

Social Responsibilities Round Table

OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R

number 133

December 1999

from the srrt coordinator:

Greeting fellow SRRT Members. It is customary to begin one's first message to you by thanking you for the opportunity to serve, that I am looking forward to the challenge and tasks at hand, and that I hope to hear from you with suggestions, ideas, comments, etc. However, there is something that is needed first.

Wendy Thomas, who stepped down as SRRT Coordinator at the ALA Annual Meeting after serving two terms at the helm of this Round Table, deserves all of our thanks for her tenure in office. It is hopeful that as one accepts the challenge this position offers that it lands in the hands of a capable and caring person and a true leader. We were so blessed with Wendy. SRRT grew in many ways over the past two years and sometimes it was a rocky road over which the round table traveled. Looming over SRRT for several years has been an ongoing problem with our budget, a problem whose resolution began seeing light last year. While it is a problem with which we must still contend, Wendy and others have provided initial guidance and direction for us to follow. One of the task forces in SRRT was successful in achieving its own momentum and strength to take the next step in its growth, becoming the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Round Table. Wendy helped in this process. Wendy leaves a legacy of leadership for SRRT. I like to think that she also leaves us a big, friendly, and warm smile and the simple word, "Hope," as SRRT moves around the next meander in the river.

Since the 1999 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, I have spent my SRRT-time learning about budget processes, relationships between and with our Task Forces, understanding more and more each day the roles of SRRT, the groups comprising SRRT, and the people served by SRRT and its voice of social responsibility. Part of that later endeavor is working with SRRT members to increase our presence on ALA committees and other ALA bodies that serve as instruments of influence and governance. I hope that we will see more SRRT members seeking roles outside of SRRT itself where they can serve ALA and the profession. I hope that we as a round table and that the individual groups that form the heart of SRRT can work to promoting our individual and our collective agendas before other members of ALA - and beyond. I am planning to attend and would encourage others in SRRT, especially leaders of our task forces, to participate in programs and activities of the New Members Round Table. This provides us a tremendous opportunity to share with members new to the profession and even newer to the Association that SRRT is a vital and viable group within ALA.

In recent weeks there has been a glimmer of hope on the SRRTAC-L discussion list, with students in library schools voicing their concerns over several issues. A common thread running through these messages has been the lack of a social awareness among their peers. There is a GREAT potential for those of us working in or near schools that are training and educating librarians to offer our expertise and talents as professionals. We can and should be an essential force blowing on the glowing ember of social consciousness in our library schools. We can do this by serving as speakers for ALA student chapters. Better yet, invite the chapter and faculty to your library not only to discuss and demonstrate what happens there, but how can and do put into your own profession the ideas and ideals of social responsibility. Write about SRRT in their school newsletters. If they don't have one, help them get one started. Even a two-sided single sheet of (recycled, chlorine-free) paper can convey a lot of information. Mentor, teach, encourage, invite, and share — all things we can and should be doing for students wanting to enter our profession.

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Further Coordination

(from the front page)

THE CONTINUING SAGA

Midwinter 2000 - the first SRRT Meetings of a new decade, century and millennium We will not have a lack of things to do in San Antonio! SRRT Activities will begin Saturday, January 15, at 8:00 a.m. with the All-Task Force Meeting. This is the traditional time slot afford all of our task forces to gather in one location for informal to quasi-formal discussion. This is the time to discuss future programs, activities, and issues — publications, Web site development, services. Many task forces use this time for official business meetings, discussing issues not only for and about the task force, but preparing materials to be brought before the SRRT action Council or to the ALA Council. I have requested that all of SRRT meetings be held in the conference hotel so that ALA staff might be in closer proximity to our meetings and able to attend. Following the All-Task Force Event the SRRT Action Council I will convene in the same room from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Action Council II will take place on Monday, January 17 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. We will be discussing the SRRT budget issue, hear task force reports and discuss relationships between SRRT and the tasks forces. The issue about task force by-laws or guidelines will take place. SRRT members will be submitting a number of resolutions to the ALA Council, as well as discuss several aspects about Council and ALA governance. Please have your resolutions prepared before Action Council meetings and come with 40 copies for distribution. PCs, Macs and copying services are found in the ALA Office at the Convention Center to help you prepare any materials you would like to bring to Action Council. If you have an item you would like to have on the agenda(s) for Action Council I or II, please email me directly for having it added.

Safe travels to all of us planning to attend ALA Midwinter. I hope to see many of you there.

