

# SRRT Newsletter

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## FROM THE COORDINATOR

Dear SRRTERS,

Annual Conference in San Francisco seemed to be a busy and productive one for SRRT! Here's the report ...

**Program Highlights:** If you haven't had the chance to attend a SRRT program recently, you're missing quite a bit! This year's programs were especially notable for their variety, quality, and high level of attendance—and several were covered extensively in *Cognosces*. See inside this issue of the *Newsletter* for full reports, but here are some highlights:

The Alternatives in Print Task Force put on several fascinating programs: "Watching the Left," a follow-up to last year's "Watching the Right"; a "review slam" of oral reviews of non-mainstream materials; and the AIP's Hawaii Working Group's very well-attended and timely program on outsourcing in Hawaii.

The Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Task Force organized a lively panel discussion highlighting women's small presses and the struggles they face in the future; the Hunger, Homelessness, and Poverty Task Force tackled the issue of library fees and fines and how they impact library use; and the Progressive Librarians Guild discussed librarians' intellectual and academic freedom in the workplace.

The Task Force on the Environment put on two timely programs, one on environmental education resources for the 21st century; the other on the need for an environmental information structure.

The Coretta Scott King and Feminist Task Forces continued their successful tradition of awards and author breakfasts, joined by the Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Task Force, which hosted its second annual Book Awards Breakfast.

The list above doesn't include the programs cosponsored by SRRT units, the social hours, book signings, library visits, etc. Hearty thanks go to everyone involved with all of SRRT's programs. Bravo!

**SRRT Booth:** Thanks to **Peggy D'Adamo** for organizing the staffing of the SRRT booth, to **Michael Miller** for doing the signs and graphics, and to all SRRT members who volunteered to staff the booth. It looked pretty great this year, and there was a good amount of SRRT literature available.

**SRRT Brochure and Web Site:** At Annual, we finished updating the text of the SRRT brochure; now we will begin the process of reprinting it and using the text as the basis of our forthcoming website, which SRRT member **Madeleine Tainton** has volunteered to work on.

**Other Annual Conference news:** We were able to appoint new liaisons to a variety of SRRT positions. **Ron Landskroner** is our new Membership/Recruitment person, **Victor Schill** is our new Freedom to Read Foundation liaison, and **Allison Hopkins** is our new Library Education Assembly liaison. In addition, a belated welcome to our new representatives from state affiliates: **Samuel Bennett** from Kansas, **Jonathan Betz-Zall** from Washington, **Shari Clifton** from Oklahoma, and **Alberto Herrera, Jr.** from Wisconsin.

Last issue, we bade farewell to outgoing Action Council members-at-large; now we welcome three new members: **Toni**

**Bissessar, Carolyn Garnes, and Mark Martin.** As for SRRT officers, I have volunteered to stay on as Coordinator, and **Elaine Harger** remains our Secretary. I'm happy to report that **Dorothy Granger** has agreed to become SRRT Treasurer!

SRRT Listserv: By the time you read this, we will have opened up the SRRT listserv, SRRTAC-L, for general subscription. Many thanks, in advance, to **Linda Pierce**, who has agreed to be list co-owner. Here are the subscription instructions:

Send an email message to [listproc@ala.org](mailto:listproc@ala.org). Leave the subject line blank, or, if your system requires a subject line, enter "subscribe" (without quotation marks) as the subject. As the only line of text in the body of the message, enter the following: `subscribe srrtac-1 [FirstName] [LastName]`

—Wendy Thomas  
SRRT Coordinator  
[wendy@radcliffe.edu](mailto:wendy@radcliffe.edu)

Dear Colleagues and members of SRRT,

This is my last issue as your editor. It has been my often hectic but rewarding pleasure to serve you, as well as to correspond with and make the acquaintance of so many of you. Unfortunately, a new editor has not yet been officially chosen, although we have a few eager and impressively qualified candidates. The *Newsletter* Editorial Board is in the process of making a recommendation, along with a possible new Board member, and then Action Council will make the final decision. I look forward to the newly edited newsletter and to a long and socially responsible association with you.

Peace and progressivity,  
Carol

## TASKFORCE AND AFFILIATE NEWS

### ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT



#### JACKIE EUBANKS AWARD

This year's winner of the annual Jackie Eubanks Award was **Mev Miller**, director of the Women's Presses Library Project located at 1483 Laurel Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104, [wplp@winternet.com](mailto:wplp@winternet.com). The award, given by the Alternatives in Print Task Force, was a plaque citing Mev's efforts in promoting small alternative presses and a \$500 check. The Women's Presses Library Project represents 28 women's and

lesbian presses from around the U.S. and Canada. The presses strongly overlap those presses recognized as significant and promoted by the AIP Task Force. The project's goal is to market women's words to libraries across the country, including awareness and ordering services. This award is given annually by the AIP Task Force to a person who does an outstanding job promoting the alternative press in libraries. The award, presented by AIP co-coordinator **Peggy D'Adamo** and jury member, and last year's winner, **Chris Dodge**, was made at the start of the well-attended, AIP-sponsored program "Beyond the Valley of the Mega-Publishers: Dangerous Reviews" on June 30, 1997.

### PROGRAMS & EVENTS AT ANNUAL

"Dangerous Reviews: Beyond the Valley of the Mega-Publishers" was organized by SRRT member **Chris Dodge** of Hennepin County Library and **Cathy Camper** of Minneapolis Public Library. The format of the program originated with Washington State SRRT and has been used successfully for several years by the Minnesota SRRT as well. Nine reviewers each had seven minutes to present six reviews. Those who went over their time limits were pelted from the first row with foam disks.

