overtherainbow.cfm</a>
- We can also explore interesting things with the RSS feeds that can be customized based on tags of titles.

Another reason for the round table to explore using LT is to explore the maintaining a complete LGBTQ title collection within LT. LT can allow for a collection of more than 10K, with special consideration on their part. They are very willing to work with us on anything. Potential for this will be explore before Annual 2011.

Currently all the titles of Stonewall Book Award winners and Over the Rainbow Project are in our LibraryThing collection. (Once the final Over the Rainbow list is released, the titles will stay in the collection but they will not be tagged Over the Rainbow Book List.) Adding new titles is now very easy. Import happens automatically when a text file containing delimited ISBNs or ISSNs is uploaded to LibraryThing's import page. In the future, if all the GLBTRT lists contain an ISBN, titles can be added to the LibraryThing collection very easily.

Timeliness is important to maintaining a presence in LibraryThing. We will have a maintenance cycle on the website committee calendar to add titles to LibraryThing after the release of:

- Stonewall Award winner and honor books
- books added to Rainbow Project and Over the Rainbow lists
- book reviews

Profile: http://www.librarything.com/profile/GLBTRT

For more information see the GLBTRT Website Committee's workspace devoted to LibraryThing: http://connect.ala.org/node/100505

#### Facebook Migration & Consolidation

At the end of December 2011 the GLBTRT Facebook Group was deleted. Messages about this were sent out to the Group community with no response on 14 May and 14 December 2011. Pictures from the group have been saved and will be added to the FB Page.

The message sent was at follows:

Subject: Midwinter Meeting Events & Deletion of FB Group Midwinter Meeting Schedule:

Find the GLBTRT's Midwinter Meeting schedule and meeting documents on the GLBTRT's Events & Meetings page.

http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/events/index.cfm
The schedule has meeting venue names and room numbers as well as Google Maps links to locations. Our Midwinter Meeting events are also on our Facebook Page's events calendar: www.facebook.com/GLBTRT

Deletion of our FB Group:

Please join our Facebook Page at facebook.com/GLBTRT. Our Group page (through which you are getting this message) will be shut down in about a week in favor of our FB Page.

Advantages of a "page" over a "group":

- \* Having that nifty custom url of facebook.com/GLBTRT is a great reason (can't have that with a group);
- \* We need one presence on FB so members of both the Page and Group don't get hit with the same messages and event notifications;
- \* Maintaining one page and adding events will be simpler. For instance, our Midwinter events are being loaded dynamically from a master calendar that I'm keeping. This is not possible for in a Group;
- \* We can use our Page to link to others pages as "favorites" (such as ours and the SLA's LGBT Group Page and many other great glbtq organizations we've connected with already on our Page);

- \*We can spread our "Like" button all over our web presence, further promoting our organization and lgbtq literature;
- \* We can add applications to your page such as RSS feed tools. (this is a huge bonus for me since I use Hootsuite to automatically update our FB Page, Twitter account, etc. We can also generate a wall story automatically on our FB Page anytime one of our three blogs is updated. Not possible in a Group.)
- \* We can gather (anonymous) demographic information about the users who visit your page, even seeing the number of views of individual wall posts are viewed;
- \* We could advertise our Facebook Page if we wanted;
- \* We will still have the same functionality to create discussion threads, upload photos, and create events;
- \* When you do create events you can specify which regions you want it advertised to (For example, if you have an event in NYC you can send out an update to only users that are in that region);
- \* You have much more freedom to provide information about your organization with customization features not offered on a Group page. Explore company FB Pages for all the ideas how our Page can be customized;
- \* If you want to upload videos you can simply add the YouTube application instead of having to upload them to Facebook itself (this way you can link to videos on YouTube that you don't have rights to);

There are tons of reasons why we need to do this. The above are just a few. I'll make sure to save all our images and migrate them to our flickr account or save them on our Page.

Best.

David S. Vess, GLBTRT Website Committee

#### Meeting Documents (current and past)

The Website Committee is still looking for past meeting agendas and minutes to post on the website. These minutes and agendas are well-structured documents processed with rich metadata and structure to make them accessible as well as easy to read. These templates (based off of models from formats in Alice Sturgis' The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, 4th Edition, as well as Robert's Rules of Order ) are located on the Events & Meetings page.

