Eric Moon (ALA, Pres.-elect) lays some criticism on NCLIS in the 2/21/77 issue of LJ's Hotline. Moon questions the value of a national advisory group with only 3 of 14 members being professional librarians. ".... librarians ought to be the major shapers of legislative recommendations, as ALA has been hitherto, not a token minority representation."

He also raises a very basic question, "How much influence can a commission, all of whose members were appointed by Richard Nixon or Gerald Ford, be expected to exert on the new Administration and a solidly Democratic Congress?"

With a sizable number of people from every area of librarianship questioning NCLIS's ability to represent their views and with a President-elect questioning NCLIS's value, now is a very good time to re-evaluate the entire idea of a national commission.

In what direction are library and info services headed? Whose needs are being met? Whose are being neglected? Is there any objective way to approach these questions?

We don't have the answers. But if ALA as a whole does not attempt to find them, we will all have been guilty of creating and institutionalizing another unwieldy monster.

It would be shameful if NCLIS became the leader insetting national library/information policy without a thorough evaluation by the library/information profession.

SRRT will have a booth, consisting of four tables, in the professional exhibit area. If you have any materials you would like to display and/or if you will be attending the conference and can help to staff the booth, please contact either Mary Biblo, Univ. of Chicago Laboratory Schools, 1362 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637, or Avery Williams, Roosevelt Univ. Library, 430 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605.
### SRRT Newsletter

**Conventional Rhetoric**

As compiled by Suzanne LeBarron and Jim Dwyer

...design neglect...seduced...ominous atmosphere...nagging question...veritable treasure hunt...story of national need...may shock some of...strangeful financial diet...it's fuzzy...whether it or not depends on your point of view...horns of a dilemma...I'm out of order, but there's more than one way to break a rule...

**Fifty Ways to Kill a Motion**

A report on ALA Council Sessions at the 1976 Midwinter Conference (with apologies to Paul Simon)

Take on a COPE$ Bill
Make it to be Council
It's part of your job, Bob
Give it to IFC
Try to amend it
Don't dare to defend it
Don't dare to present it
It will be held Sunday, June 19, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and will include several speakers on the subject as soon as possible. (See newsletter.)

**Conference**

Access to Information, SRRT will be presenting a program entitled "The Prostitution of Information: Fees for Service." It will be held Sunday, June 19, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and will include several speakers on the subject as soon as possible. (See newsletter.)

**Library of the Night**

As a consequence of Council's shameful failure to endorse the Resolution on Free Access to Information, SRRT will be presenting a program entitled "The Prostitution of Information: Fees for Service" at the Detroit Conference.

It will be held Sunday, June 19, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and will include several speakers exploring various aspects of the Resolution. A report on public record against the charging of fees to individuals...

First came a motion to table which was defeated 76 to 55. An amendment to refer the resolution to the Intellectual Freedom Committee was then referred to an ad-hoc Committee of Council. Gerald Shields motion asking for ten minutes of the whole Council's time for discussion was defeated in another retreat into the parliamentary maze. The previous amendment to refer to committee was then defeated and Dorothy Brandt called for a roll-call vote on the main motion, which resulted in a 96-36 (one abstention) defeat of free access to information.

Document #12, a study of the issue (the Presidential Committee report) was carried. Clara Jones will make a progress report to Council this summer at Detroit and all SRRT members are urged to let her know their views on the subject as soon as possible. (See article on SRRT's Conference Program, "The Prostitution of Information: Fees for Service").

Last summer, ALA membership passed the "Resolution on Racism and Sexism Awareness." It had been prepared by Brad Chambers of the Council on Interracial Books for Children and strongly endorsed by SRRT at the Detroit Conference.

It began when the Intellectual Freedom Committee of Children's Services Division asked ALA's IFC for a clarification of "the relationship to and the effect of the Resolution on the Library Bill of Rights." IFC quickly moved to rescind the Resolution by a vote of 8 to 2 and 1 abstention.

After the proposal to rescind got a chilly greeting from the ALA Executive Board, IFC decided to reconsider and rescinded the motion to rescind. IFC finally reported to Council that they will "work during the next few months...to develop a compatible set of Association policies that reflect the clear consensus of the American Library Association against racism and sexism and our fundamental belief in Intellectual Freedom." A SRRT representative to IFC is strongly urged to volunteer to back this action.

Since its founding, SRRT has attempted to democratize ALA (in general and Council) in particular. Council dealt with four resolutions on this issue at Midwinter:

1. Document #13 limits Councillors to one term, thus decentralizing power within the Association. Overworked Council members passed it with ease.