**Jim Danky**—coeditor of *Alternative Library Literature* and librarian at the Wisconsin State Historical Society, **Seth Friedman**—editor of *Factsheet Five*, **Elaine Harger**—librarian at the New Jersey Historical Society, **Sanford Berman**—the other editor of *Alternative Library Literature*, **Mev Miller**—founder of the Women's Presses Library Project, **Jan DeSirey**—coeditor of the *MSRRT Newsletter*, and **Brenda**

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Editor: Carol Reid  
Assistant Editor: Ian Duckor  
Editorial Board: Mark Rosenzweig, Madeleine Tainton, Theresa Tobin

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 1997 ISSUE: 20 OCT 1997

**Mitchell-Powell**—contributing editor of *American Libraries*, joined Chris and Cathy in what Brenda called “a review slam.” The standing-room only crowd was then treated to a creative mixture of seriousness and fun, talk and music, humorous zines and serious political publications. Jim highlighted *Navy Food Service* as a favorite U.S. government publication, with excellent recipes for large groups. Seth presented a number of zines, including his own *Factsheet Five* and his new book, *Factsheet Five Zine Reader*. Cathy introduced a favorite zine of hers, produced by her own cartoonist sister. Elaine focused on the *Alternative Press Index* and several excellent videos. Sandy suggested that the audience check out *The Onion*, a hilarious weekly satirical paper. Chris highlighted the cartoon work of Alison Bechdel and Jan shared her interest in *Nancy’s Magazine*, which is produced occasionally by a librarian who even cataloged one issue using home-derived headings and Dewey call numbers.

This program highlighted both the challenges and rewards of providing access to alternative materials of all kinds (video, audio and print, zines, political newspapers, etc.) in libraries. If libraries do not collect these materials, many of them may be lost forever and will not be accessible to students, fans, and researchers, now or in the future. Collecting alternative materials does sometimes require extra effort, but they are surely worth it.

Chris and Cathy also produced an excellent handout which lists each reviewer’s choices, with brief descriptions and ordering information. This can be requested from Chris Dodge, 4645 Columbus Avenue, South, Minneapolis, MN. Please include a 32-cent SASE.

### BUFFET

The AIP Task Force also held another successful Free Speech Buffet this year. The event was held on Monday evening in the Latino Hispanic Community Meeting Room of the new San Francisco Main Public Library. It was cosponsored by a number of ALA committees as well as the *Alternative Press Index* and the Librarians Guild at the library.

The buffet was planned as an informal venue for librarians to meet small and alternative publishers in the Bay Area. Over forty alternative publishers attended. They set up displays for browsing. Publishers included the Alternative Press Center—publisher of the *Alternative Press Index*, AK

Press—publisher and distributor of anarchist materials, City Lights Books—San Francisco bookstore and publisher, the Data Center—a research library based in Oakland, Down There Press—publisher of books on sexuality, *Factsheet Five*, reviewer of fanzines, and Global Exchange—organizer of campaigns worldwide against working conditions in factories in developing nations. Earth Island Institute, publisher of *Earth Island Journal*, also participated, as well as the San Francisco chapter of the Gray Panthers, zine publishers such as Manic D Press and V/Search, and feminist publishers such as Menopause News and the Women’s Presses Library Project. Shaping San Francisco demonstrated their new CD-ROM on San Francisco history. If you would like a complete list of presses that participated, please send a SASE to Peggy D’Adamo, 5502 Fair Oaks Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21214.

Over 100 librarians attended and had an opportunity to talk with publishers. The buffet provided a pleasant and educational ending to a very productive conference for the AIP Task Force. The task force would like to express its thanks to SRRT member and SFPL librarian, **Melissa Riley**, and her coworkers at SFPL who helped make this event so successful.

### APBNA

The third edition of the *Alternative Publishers of Books in North America* was unveiled at the ALA exhibit booth cosponsored by the Alternatives in Print Task Force and the Alternative Press Center. The directory identifies 139 alternative presses considered significant by AIP members. Each entry provides a description and complete contact information for the presses. Following the entries, there is a bibliography and a subject index. The 116-page directory is available from CRISES Press, 1716 SW Williston Rd., Gainesville, FL 32608 (352) 335-2200, willett@afn.org, for \$20 plus \$3 s&h.

### AIP BOOTH

**Charles and Nancy Willett** (of AIP and CRISES Press) and **Chuck D’Adamo** and **Les Wade** (of the Alternative Press Center) shared the task of staffing the AIP double booth, which displayed and took orders for APC’s *Alternative Press Index*, 1969- (hard copy and CD-ROM); APC’s directory *Annotations* (1996); the new edition of AIP’s directory *Alternative Publishers of Books in North America* (3rd ed., CRISES Press, 1997); a double issue of *Librarians at Liberty* (vol. 4:2/5:1, CRISES Press, June 1997); *Directory of Progressive*

*Librarians around the World* (Hanover, Germany, Laurentius, 1997, distributed by CRISES Press); alternative books and periodicals from other publishers; and t-shirts featuring the front-and-back-cover illustrations of next year's 8th ed. of **Berman** and **Danky's Alternative Library Literature**. Sales and requests for samples of these items, while not brisk, were somewhat encouraging. A big new AIP banner helped draw people's attention. Chuck D'Adamo designed a joint APC/AIP/CRISES Press flyer. Flyers for *Progressive Librarian* were also distributed. On Sunday after their presentation "Watching the Left, What Librarians Need to Know," Michael Parenti and David Barsamian spent an hour or two at the booth talking with visitors and signing copies of their books.

In a setback, production of the second (April) issue of AIP's new review journal *Counterpoise* was delayed until August. Furthermore, 80 copies of the January issue, shipped across country by U.S. mail for display and sale at the conference, were refused by the UPS office in San Rafael, CA, and returned to Gainesville, FL, along with 200 copies of *Librarians at Liberty*. As the result of this disaster, no copies of *Counterpoise* were available at the booth and only a few copies of the *L@L* issue—which contained ten pages of documentation about the Hawaii controversy—were available for the outsourcing presentation.

### SRRT BOOTH

The SRRT booth was located directly across from the AIP booth in the professional aisle. It was attractively laid out with signs by Michael Miller and leaflets from the task forces, and was regularly staffed by SRRT volunteers—more than a dozen in all—organized by Wendy Thomas and Peggy D'Adamo. This was an great improvement over the 1995 kiosk (located in the reception area) and the unstaffed 1996 booth (around a corner in another aisle). Thanks to all who helped spread the good SRRT word!

### COUNTERPOISE

The inaugural, 68-page January issue of *Counterpoise*, 1997-, Charles Willett, ed. (Gainesville, FL, ALA/SRRT/AIP), was designed professionally and produced in quantity (1000 copies) in an effort to make an initial splash that would secure reviews, subscriptions, and advertising, and that would underscore AIP's

longstanding assertions concerning the importance of the alternative press and the need for increased public and scholarly recognition of it.

After that successful—and expensive—introduction, *Counterpoise* is settling in for the long haul. Relying primarily on student interns to lay out the second issue proved to be a mistake that, added to all the other work to be done in the brief interval between Midwinter and Annual, resulted in the delay of the second and third issues.