Fred Stoss,
SRRT Coordinator

SRRT Newsletter (ISSN 0749-1670) is published quarterly by the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association. It is sent to members of SRRT as part of their membership and is available to others by subscription for \$15.00 per year. Subscription is open to both members and non-members of ALA. Correspondence and manuscripts may be sent to the editors at

Jessamyn West: jessamyn@eskimo.com
or **Ken Thompson:** ken-thompson@excite.com
or the SRRT Newsletter book review editor

Adrienne Julius: ajulius@ghc.ctc.edu

Views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of ALA/SRRT. The editors reserve the right to edit submitted material as necessary or as whimsy strikes. Next deadline 4/15

2000 Annual Conference Poster Sessions

Applications for presenting poster sessions at the 2000 American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois are now being accepted. An application form is available on the poster session website at <http://www.lib.siu.edu/ala>. The website also provides rules and guidelines for presenting poster sessions, helpful hints in applying, frequently asked questions, and photos of sample poster sessions. If you don't have access to the World Wide Web, you can apply via e-mail. Send the following information to posters@lib.siu.edu:

Title, author's name, institutional address, e-mail address, and 200 word abstract

If you don't have access to the World Wide Web or to e-mail, please contact Jody Bales Foote, Chair, ALA Poster Session Review Panel, Morris Library Mailcode 6632, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-6632, or 618-453-2274 (telephone) for instructions on how to apply. The deadline for submitting an application is January 31, 2000. Applicants will be notified by March 31, 2000 whether their poster sessions have been accepted for presentation at the conference. Poster Sessions will be presented on July 8, 9, and 10 at the Chicago conference.

SRRTAC-L

The SRRT discussion group SRRTAC-L is open to all SRRT members and is a low-traffic [less than five messages a day unless there's a hot topic brewing] way of keeping up with SRRT's issues and discussions in-between conferences. Help decide SRRT's future directions and join in some lively debates.

If you would like to join the SRRT discussion group, send the following message to listproc@ala.org:

subscribe SRRTAC-L [your first name] [your last name]

SRRT'S WEB SITE

Want more information on SRRT? Want to find contact information for the many SRRT Task Forces? Turn your browser toward the official SRRT web site:

<http://www.jessamyn.com/srrt>

A New Year's Resolutions

THUS SPAKE SRRT

Resolution on Spectrum Initiative

WHEREAS the Spectrum Initiative is crucial for the broader and more effective development of our profession; and

WHEREAS the photograph on the new Spectrum Initiative brochure cover omits representations of large ethnic groups that have been victims of discrimination; and

WHEREAS the brochure refers peculiarly to people of "every hue" focusing on genetic attributes rather than culture; and

WHEREAS the brochure avoids the question of the need to fight racism and institutionalized discrimination; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the SRRT Action Council of the American Library Association urges removal of this brochure and substituting a positive and appropriate alternative.

Passed by SRRT Action Council June 28, 1999

Resolution on ALA Membership Meeting Quorum

WHEREAS ALA is a membership organization; and

WHEREAS the quorum for convening membership meetings has been set so high that no membership meeting has been able to convene since the upward change in attendees needed for a quorum was instituted; and

WHEREAS a membership organization should have membership meetings at annual conferences, which can consider proposals etc. and refer items to be voted on by an elected council; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table urges ALA to modify the quorum requirements by setting it at 100; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table urges ALA to schedule membership meetings at a time and place which facilitates the convening of such a meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table urges ALA to affirm the importance of membership meetings at Annual conferences by recognizing that quorum rules are meant to facilitate rather than render impossible the convening of such meetings; and finally be it

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table urges that the by-laws change on the quorum be re-

submitted for a membership vote at the earliest opportunity with a recommendation from Council to adjust the quorum for the purpose of facilitating the holding, once again, of membership meetings.

Passed by SRRT Action Council June 28, 1999

Resolution on Sandy Berman

WHEREAS Sanford Berman is one of the most respected voices in the field of librarianship; and

WHEREAS his dedicated work at Hennepin County Library has enhanced the reputation of HCL tremendously through his innovated approaches to cataloging and brought it significant benefits; and

WHEREAS Sanford Berman was formally reprimanded by management and then reassigned (i.e. removed from his position in cataloging) on account of his discussion of professional matters with colleagues and the voicing of his principled opinions on library matters; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association decries the denial of Sanford Berman's rights to discuss differing opinions on professional matters in his area of expertise, and express our outrage at the behavior of Hennepin County Library, Berman's employer, who, in retribution, exiled him to work away from the cataloging to which he has dedicated several highly productive decades; and finally be it

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association calls for censure of Hennepin County Libraries administration for its infringements of Berman's free speech rights, for its retribution against him and its overall violations of his professional rights.

Passed by SRRT Action Council June 28, 1999

Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes in Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians Rights and Responsibilities

WHEREAS the ALA Policy Manual makes clear that the American Library Association is committed to defense of librarian's rights including, but not confined to intellectual freedom rights; and

WHEREAS a mechanism for dealing with these crucial professional matters no longer exists since the dissolution of

Resolutions

SCRIM; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association calls on ALA to create a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of professional rights and responsibilities of librarians within libraries themselves; and also be it

RESOLVED that such a committee should be empowered to investigate and come to judgement about appropriate instances brought to its attention; and finally be it

RESOLVED that the committee can propose censure, remedies or the mediation of such disputes as involve infringement of librarians' rights as spelled out in our policy manual.