2. Previously, in order to run for Council-at-large, a candidate had to collect the signatures of 10 Councillors or 100 general members. The amended version of document #14 gives everyone equivalent clout in power brokerage by requiring 25 signatures from either group.

3. One of the stipulations of document #15 called for Council candidate to supply a statement of concerns in response to specific questions, prepared by a Committee. Potential grand inquisitors were stymied by the defeat of this measure.

4. Document #16 is an attempt to reintroduce Divisional representatives to Council while dropping the requirement of a 2/3 quorum. It was defeated 76 to 55. Members of the larger general membership will decide this at theaction of Council. If you consider the loss to your side, we suggest you vote against this proposal to erode the general membership's elective representation.

You'll soon be receiving election ballots from ALA if you are an ALA member. It's vital that you vote only for people you know have your concerns and viewpoints. Last year SRRT was successful in electing some councilors because SRRT people bullet-voted. ALA elections are set up so that those with the most votes win. This means that even though you may vote for a certain number of candidates, if a candidate is not someone you really want, in effect, you are casting a vote against a SRRT-supported candidate.

VOTE AMONG THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES AND CAST YOUR VOTE FOR A SRRT PROGRAM! Vice-presidential-elect: DOROTHY BRODERICK

**Council**

*MOHAMMED ARAM*
*HERB BIBLO*
*MARY BIBLE*
*MARY ANN CASSIDY*
*MARY L. CHELTON*
*NINA T. COHEN*
*BARBARA CONROY*
*LINDA D. CROECE*
*ELIZABETH DICKSON*
*MALCOLM DIXON*
*JEWEL HARRIS*
*CYNTHIA J. JENKINS*

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**SRRT Candidate:**

CYNTHIA JENKINS

**SRRT Supporting Candidates:**

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HERB BIBLO
MARY BIBLE
MARY ANN CASSIDY
MARY L. CHELTON
NINA T. COHEN
BARBARA CONROY
LINDA D. CROECE
ELIZABETH DICKSON
MALCOLM DIXON
JEWEL HARRIS
CYNTHIA J. JENKINS

**SRRT-targeted candidates:**

COOPER JORDAN
DIANE KADANOFF
ORLEAN MADAS
JOAN M. MARSHALL
EDWARD F. MILLER
SCHOFIELD MOTT
PATRICIA MOTT
VIRGINIA SHERRID
HERMAN TROYER
JOE TRZCZ
AVERY WILLIAMS
BARBARA J. WILLIAMS

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JOE TRZCZ
AVERY WILLIAMS
BARBARA J. WILLIAMS

**SRRT-supported candidate:**
EDITORIAL

LINDA KATZ

LSRA AND THE COMMON GOOD

While SRRT struggles for influence in the near bankrupt ALA, we lose the real dollars go flying by without comment. What is the SRRT policy statement on the disbursement of some $280 million from the Library Services and Construction Act?

We would like to suggest the following ideas, in hopes that they irritate you enough to write the SRRT editor your thoughts. Or maybe you’ll agree with us and let your views be known to your Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In an editorial (March 1, 1977, p. 425), John Berry urged that LSRA funds be distributed on a 25% (depending on what was available to distribute) per capita aid basis. He said that “all of us in the library community have been well served by this rather stringent financial diet from Washington.”

Berry correctly submits that “to get a proposal approved, librarians have found that innovation and experimentation counted for far less than patronizing the state agencies that justify their existence as the distributors of ‘grant’ money.”

We think it might be more helpful to think of the money as tax dollars, not grant funds, and seek equitable ways to distribute them, especially to those communities most in need.

Berry says that rural libraries have gotten better than a fair share, to the detriment of urban and suburban libraries. Formula basis with 25% of the money going to larger communities based on need may mean a fair share.

We also think that the smallest and most inadequate libraries suffer because they do not have the public relations grant-getters on their staffs. These librarians need more than they need LSRA funds to help them “relate” to their communities.

Meanwhile, we say, here’s where the action is - let’s talk about public service, ideas, in hopes that they irritate you enough to write the SRRT editor your thoughts. Or maybe you’ll agree with us and let your views be known to your Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Let the state librarians do case studies of the big libraries and show them wherein the rules and regulations have strangled services, and their staffs have become hostile to the local populations they are supposed to serve. Some libraries and librarians need a kick in the (expletive deleted) more than they need LSRA funds to help them “relate” to their communities.