To correct this situation, **Mindy Underberger**, the professional who laid out the first issue, has been hired as production manager part-time to supervise the interns and oversee design and printing. This added expense and the disturbingly slow trickle of subscriptions (despite good reviews) has blasted the editor into the not-at-all alternative world of marketing and fund-raising. Meanwhile, routines are being established; associate editors and reviewers are gaining experience; materials are moving more quickly to them for review; interns are better qualified and trained; and the CRISES Press computers used to lay out the journal have been upgraded into a network.

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Jackie Eubanks Memorial Award jury invites nominations for next year's award. **Steve Harris** has rotated off the jury and **Jim Danky** has come on. **Byron Anderson** (chair) and **Chris Dodge** remain on the jury. Please send nominations as soon as possible to Byron Anderson, Head of Reference, Northern Illinois University Libraries, DeKalb, IL 60115; telephone: (815) 753-9850; fax: (815) 753-2003; [banderson@niu.edu](mailto:banderson@niu.edu). The award is presented annually to a single individual:

To recognize outstanding achievement in promoting the acquisition and use of alternative materials in libraries. Such achievement may take the form of, but is not limited to: review and essay writing; public speaking; programming; compiling bibliographies; professional association activities; and organizing events.

Previous winners have been **Noel Peattie** and **Chris Dodge**.

—**Charles Willett**  
AIP Coordinator



ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEWS

Jean Dickson <dickson@acsu.buffalo.edu>, Associate Librarian, Lockwood Library at SUNY Buffalo, has prepared a description of the problems being faced as a result of some of the worst flooding in Central and Eastern Europe of the last century or more. I am sure that we will be hearing more from other libraries. Many scientists are attributing such "extreme" events to global environmental change, including climate change. Last Thursday the Czech ambassador met with leaders of the Czech emigre community to discuss possible means of raising money for flood relief. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:

American Fund for Czechoslovak Relief  
1776 Broadway, Suite 2105  
New York, New York 10019  
Fax: 1-212-759-6540

Jean also forwarded a personal report from Libuse Hanakova, reference librarian in Uherske Hradiste, Moravia. The library's building is a former synagogue.

"Our building is still standing, and it seems it will stay standing, we threw away 5000 books and are trying to get some from our branches to replace the loss. We are still closed, because our walls are still very wet, so we need to have them dried. Trouble is, that our wooden shelves started to mould because of such humidity. Town as a whole looks untouched now, but lot of damages are hidden inside buildings. Well, lot of work is in front of us. Keep your fingers crossed for us."

Web page informing about the losses in Poland:  
<http://www.konbib.nl/gabriel/en/countries/poland.html>

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST LISTSERV

Amid the recent rhetorical war on environmental education and the surge of anti-environmental statements from the conservative right, the Sierra Club Environmental Education Activist List was created. The purpose of this list is to

facilitate and support grassroots efforts to promote environmental literacy through such methods as teacher assistance, curriculum development, public education projects, and legislative action. The list is sponsored by the Sierra Club Environmental Education Committee. The Committee is particularly concerned with the current national assault on environmental education in the schools; the distorted representation of environmental science and the proliferation of "junk science"; and the attack on the tenets of the federal 1990 National Environmental Education Act and parallel attacks on state laws and programs. A major goal of the list will be to design and implement strategies to counteract these assaults, as well as to facilitate other efforts encouraging environmental literacy. Environmental education activists, whether members of the Sierra Club or of other organizations, who support environmental education, may subscribe to this list upon approval by the List Owner.

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

TFOE held two programs at the 1997 Annual Conference. Both dealt with what the programs' moderator, Fred Stoss, referred to as an essential concept for thinking about the environment, a term he introduced as Environmental ICE—Information, Communication, and Education. More details about the conference will be found in the next issue of the TFOE newsletter, *GreenNotes*, which will have hypertext links to sites relevant to each speaker's presentation, and in some cases links to the text and other resources described by the speaker. The email addresses of each speaker have been listed to facilitate your ability to contact them for details about their presentations and the resources they described.

The Need for an Environmental Information Infrastructure:

[Brad Martin of the Queens Borough Public Library provided a nice summary of this session in the Conference Wrapup issue of the ALA's New Members Round Table Conference newspaper, *Cognotes*. A copy of this wrapup issue was sent to every ALA member in mid-July. Brad included with his article describing this TFOE program the following quotation from Albert Gore, Jr. in his now classic book, *Earth in the Balance*: "Our current approach to information resembles an old agricultural policy. We used to store mountains of excess grain in silos throughout the midwest and let it rot, while millions around the world died of starvation ... Now we have silos of excess data rotting (sometimes literally) while millions hunger

for the solutions to unprecedented problems." It is hoped that this TFOE program helps to stimulate an interest in sharing the harvest and to prepare a banquet feast for the hungry.]

Fred Stoss served as moderator of this program and provided an introduction to this information session. He provided a brief historical background of the contexts through which our current information needs have evolved.

Jerry Curry <jwcurry@utkux.utk.edu>, from the Energy, Environment, and Resources Center at the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, discussed the role of NASA's Earth Observing Systems Distributed Active Archive Centers as a source of global change information.

Donna Alward <donna.alward@ciesin.org> and Joe Schumacher <joe.schumacher@ciesin.org>, from the Consortium of International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) and the Global Change Research Information Office, further described the coordinated access to global change data and information resources through the CIESIN Gateway.

Anne Frondorf <Anne\_Frondorf@nbs.gov>, at the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII), detailed efforts already underway in creating a national biological information infrastructure.

Susan Jover <jover@us.net>, Vice President at the Congressional Information Service, described Environment Abstracts and their efforts as a private-sector vendor in an environmental information infrastructure.

Jacques Kapuscinski <Kapuscinski.Jaques@epamail.epa.gov>, from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, provided a review of the environmental information programs of the EPA and demonstrated the activities of the EPA Library Network, a national information network of libraries and other specialized information programs of the agency.

Fred Stoss <fstoss@acsu.buffalo.edu>, TFOE Chair and Associate Librarian at SUNY Buffalo, presented information on the efforts to create a National Library for the Environment within the proposed National Institute for the Environment (NIE).

Cynthia Lopez <clopez@lff.org>, Advocacy Director for Libraries for the Future (LFF), described LFF's ongoing

activities in promoting public libraries' services, collections, programs, and other resources for the environmentalist.