If you have agendas and minutes we are missing on the above page, please email us at glbtrt@gmail.com.

Current and Past Minutes/Agendas: http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/events/index.cfm

Minutes/Agenda Processing Workflow: http://connect.ala.org/node/106540

#### Newsletters Project

For the complete explanation of the Newsletter project see the GLBTRT Website Committee's space on ALA Connect halfway down the page under the heading Newsletter Indexing / Digitizing. <a href="http://connect.ala.org/node/83676">http://connect.ala.org/node/83676</a>>

During September 2010, photocopies of another batch of the GLTF; GLBTF and GLBTRT Newsletters were made. They were then scanned and processed in to pdf files. The scanning and processing workflows are complex, but well documented. The scanning and processing work flows will soon be published in a doc to the website committee's Connect space. To date, eleven more newsletters have been added to the newsletter archive.

Over the Spring/Summer 2010 a thorough search of WorldCat was performed for iterations of our newsletter. All libraries holding our newsletter were contacted to:

- verify holdings (holdings information was not always listed (or accurate)in libraries' catalogs);
- request they change their "e-holdings" records (shared by many libraries), to point to our current newsletter page, not the defunct but still live newsletter page on the previous committee chair's server space

The result of this 'census' of holdings in U.S. libraries is the spreadsheet created in the glbtrt@gmail.com account. It is publically available here:

https://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=0AoVy9qIMXhvRdDBtV0tlTEllcjd2U3VoM2lPYmdF S2c&hl=en&output=html

In the coming month, batches of Newsletters are coming from the University of Minnesota. Website Committee member, Amy Hribar, who works at UM, has facilitated this request for copies of the following newsletters from her Library.

- v.1:no.1-2 (1988:spring-fall);
- v.1:no.3 (1988:fall);
- v.2:no.3-4 (1990:spring-summer);
- v.3:no.1/2(1?) 1990:fall/1991:winter;
- v.3:no.3 1991:fall;
- v.3:no.3/4(2?) 1991:spring/summer;
- v.3:no.4 1991:winter;
- v.3:no.3-4 (1991:fall-winter);
- v.4:no.1-4 (1992:spring-winter)
- v.5:no.1-2 (1993:spring-summer)
- v.9:no.1-2 (1997:spring-summer),
- v.9:no.4 (1997:winter),
- v.10:no.4 (1998),
- v.11:no.2-4 (1999:summer-winter),
- v.12 (2000)
- v.13:no.1(2001)-v.18:no.3(2006) (missing vol.18 no.4)
- v.19:no.2(2007)-v.19:no.4(2007) (missing vol.19 no.1)

If these Newsletters arrive in late December or January, they will be scanned, processed and posted in the Newsletter Archive by March or April 2011.

Upon receiving all these newsletters, scans will immediately be made and shared with committee member, Sara, who will proceed with her GLBTRT Newsletter indexing project. As noted above, both scanning and processing work flows will soon be published in a doc to the website committee's Connect space.

After this phase of the project is completed, posts about the remaining, missing issues will be consistently made on the Newsletter site, in the Newsletter, Facebook, etc. about the missing issues we will still need.

Work flows being documented:

- scanner settings
- image to pdf settings
- processing in Adobe Acrobat Professional
  - o (structure, metadata, OCR processing, file size processing)

#### **Committee Roster**

Amy Hribar, 2009-2011 Kenneth M. Kozel, 2010-2012 Sara Marcus, 2009-2011 David S. Vess, 2009-2011

Respectfully Submitted, David S. Vess, Chair, GLBTRT Website Committee

#### o) Over the Rainbow Ad-Hoc Committee

**Arla Jones** 

Passed out nomination list for 2011

Over the Rainbow Project Ad hoc Committee Report

Steering Committee Meeting 1 – San Diego, CA – January, 2011 Our projects since the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. were as follows—

- Transferring our "homemade" Wordpress blog to the ALA server. Most of the work was done by David Vess. <a href="http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/">http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/</a>
- Creating a Facebook page which was linked with our blog and seemingly the entire universe because our number of hits are increasing daily. Thanks again to David Vess for his mad Web 2.0 skills.
- Finding ourselves in the final process of evaluating 138 books chosen from over 300 titles that were initially examined. The final decision for the bibliography entries will be made at the committee's meetings during ALA Midwinter 2011.