NOTE: a few words about Robert Wedgeworth. ALA Executive Director, and his statement (as reported in t.j., p. 197, March 15, 1977) that “all of us in the library community have been well served by this rather stringent financial diet from Washington,”

This statement, and others that followed, are so far out of touch that it made this editor wonder whether Wedgeworth has ever had direct verbal contact with a public librarian. In this century.

It would be great fun to argue with his Archie Bunker/William F. Buckley amalgam of ideas, but the opposing point of view in this case is so obvious as to be best left unargued.

Case dismissed.

AFFILIATES

Born again

Anyone interested in re-organizing or revitalizing a local SRRT affiliate may write to Nancy B. D’Amico, Affiliates Liaison, Roger Williams College, Bristol, R.I. 02809.

You may make use of a mailing list of national SRRT members in your area to contact. You may request a particular zip code or geographic area listing from Ms. D’Amico.

Bay Area Chapter

THE ROAD TO ZAMORA: RURAL LIFE, RURAL VALUES AND RURAL LIBRARIES is an annotated bibliography compiled for the Task Force on Rural Libraries, Bay Area Chapter of SRRT, by Noel Pattee and Peter J. Steidl.

The purpose of this short selected reading list is to guide librarians to a better view of rural values and a rural non-farm rural life. It is working with the 9% of Californians defined on rural by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, and the larger number who, wherever they may live, share those values.

Excluded from this bibliography are: environmental concerns; farmers, Third World and feminist groups except as they relate to the situations of rural Americans. Facts and figures, a feeling for values, and library experiences are the topics covered.

Write to Noel Pattee, Rt. 1, Box 216, Win­

Note that the state keep 2% of the funds and 75% be distributed by per capita share with the amounts determined by revenue-sharing formulas.

We further propose that the states form committees of LIBRARIANS picked by lot (not by their old buddies) to discuss uses for the 75%. Such things as communications devices between libraries should be top priorities: delivery services, union lists, automated circulation and interlibrary loan systems, professional problem-solving consultants who can help librarians raise local funds and build local bonds. OCLC and TWX lines, hotlines, and state library toll-free phone reference (information) backup services all sound like good projects to this editor.

Let the state librarians do case studies of the big libraries and show them wherein their rules and regulations have strangled services, and their staffs have become hostile to the local populations they are supposed to serve. Some libraries and librarians need a kick in the (expletive deleted) more than they need LSRA funds to help them “relate” to their communities.

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ETHICS AT MID-WINTER

From Carmine DiGiallo (Wakefield Library, 4100 Lowerre Place, Bronx, NY 10468)

THE ASIAN AMERICAN CAUCUS just completed a study on Asian American populations (library and readers) and materials at nine library centers. The four-page report will be discussed at the Detroit Conference. Chairman Leo C. Ho, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Director of the Learning Resource Center, Wash­

ENWYOMING College, 46106.

THE BLACK CAUCUS of ALA remains closed to non-blacks and no information was forthcoming from the Chairperson. A discussion on opening the meetings might be discussed at Detroit.


THE JEWISH LIBRARIANS’ CAUCUS is involved in an intense lobbying effort for the reform of the offensive and discriminatory treatment of Judaism and Jews in subject heading lists and classification schemes. They have also pressured Soviet officials to allow Jewish librarians to emigrate, monitors anti-Semitic materials on all levels and in all media, and is forming a children’s book award.

There for the Detroit conference meeting, Jewish folklore.
Dear Mr. Editor,

SRRT-produced "Save Information" conference in Tallahassee, FL, is now a reality. The event was held at the University of Florida and drew a significant number of participants. The theme of the event was "Information and Its Impact on Society," and it focused on the importance of information access and privacy in today's digital age.

Sincerely,
[Name]
Coordinator Barbara Ford invited past coordinators and others to recapitulate the history of SRRT. Some of the accomplishments included changes in dues structure, opening of meetings to anyone wishing to observe, involving people in the business and problems of librarianship without going through the system's channels. The early strength of SRRT was in its direct action projects and there seems to be a desire to recap to that more energetic style. The question about the specific role of Action Council elicited the answer that it was a halfway house (very important), drafts petitions, makes statements from the floor at ALA Council meetings, supports candidates running for election. It was suggested that SRRT needs more press coverage, but the idea of a public relations representative did not seem attractive.

Money
After two years of budget deficits, last year's financial planning has given us solvency. Monies slated for the Task Force on Financial Crises and on Multi-Lingual Library Services, but the idea of a public relations representative did not seem attractive.