#### **Environmental Education Resources for the 21st Century:**

TFOE examined various information resources for K-12, college, and university classrooms and field settings. Speakers from the U.S. Federal government and private sector comprised a panel describing their respective organizations contributions to environmental education.

Tamara Schwarz <Dan Rademacher and Tamara Schwarz <dan\_r@uclink4.berkeley.edu>> is the program coordinator at the Center for Commercial-Free Public Education and a member of the Sierra Club national EE Committee's Task Force on Environmental Education. Tamara discussed recent anti-environmental education attacks and the impact of the brownlash rhetoric on current programs, services, and activities.

Matt Hammond <MSHammond@aol.com>, editor of *Science and the Environment* at Voyage Publishing, introduced *Science and the Environment*, an exciting new web-based information tool (with CD-ROM archives) bringing scientific information into the classroom.

Jacques Kapuscinski <Kapuscinski.Jacques@epamail.epa.gov>, a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Web Development Team, described the environmental education activities of the agency and more specifically how the EPA Library meets the information needs of the environmental education community.

Jerry Kay <Jerry Kay <earth@enn.com>> from the San Francisco-based Science Interchange provided an exciting overview of some new techniques for bringing the environmental message to students using broadcast and other media.

Sabiha S. Daudi <daudi.2@osu.edu>, a graduate research associate at Ohio State University, described her role in the EETAP Resource Library and the importance of accessing the environmental education (EE) resources available on Internet and via CD-ROM.

## TFOE MEMBERS SURVEY

This has no bearing on your status as a member of any of these affiliations: TFOE, SRRT, or ALA. TFOE would like to get an updated list of its members. ALA maintains no such records of task force members.

If you receive the *SRRT Newsletter*, you are a member of SRRT. If you are not now a member of TFOE, please indicate your desire to join by sending me your name, postal address, and email address.

Are you a member of ALA?  Yes  No

Are you a member of SRRT?  Yes  No

Are you a member of TFOE?  Yes  No

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Return this information to:

Fred Stoss  
Science and Engineering Library—Capen Hall  
SUNY Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY 14620-2200  
fstoss@acsu.buffalo.edu

—Fred Stoss  
TFOE Coordinator

SRRT Newsletter

## GAY, LESBIAN, AND BISEXUAL ▽

Record numbers were present at all GLBTF events during ALA's Annual 1997 San Francisco Conference. Commendations go out to the local arrangements committee headed by **Chet Mulawka**. Over 80 queer librarians marched in the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade. More than 450 people attended the social sponsored by the San Francisco Public Library. The annual program, "No Kid'in Around: Womyn's Press in the New Millenium," cited in *Library Journal* as a "must see" program, had over 130 attendees! This was an excellent follow-up to the bang-up second annual GLBTF Book Awards Breakfast where seating was at full capacity.

### GLBTF NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is back on a regular publication schedule. If you have items of interest that you would like to see included, email the editor, **Cal Zunt**, at: [mzunt@phoenix.kent.edu](mailto:mzunt@phoenix.kent.edu). We will be happy to include items as space allows.

Volunteer with the GLBFT: If you're interested in assisting with planning activities (or any other committee work) for Midwinter in New Orleans in January 1998 or for the events for Annual '98 in Washington, D.C., please contact **Michael Miller** at: [miller@columbia.edu](mailto:miller@columbia.edu). He will be happy to direct you to the correct committee chairperson.

### BOOK REVIEWS

If you are interested in reviewing books for the GLBTF newsletter, contact **Barb Stevens** at: [stevensbr@uwec.edu](mailto:stevensbr@uwec.edu).

### BOOK AWARDS

Nominations for the 1998 GLBTF Fiction and Nonfiction Awards will be accepted through November 30, 1997. For more information contact **Faye Chadwell** at: [chadwell@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:chadwell@oregon.uoregon.edu).

GLBTF Web Site: Information regarding the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Task Force can also be accessed via the Internet at: [http://calvin.usc.edu/~trimmer/ala\\_hp.html](http://calvin.usc.edu/~trimmer/ala_hp.html).

—**M. Callaghan ("Cal") Zunt**, [mzunt@phoenix.kent.edu](mailto:mzunt@phoenix.kent.edu)  
GLBTF Coordinator

## A HISTORY OF THE HAWAII WORKING GROUP

by Charles Willett  
Coordinator  
Alternatives in Print Task Force

The Hawaii Working Group began through good luck. In August 1996, AIP member **Chris Dodge**, who monitors several listservs, noticed a message from a woman named **Patricia Wallace** who wanted information about multicultural publications for children. He replied and sent her a copy of the July/August issue of his *MSRRT Newsletter*. This especially excellent issue included a review of *Alternative Library Literature* 1994/95 and the text of **Sandy Berman's** SRRT resolution supporting independent booksellers, which had just passed ALA Council at the New York conference. Pat, a teacher at a magnet Montessori school in Dallas who is obtaining an MLIS degree at Texas Woman's University, was excited to discover these alternative publications and SRRT. She started corresponding with Chris and in early September sent him the following news item from the June 1996 issue of *School Library Journal*, which he forwarded to me:

"As the result of a groundbreaking arrangement between Baker and Taylor and the Hawaii State Library, the book wholesaler has begun to select, catalog, and process 100 percent of public library collections on all six islands ... Bartholomew Kane, Hawaii State Librarian ... told *SLJ* that the \$11.2 million, 5 ½ year contract ... is designed to free employees to work directly with the public ... When asked if staff had qualms about shifting selection to a vendor, Kane said ... 'I'm counting on B & T knowing the publishing industry. It's in their interest to do this well.'

A children's librarian contacted for comment told *SLJ* that Kane's office asked staff not to speak to the library press ... B&T has assigned a team of 18 to do collection development ... B&T President Jim Ulsamer told *SLJ* that 'quite a number' have library degrees ... The team will use standard reviewing sources ..."

None of us in AIP had noticed this report, or similar items in *Library Journal* and *American Libraries*. I was stunned. No total outsourcing contract like this had ever happened before. I feared it would damage Hawaii's public library collections. Chris and I discussed how to proceed, and then on 22

September I brought in **Sandy** and AIP co-coordinator **Peggy D'Adamo** about forming a "working group":  
"I don't want to let this drop, but I'm pretty far from it, not knowing public libraries or children's literature or multicultural studies. So I'm writing the three of you to ask:

- \* Is this an AIP issue that we should follow up on? (I say yes)
- \* Should we bring Pat Wallace into this group and work with her to take appropriate action? (I say yes)
- \* Are there other AIP or SRRT people (Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Task Force?) or even other ALA units who should be included in the working group?"