- The committee began its search, reading, analysis, and deliberations in mid-April when the GLBTRT Steering Committee approved the committee. Our first list will include books published during the 18 months prior to January 2011. It is intended to help librarians and readers in selecting quality books and may be used as a collection development, reader's advisory tool, and recommended reading list for interested librarians and patrons.
- As of the end of December, over 90 books have a sufficient number of positive votes to be included in the final annotated bibliography. The committee anticipates a larger number of books for the first year than next year because the eligibility date range covers 18 months, because this is our inaugural year.
- The committee is pleased with the enthusiasm shown for this endeavor by publishers, media outlets, and individuals. Approximately 75% of our nominated books are self-published or from small publishers, which makes them less accessible to potential readers than books from mainstream publishers. All of these entities have expressed the perception that this committee fills a vital need for the LGBTQ community.
- The list of all nominated books is available at <a href="http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/">http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/</a>
- The 2011 Over the Rainbow ad hoc committee is comprised of 8 members: Arla Jones (Chair), Lawrence, Kan.; Jane Cothron, Newport, OR.; Cecil Hixon, New York, NY.; Brent Husher, Kansas City, MO.; Jesse Nachem, Oakland, CA; Danielle Pollock, Albuquerque, NM; Larry Romans, Nashville, TN; and Nel Ward, Newport, OR.
- · No agenda items.

Respectfully submitted, Arla A. Jones, Chair

# VIII. Business Items

#### p) Old Business from Annual

No Old Business

# q) OLOS Update

#### John Amundsen

Working with Stonewall Book Award to promote the CYA award as well as the other awards. Working with the booklists. Promoting both through Cognotes other news sources. Press release on name change of Round Table, social. Dale and Anne thanked him for the work he has done on our behalf.

#### r) Resolutions

Jennifer Dorning (Co-Chair of AFL-CIO/ALA Joint Committee on Library Service to Labor Groups) – spoke about resolution concerning labor disputes with hotels. Discussed particulars of "do not patronize" situations, how these resolutions would impact ALA. John said Diversity Council voted to support these resolutions. Larry spoke of his support for Resolution #32 (Do

Not Patronize List) and opposition to Resolution #34 (Cancel Contracts with Active Labor Disputes)

# Resolution #32 (Do Not Patronize List) and Resolution #34 (Cancel Contracts with Active Labor Disputes)

#### Motion 3

Vote "yes" or "no" on Council Documents #32 and #34 (separately) to endorse these resolutions in principle – Jason

Seconded - Lisa

Resolution #32: Passed by Acclamation

Resolution #34: Passed with 1 vote in opposition

#### Domestic Partner benefits Council Document #35

#### Motion 4

Vote "yes" or "no" on #35 to endorse this resolution in principle – Larry Seconded – K.R.

**Resolution #35: Passed by Acclamation** 

#### Smithsonian Council Document #36

#### Motion 5

Vote "yes" or "no" on #36 to endorse this resolution in principle – Larry Seconded – K.R.

Resolution #36: Passed by Acclamation

#### Wikileaks Council Document #37

#### Motion 6

Vote "yes" or "no" on #37 to endorse this resolution in principle – Larry Seconded – Jason

Resolution #37: Passed by Acclamation

#### Wikileaks Council Document #38

#### Motion 7

Vote "yes" or "no" on #38 to endorse this resolution in principle – K.R.

Seconded - Lisa

Resolution #38: Rejected

#### Dream Act Council Document #39

#### **Motion 8**

Vote "yes" or "not" on #39 to endorse this resolution in principle – Jason

Seconded - K.R.

Resolution #39: Passed by Acclamation

s) Liaisons

No time for discussion

t) External Collaboration – GLSEN, Lambda Literary, etc.

No time for discussion

u) Committee Structure and Process

No time for discussion

# IX. Announcements

# X. Adjournment

**Motion 9** 

**Extend Meeting by 15 minutes: Larry** 

Seconded: David Motion Failed

Motion 10 Adjourn: K.R. Seconded: David

**Motion Passed by Acclamation** 

Minutes submitted by: Jason D. Phillips, GLBTRT Secretary, 31 May, 2011

Minutes approved by GLBTRT Steering Committee: 2011 Annual Conference, 25 June, 2011, SC I Meeting.