Restorations
It was announced that Collyn Williams has resigned from SRRT Action Council.illiam L. Shapiro, Secretary of SRRT AC, has also resigned, and her duties will be taken over by Nancy D'Amico.

Ballot
Barbara Pruett, 3100 Queens Chapel Rd., Mt. Airy, Md. presents herself before the Board as a candidate for the position of Action Council. She has been an ALA member for 21 years, a member of SRRT, active in the Gay Task Force. She was taking the position to reorient the Board to participate in the GLTBQ movement. She presented herself as a candidate for vice-president, presidential-elect of ALA and asked for the endorsement of Action Council. She was taken with a result of 6 in favor and 1 opposed. SRRT Action Council did indicate that if it will ask Broderick to modify her position on returning divisional representation to ALA Council since that was a procedure which they had worked to eliminate in favor of ALA Council at-large.

WHAT DID YOU DO AT ALA MIDWINTER?
Proving again that SRRT members are your basic overachievers, Rick Speer, SRRT Clearinghouse member, spent some fruitful hours helping the citizens of his community while he was attending ALA's Midwinter Conference. Rick was putting together a brochure on flood preparation for his patrons in suburban Pittsburgh, who were facing the real possibilities of spring floods when the large rivers in the area began to thaw.

Another good lead was the Soil Conservation Service, but the Department of Commerce, it turns out, is responsible for flood warnings. (Center, are you listening?) Their agency, the National Weather Service has hot-line phone numbers which will help keep people informed.

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The audience will have one hour for questions. "The New Pluralism," speakers include leaders sponsored by OLSD and called "The Emerging Council. He felt that libraries should...address for the Bulletin you wish...will be even more interest by library patrons...the success of ROOTS, it was felt that there...the editor about what EMIE should be doing. To make the decision....members who will read all nominee books and...books will be issued to the GBA Committee...after Midwinter a master list of nominee...made by any individual and must include...should be in writing...more formal procedures for the Gay Book Award...should probably advertise it with BOOKS...The hard working Alternatives in Print Task Force are about to go international. Olive Publishers informed them that Bowker International has offered to distribute the new ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT worldwide...will probably advertise it with BOOKS IN PRINT. This new outlet will help the...than had formerly been used. The committee's...will include reviews of materials and bibliographies; information about special collections and sources of materials; letters to the editor about what EMIE should be doing. Address all items for the Bulletin you wish...the new ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT is available in hard cover for $12.95 and in paper for $8.95. SRRT numbers, however, may use the coupon...Those deserving the praise for this considerable...Gittings, Clare Ackroyd, Dorothy Edmister, John Cunningham, Frances Harckel, Susan Gomes, and Keith Kowm. Send suggestions if you wish to Barbara Gittings, Box 2163, Phila., PA 19103. Gay Book Award...Last year, a committee was set up to devise more formal procedures for the Gay Book Award that had formerly been used. The committee's final guidelines are available from Frances Harckel, Temporary chairperson, 501 S. 44th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104...Gay Material for Teens...The Task Force on Gay Liberation were asked in 1976 to be consultants to the Media Selection and Usage Committee of ALA's Young Adult Services Division, to help prepare a bibliographic essay of gay materials, print and non-print materials, periodicals, and an index of dealers and publishers of Spanish and bilingual materials are included. Also, the basics of the multilingual workshop are ready from ALA. Apply for prices...David Cohen reported that two task force publications compiled by Beth Shapiro are available from OLSD, ATT. Jean Coleman for...Barbara Zang. Those deserving the praise for this considerable...Gittings, Clare Ackroyd, Dorothy Edmister, John Cunningham, Frances Harckel, Susan Gomes, and Keith Kowm. Send suggestions if you wish to Barbara Gittings, Box 2163, Phila., PA 19103. 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MEMBERS OF SRRT ACTION COUNCIL - 1976-77

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Chicago, Ill.

Elizabeth Morrissett - Task Forces Coordinator
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Bromley Library
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Denver, Colorado 80202

Mary Biblo - Assistant to coordinator
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Laboratory Schools
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Chicago, Ill. 60637

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Elizabeth Marrissett - Task Forces Coordinator
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Linda Katz, Wolfsohn Library, 180 Town Center Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 (EDITOR)
Jim Dwyer, Catalog Dept., University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, OR 97403
Jacqueline Eubanks, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, NY 11210
Patrice Harper, 3627 Corlear Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462
Rick Speer, 332 E. 7th Avenue, Tarentum, PA 15084
Barbara Zang, 5 High Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

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