They agreed and made further suggestions. Pat meanwhile, in correspondence with me, had volunteered to become active in SRRT, AIP, and as a reviewer of children's literature for *Counterpoise*. She had also begun to mount a steady barrage of Internet "Hits," as she has done ever since, forwarding news and comment to listservs read by thousands of librarians. On 30 September I wrote her formally as follows:

"As I wrote you earlier, we in the Alternatives In Print Task Force of ALA's Social Responsibilities Round Table have been discussing how AIP should respond to the Hawaii public library collection development contract with Baker & Taylor. The three people receiving copies of this message and I have formed a working group. We would like to invite you to join us ... We have discussed the Hawaii B&T contract and agree it is an AIP issue that we must address carefully, with special attention to the following aspects:

- (1) What does the contract actually say?
- (2) What do Hawaiian librarians say about it? Hawaiian SRRT librarians? Support? Objections? Improvement or retreat from what was done before? (Comment: in a state composed of six islands, central planning and standards may be an important issue; so may diversity.)
- (3) How good is B&T's actual performance? What titles/subjects are being omitted/slighted? (This obviously will take time to determine.)
- (4) Should AIP prepare a "Whereas" resolution for votes by SRRT Action Council and ALA Council at the Midwinter Meeting deploring the contract? (**Sandy** is very good at drafting such statements.)
- (5) Should AIP/*Counterpoise* approach B&T and other vendors next year and propose cooperation (for a fee) for access to our reviews? (That would be my area.)

Pat, you have already been extraordinarily successful in bringing this issue to the attention of librarians. Of course it is important not just for Hawaii but for the rest of the country and internationally, as vendors claim total technical bibliographic control and evaluation of new titles ... What I'm suggesting is that you take charge of this complex and important problem for AIP over the next months, with our support, because you know it best and are all fired up about it. Keep us informed of developments and ideas by e-mail, and we'll work with you. How does that sound?"

Pat didn't accept immediately. First she asked for more information about the group's purpose and position within ALA. I replied on 8 October with the following charge:

"So, back to your question: who are we odd ducks, and is this to be a long- or short-term venture? Let's operate in the short term, but leave the door open for the long term if that seems feasible and desirable in the future. Let's give ourselves a name and a mission statement that covers this whole area, not just Hawaii, or public libraries, or the present time. But let's focus for now on the present finite issue, not some sort of broad general study that may be beyond our capabilities. In other words, let's agree on a name and a mission statement that covers the whole vendor performance area, but keep the present project small and manageable. How about the following:

- ◆ ALA/SRRT/Alternatives In Print Task Force (AIP)
- ◆ Acquisitions Committee
- ◆ To review and advise on all matters of ordering and supplying alternative library materials"

Pat accepted the invitation, and we were off to a roaring start. In October, **Earl Lee**, head of collection development at Pittsburg State University in Kansas, joined the committee. Pat began to reach out to dozens of Hawaii librarians, who had been put under a gag order in the internal Hawaii library e-mail listserv. By mid-November, we had agreed on the San Francisco program, getting cosponsors, publishing a book of readings, and formalizing our existence at SRRT Action Council at the Midwinter Meeting.

In December I changed our name: "Looking at the ALA Handbook, I find that round tables have committees or task forces or both, but none has a committee within a task force or

vice versa. In other words, there is no second tier of hierarchy under any round table. So instead of calling ourselves the Acquisitions Committee of the Alternatives in Print Task Force of SRRT, I suggest that we change our title to "Hawaii Working Group" within AIP, with no separate authority of its own and no need for formal recognition. This is in fact the case: our group includes both co-coordinators of AIP and five other participants—task forces are amorphous: they don't have strict "members" like committees do. Generally it's a case of gathering a group of people to get something done."

I also reemphasized our long-range purpose: "What is our goal? We want much more than stopping the Hawaii contract. We want to get libraries everywhere to acquire and promote alternative materials expressing socially responsible points of view. We don't want to go back to good old days that weren't so good. We want to go forward to access ranges of information and opinion that most libraries have never included. As the Hawaii drama unfolds, let's find ways to introduce and emphasize that point."

Also in December we expanded our membership to include **Yvonne Farley**, West Virginia "librarian of the year," **Carol Reid**, *SRRT Newsletter* editor, and our first Hawaii librarian, **Laurel Indalecio**.

On 6 January 1997, we went public with a press release:

"The Alternatives in Print Task Force (AIP) of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) has formed a nucleus, the Hawaii Working Group, to gather facts and opinions from all points of view about the five-year outsourcing contract signed in 1996 by the Hawaii State Library System and Baker & Taylor, Inc. Early in 1997 the group plans to publish a book of readings from the contract and from news reports, Internet discussions, and other sources in order to acquaint librarians and the public with the many issues raised by this controversial agreement, which privatizes collection development and cataloging for the entire Hawaii public library system.

"On Sunday, June 29th at the ALA annual conference in San Francisco, the group will present a two-hour panel discussion on the Hawaii public libraries' outsourcing agreement with Baker & Taylor. Other ALA units and related organizations are invited to cosponsor this program. The Hawaii Working Group is led by Patricia (Pat) Wallace, a teacher in one of the

two Montessori Magnet Schools in the Dallas public schools and an MLIS graduate student at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. She holds Master's degrees in both Sociology and Education and has taught continuously at the college and elementary school levels over the past 30 years. Pat is chair of the Hawaii Working Group. Other members of the group include Sanford Berman, Peggy D'Adamo, Chris Dodge, Yvonne Farley, Earl Lee, Laurel Indalecio, Carol Reid, Jan DeSirey, and Charles Willett."

In response, Baker & Taylor's CEO Craig Richards—from one chief executive officer to another—wrote to ALA President Mary Somerville accusing HWG of bias and asking her to insist that B&T be included in the "philosophical debate" in San Francisco for "balance." HWG replied to Richards that the two-hour program barely provided enough time for our speakers, that there would be a period at the end for questions and discussion, and that B&T certainly had other avenues where it could present its point of view.

There was a further exchange of correspondence with B&T's Arnie Wight, which HWG broke off after learning that the U.S. government had joined a librarian's lawsuit charging B&T with bilking libraries across the country of \$100 million or more by miscoding trade books as short-discount books on their invoices.

Meanwhile, after months of Pat's relentless "hits," the Internet's LM\_NET, PUBLIB, PLGNET, and ACQNET were buzzing with talk about Hawaii's total outsourcing contract. Individual librarians, newspaper and journal editors, and ALA councilors began corresponding with her. The Hawaii press took up the issue, and in January the state legislature opened investigative hearings into the total outsourcing contract. Earl Lee and Carol Reid wrote letters and essays for library publications, and another Hawaii librarian, branch manager Stephanie Strickland, joined HWG.

One listserv message, from a former cataloger at an academic library whose job had been outsourced, prompted the following reply from Sandy:

"Friends: Sad story. But following "every rule" & attending to each "jot & tittle" is NOT cataloging. It's unfortunately true that a cataloging vendor can do the jots & tittles just as well. What MIGHT have made a difference is if local cataloging had truly added value to the bib-records, retrieval, & usefulness in

a way that no B&T or Brodart is prepared to do. Then it could be argued that the library is genuinely LOSING something by outsourcing—but, again, if all that's being done locally is to produce absolutely standard (& usually dysfunctional) records, well, anyone CAN do it!"

That message and subsequent discussion was significant in causing the AIP Task Force as whole to rewrite its formal charge in order to include promoting local cataloging as well as acquisitions.

In February at ALA Midwinter in Washington, the few HWG members attending, including Sandy and me but not Pat, scheduled a business meeting and invited two representatives from ALCTS (Association of Library Collections and Technical Services) to join us in an unsuccessful effort to bridge the gap between their view supporting Hawaii outsourcing and our own.

We also presented to SRRT Action Council, where it passed unanimously, a resolution (text in March 1997 *SRRT Newsletter*), drafted by Sandy with improvements by several HWG members (all our work is by consensus), and sent copies to: *Library Hotline*, *SRRT Newsletter*, *Library Journal*, *Technicalities*, *School Library Journal*, *American Libraries*, the Librarians Association of Hawaii, and the Hawaii State Librarian.

At ALA Council, however, this resolution was not submitted. Other, weaker resolutions introduced by several councilors did not reach the floor.

In the months that followed, events moved quickly. In Hawaii, the legislative hearings produced several bills that worked their way through committees, floor votes, and reconciliation of language between the two houses. A tremendous outpouring of public criticism of the contract overwhelmed the defense by Bart Kane and the Board of Education.

At one point the House rejected the Senate version of the main bill because of a technicality, but by good luck the legislative session was extended a day, which gave time for the bill to be amended and passed as Senate Bill 538. Governor Cayetano signed it into law as A.B. 252 on 19 June. It requires that in the future all public library materials bought with public money shall be selected by state public librarians—the first state in the union to enact such a law. In other action during the past few months the legislature passed Concurrent Resolution 171

"requesting a financial and management audit of the Hawaii State Public Library System"; the library employees union sued Bart Kane, the Board, and Baker & Taylor to cancel the contract; a blue-ribbon committee recommended unanimously to the Board that the contract be broken; the Board then voted to instruct Kane to break the contract; he did so in a long letter to Baker & Taylor; and B&T has recently replied rebutting that letter point by point and threatening to sue. The Board of Education has just renewed Kane's contract for only six months and ordered him to clean up the mess. Two of the 13 members voted to fire him immediately.

*American Libraries* (May 1997) published the text of a three-way telephone interview by associate editor George Eberhart with Bart Kane and Pat Wallace. The next month's issue (June/July) ran an excellent article by Carol Reid. Within ALA, several efforts by HWG to build bridges to the mainstream library managers in ALCTS have been relatively unsuccessful, although Pat has been able at least to open a dialogue with them.

The Hawaii panel presentation moderated by Pat at the ALA annual conference in San Francisco on 29 June was a tremendous success. About 250 people attended the two-hour program moderated by Pat Wallace, and most stayed for an additional, unscheduled hour of questions and discussion that ended with a standing ovation. Six Hawaii librarians—Norman Fitzpatrick, Deborah Gutermuth, Dale Huber, Sarah Preble, Stephanie Strickland, and Carol Tomioka—gave first-hand accounts of the difficulties they had personally experienced with the total outsourcing contract. Their stories, ranging from the hilarious to the tragic, held the audience spellbound. Sandy Berman weighed in with a blistering attack on the inadequacies of vendor-supplied, minimal cataloging, and I spoke about how collection-development librarians and directors, influenced by their commercial "partners," often base selection decisions and fund allocations on corporate values rather than professional principles. After the conference, Stephanie wrote Pat Wallace and HWG a letter that I hope she won't mind my sharing. I think it reflects a general feeling that many of us share within HWG.

"Pat,

I just want to extend Mahalo Nui Loa (thank you very much) for all your hard work during the past year. It would have never happened without you. You have done so much for us in Hawaii. You have done even more for our beloved profession. People are going to know

about the "Hawaii Model" because of who and what you are. I am looking forward to a long association with HWG of SRRT/AIP.

My husband said Martin Warzala of B&T was having a fit during the presentation. He said the woman sitting next to him tried to calm him down. Norman Oder of *LJ* was interviewing Arnie Wight as we left. Arnie, as you no doubt know, claims that Bart made B&T enter into the contract. B&T knew all along that local librarians need to be involved with selection.

I am truly sorry that I was unable to meet and spend time with all HWG members that attended the conference. I enjoyed meeting, talking with, and listening to Sandy, Charles, and you. AIP, from all accounts, did very well on all presentations. Congratulations to all. Really enjoyed those presentations. Not a single sleeper!

I tried to make the ALA Council meeting on Tuesday. No luck. How did the resolutions make out? I'll be interested in hearing from anyone who attended. Can we expect an update from you soon? I kind of expected a message from Michael Golrick by this time. Guess everyone may be a little busy celebrating the 4th and otherwise relaxing after attending the conference.

Once again, Pat, thanks for everything. We need more people like you in our profession—heck, in the world.

Aloha,  
Stephanie"

The ALA Council resolutions that Stephanie asks about were drafted on the first evening of the San Francisco conference when she, Norman Fitzpatrick, Deborah Gutermuth, Sarah Preble, Carol Tomioka, Pat Wallace and I met for two hours with councilors Mike Golrick (the principal drafter), James Casey and Debra Gilchrist. We wrote the "Tribute to Hawaii Librarians" and an earlier version of the "Resolution on the Outsourcing of Collection Development" that are printed here. Unfortunately, because of opposition by other councilors, neither resolution ever reached the floor of ALA Council for discussion.

Looking ahead, the immediate task is to publish the first volume of *Libraries Betrayed: The Hawaii Outsourcing Disaster*, edited by Patricia Wallace and Earl Lee (ca 220 p., CRISES Press, ISBN 0-9640119-6-4 (pbk) : \$20.00), a compendium of documents and commentary from 1995 through early 1997. The Bess Press in Honolulu has agreed to co-distribute it. A second volume, to be published next year, will carry these events forward.

Otherwise, the Hawaii Working Group is laying plans for the future. Peggy D'Adamo has resigned; two more Hawaii librarians, Deborah Gutermuth and Sarah Preble, have joined. There is much to be done. Yvonne Farley has spoken of the need to "inoculate" West Virginia and other states against outsourcing.

Her fears are well founded. *LJ* recently reported (30 June 1997) that the county public library of Riverside, CA, has ended an 86-year contract with the city of Riverside and awarded a \$5.35 million, year-by-year, total outsourcing contract to Systems & Services, Inc. Tom DeSantis, deputy county executive officer said:

"We're doing this to make service a whole lot better." In response to concerns that Riverside could encounter snafus similar to those that plagued the Hawaii public library system's outsourcing deal with B&T, DeSantis said, "Hawaii has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions. Riverside will not be another Hawaii."

#### **RESOLUTION ON THE OUTSOURCING OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

Council Document #53, July 2nd, 1997

WHEREAS the practice of outsourcing collection development for a period of time in the state of Hawaii included complete reliance on a single vendor; allowed that single vendor to allocate 100% of the materials budget; included a single unit cost per item delivered; and included no right of return;

AND WHEREAS the Hawaii State Legislature in overruling this practice noted that "The legislature finds that this type of outsourcing contract in general is poor public policy. It elevates the book's price over the book's content";

AND WHEREAS it is a fundamental principle of the library profession to select materials appropriate to individual library communities so that the local library user receives the best service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Library Association endorses the principle that the core values of the library profession include local control of the selection of materials;

AND THAT copies of this resolution be sent to the governor of the state of Hawaii and the president of the Hawaii Library Association.

Moved by Mark Rosenzweig, Councilor at Large  
Seconded by Robert Franklin, Councilor at Large

#### **TRIBUTE TO HAWAII LIBRARIANS**

WHEREAS individual librarians in various communities banded together;

AND WHEREAS by doing so they rallied the general public in support of libraries and professional values;

AND WHEREAS they were effective in lobbying the state legislature to pass and the governor to sign A.B. 252 on June 19, 1997;

AND WHEREAS that legislation specifically reads:

312—Selection and acquisition of library books.

(a) The board of education shall take all steps possible in any outsourcing contract in effect on the effective date of this Act, including the development and implementation of necessary procedures, to ensure formal involvement by the state public service librarians in the selection of books and other library materials;

AND WHEREAS in doing so they affirmed their own professional ethics implied in their own public action and mobilization;

AND WHEREAS their actions raised the visibility of libraries and importance of professional library ethics and services in the eyes of the general public and inspired their library patrons to recognize and value the intellectual opportunities available to them through the public library and to demonstrate that via letters to the editor, telephone calls to legislators, personal testimony at hearings, and petitions in support of their libraries;

AND WHEREAS these actions ensure that the citizens of Hawai'i have access to the full dimension of ideas they need to be an informed citizenry;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Library Association applauds the efforts of the librarians in

Hawai'i to safeguard the right of local control of selection of library materials;

AND THAT copies of this resolution be sent to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and the president of the Hawai'i Library Association.

Moved by Michael A. Golrick, Connecticut Chapter Councilor; Deb Gilchrist, Councilor at Large; and James Casey, Councilor at Large

1997 Annual Conference of the American Library Association, San Francisco, California. Reviewed for confirmation with guidelines by Council Resolution Committee.

### LITERACY ASSEMBLY REPORT

There will be a Literacy Fair at the ALA Annual Conference next summer in Washington, D.C. Present planning would have the fair located at either the Library of Congress or the Smithsonian Institution, and the fair would include presentations, demonstrations, etc. As planning progresses, information should be appearing on the ALA website.

A description of the Literacy in Libraries Across America project, which is a collaboration between ALA and the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, is also on the ALA website (<http://www.ala.org/literacy/>), and a listserv has been initiated to promote discussion about literacy issues. You can join the discussion by sending a message to [listproc@ala.org](mailto:listproc@ala.org). Your message should say: sub library-lit <your name>.

The Assembly spent some time discussing its future and its relationship to the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services, and in particular how it might be more effective in the future. Using the listserv for communications, meeting at the Midwinter Meeting only, using feedback from accomplishments, and disseminating information about the results of programs rather than just information about programs' existence were some of the suggestions.

—Tom Wilding  
Literacy Assembly Liaison

### TO THE EDITOR

Has Council "outsourced" dealing with the issue of the Hawaii outsourcing model? When the issue was initially brought to the attention of ALA Council, many councilors claimed they simply didn't know enough about the particulars to make a judgment of the general issues involved. I don't believe that we can continue to plead ignorance. Anybody who wished to familiarize themselves with this matter in intimate detail has now had access to all the documentation, including very close press coverage from the Hawaiian press. There was an important forum at Conference where Hawaiian librarians themselves, those involved in this very conflict, laid out their case in the presence of a representative of Baker & Taylor and a standing-room-only crowd. There was ample opportunity there for pro-and-con discussion of what was at issue in the Hawaiian collection outsourcing policy. I hope councilors who claimed "lack of sufficient information" availed themselves of the possibilities of informing themselves about the matter at Conference. Hawaiian librarians and their advocates also went to some lengths to bring the outsourcing issue to the appropriate bodies like ALCTS and had it presented to the Council caucus.

I admit to being vexed that, despite all this, the collection outsourcing issue in Hawaii and its general implications were not brought to the Council floor in the form of any of the resolutions about them on the agenda. First, Councilor Goldrick withdrew the main resolution for reasons which to me are inexplicable. Every formal report was given higher priority and read in its entirety. A lengthy speech by Elizabeth Martinez was given privilege. The reintroduced/ reformulated Collection Outsourcing resolution was placed dead last on the agenda of Council III. Efforts to move it up for action were thwarted. Even after the Hawaii legislature sided with the librarians against Baker & Taylor and its defenders in management, even after it was clear that the issue was of great public concern outside professional library circles and had become one of those rare "hot" library issues which seem to beg for attention by our professional association—even then, even now, it seems that the Council clearly prefers not to deal with it. That is Council's pleasure and its right. So be it. But if this wasn't an issue with which ALA should have legitimate concerns and the right to an official opinion, I don't know what is! Apparently, however, our Association's professional judgment is itself being outsourced. Who holds the contract on professional responsibility in librarianship?

—Mark Rosenzweig  
Hofstra University

## RESOLUTION ON ALA AND THE GATES LIBRARY FOUNDATION

WHEREAS Council commends the Gates Library Foundation for its support for computer development in libraries in poor communities;

AND WHEREAS Council believes that there must be a comprehensive look at all the implications of such unprecedented philanthropic largesse;

AND WHEREAS Gates' interest in libraries can reasonably be seen as linked, at least in part, to plans to promote his own products and services and to maximize his corporations' market share and is not motivated entirely by the same dynamic as the concerns of public libraries and librarians;

AND WHEREAS the huge amount of money and Microsoft software involved may influence the direction of public library development in a way that ties libraries to the priority of specific electronic services over resources, services, and materials public libraries feel they must provide;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the GLF be asked to include on their board of directors a significant number of prominent librarians, including the ALA Executive Director, representing the range of views on library priorities and the place of electronic services, in recognition that librarians involved in their project at the local level must be the ultimate arbiters of professional issues;

AND THAT ALA Council recognizes that ALA's gratefulness to the GLF and similar enterprises should not imply that public libraries can be revitalized and sustained by principal reliance on private largesse, and that we will redouble our efforts for public support for libraries through changes in government policy at all levels.

Submitted by Mark Rosenzweig, Councilor at Large

## PROPOSAL FOR A PROGRESSIVE COUNCIL CAUCUS

In view of the power of the agenda-setting Council Caucus—essentially a caucus of the entire Council and therefore not really a caucus at all—which meets, late at night, prior to Council meetings to vet proposals and resolutions and agendas and scenarios of action to be acted out on the floor of Council in a charade of open democratic discussions and debate, I have called for the convening of a Progressive Council Caucus, an initiative of the Progressive Librarians Guild, but not limited to

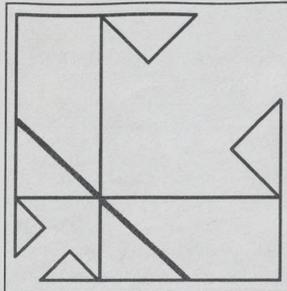
its agenda. It would be, rather, an organizing focus for effective presentation of those kinds of items the Council powers-that-be seek to keep off the agenda or foreclose debating or maneuver with preplanned parliamentary tricks to send into the black hole of consideration by committees or simply "table," i.e. kill. A Progressive Council Caucus will be open to sympathetic *members* of ALA as well as Councilors, representing those perspectives and constituencies and issues that need organized, united action to make any impact. It will seek to raise awareness of common concerns among groups like SRRT, people of color and cultural diversity, and among reform-minded individuals in the divisions and round tables generally—g/l/b/t activists, techno-critics, corporate watchdogs, union activists, and those who just feel that the trend of ALA is toward a less democratic, elite-dominated organization with a technocratic and managerialist bias. The purpose? To form common fronts on issues, platforms, etc. and to develop a sense of solidarity among disparate groupings—as well as issue-based solidarity in action—to counter the monolithic and well-organized "mainstream" Council efforts to narrow ALA's concerns and to preempt the injection of social justice and political issues into the debate despite their relevance to library development. We will actively work to get people elected to Council who are really committed to a broad democratic-cultural approach to librarianship, to substantive multiculturalism, to promoting a democratic and appropriate technology for libraries, to an orientation to serving the underserved. We will, from this point on, reserve hours at the Council suite for such meetings. Hopefully, all SRRT Councilors will wish to attend. Well-known progressives in Council will be urged to participate (some have already pledged their support), we will actively work to revitalize the Membership meetings and use them for the generation of significant Membership resolutions for presentation to Council by sympathetic Councilors working in concert. It doesn't matter if this Progressive Council Caucus starts out with only a few active and committed members. We are confident it will grow once the seed is planted. *Adelante!*

RESOLVED: That SRRT supports the formation of a Progressive Council Caucus to spearhead efforts to restore democracy to the Association and reestablish the legitimacy of social and political issues for the profession through promoting campaigns of progressive Council candidates and through the coordination of the actions of Councilors with agendas marginalized by the increasingly conservative Council.

Submitted by Mark Rosenzweig

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—*Bob Duckett, Library Association Record*

### **COUNTERPOISE: For Social Responsibilities, Liberty and Dissent**

Vol. 1, No. 1—, January 1997—  
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WITH A LUMPEN IN OUR THROAT ...

We bid adieu to Leslie Stella, who is leaving her job at ALA Production Services, after 14 months, to devote her time to the highly regarded Chicago fanzine *Lumpen*. She produces this zine, which has a national distribution of 20,000 and was cited by *Factsheet Five* in their "top ten list of definitive guides to the zine revolution," with coeditors Chris Molnar and Ed Marszewski. *Lumpen*, a political/satire magazine, was also a finalist in the *Utne Reader's* Alternative Press Awards for 1996, in the Cultural Issues category. She describes *Lumpen* as "a combination of underground attitude, slacker indifference, and major league dissent."

Leslie also published a young people's magazine through the Chicago Public Library, with a grant called "Blue Skies for Library Kids," entitled *What's Uptown*. Its purpose was to give kids a forum in which to express their opinions and voices. The staff was comprised largely of young people aged 8-18, from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds, many immigrants, and included adults in literacy programs, former gang members, elderly nursing home residents, and women from a local battered women's shelter. She taught them the rudiments of publishing an independent magazine, desktop publishing computer skills, how to come up with themes and assignments, and how to get along together and work toward a common goal. The magazine was published for two years on a bimonthly basis.

I'd like to express my gratitude to Leslie for all her help with the *SRRT Newsletter* and extend my congratulations and best wishes for the future.

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