Passed by SRRT Action Council June 28, 1999

RESOLV-A-MUNDO

Resolution on the Militarization of ALA and General Powell's Keynote Speech

Whereas, General Colin Powell has been selected as the 1999 ALA Keynote Speaker; and

Whereas, Powell, as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations at a base in Vietnam, had a key role in trying to cover up the My Lai Massacre; and

Whereas, Powell, as President Reagan's National Security Advisor, was of key importance in supporting the Contra War against the people of Nicaragua; and

Whereas, Powell, as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, illegally invaded Panama and bombed thousands of civilians; and

Whereas, Powell presided over the Persian Gulf War killing thousands of civilians as well as thousands of retreating soldiers on what was called "The Highway of Death"; and

Whereas, the continuing bombing of the civilian infrastructure of Iraq and continuing sanctions have reduced a moderately affluent quality of life to poverty for most people in that country; and

Whereas, the recent bombing of the civilian infrastructure of Yugoslavia parallels the Iraq experience; and

Whereas, the United States has bombed four countries within the last year, including a crucial pharmaceutical factory in Sudan;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association deplors the decision to hire General Powell to give the 1999 Keynote

Speech; and be it further

Resolved, that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association demands that future Keynote Speakers be associated with life-enhancing work; and be it further

Resolved, that this resolution be distributed to the ALA President, ALA Executive Board, and the library press.

Submitted by Al Kagan, Chair of SRRT International Responsibilities Task Force

Seconded by Mark Rosenzweig

Passed by SRRT Action Council, 6/28/99

Resolution in Support of EPA Libraries

Whereas, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized the importance of its mission to "move the Agency to the forefront of information management and providing the public with integrated and high quality information" (Memo; to Assistant Administrators, Carolyn M. Browner, EPA Administrator, October 14, 1998); and

Whereas, the EPA Administrator has laid out an ambitious and welcomed plan to "create a structural frame work for EPA's new information office... consisting of three offices:

- Information Policy and Collection
- Information Technology and Services
- Information Analysis and Access"

(Carol Browner, Inside EPA, December 11, 1998; Carol M Browner, letter to Peter Robertson, Acting Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, November 23, 1998); and

Whereas, the U.S. House of Representatives is drafting a bill to "promote a "Second Generation" of Environmental Protection entitled, the Second-Generation of Environmental Improvement Act (May 17, 1999, Representatives Calvin Dooley and James Greenwood, Members of Congress)' and

Whereas, Title I of this proposed bill, "Information Management" further recognizes EPA's role as steward of environmental data and information in the broadest sense of its responsibilities; and

Whereas, Title I of this bill would require the EPA Administrator to, among other actions, designate a Chief Information Officer, publish an annual report of environmental indicators, review existing agency monitor and reporting activities and requirements, and establish a program to provide money for states and localities to assist them in improving environmental reporting, highlight environmental monitoring activities of all Federal agencies through budget reviews, establish a public recognition program; and

International Responsibilities Task Force

The SRRT International Responsibilities Task Force had a successful program at the 1999 Annual Conference on "Searching for the Enemy: Alternative Sources for US Foreign Policy." It was co-sponsored by the SRRT Alternatives in Print Task Force. Chuck D'Adamo presented a selected bibliography on the best books for US foreign policy and analyzed the content of articles in the Alternative Press Index. He was therefore able to give us a table of authors and where they publish their articles, the number of articles on US foreign policy in the journals indexed, the subjects covered, and the institutions and key subject terms. He also provided a quick printout of broad articles published from 1991 to 1998. Send requests for copies of this research to tocdadam@charm.net.

Erik Leaver from the Institute for Policy Studies described the work of the Institute and provided information packets including samples of their short policy briefings titled, *Foreign Policy in Focus*. These publications are a joint effort of the IPS and the Interhemispheric Resource Center. He also talked about US policy towards Iraq and Yugoslavia. See their website at <http://www.foreignpolicy-infocus.org> or contact Erik at leaverpif@igc.org.

Tom Fenton from WorldViews talked about how he identifies friendly organizations and prints the information in their quarterly bibliography (with same title). He talked about the work of World Views, and noted that their Third World Resource Directory and their Africa World Press Guide are available free online. For more information, see their website at <http://www.igc.org/worldviews/awpguide/> or e-mail to worldviews@igc.org.

Ann Sparanese distributed a short handout bibliography on Cuba and Latin America. For copies, contact her at SPARANESE@bccls.org.

Elaine Harger provided a short annotated bibliography on works for middle or high school students. For copies, contact her at eharger@tao.agoron.com.

We also organized the protest against the appearance of General Powell as ALA's keynote speaker focusing on the implications of this militarization of ALA and his outrageous fee of \$70,000 especially in light of his focus on volunteerism. Even though a vendor paid \$50,000 of the fee, there are many better ways to spend the remaining \$20,000 of our dues money. And perhaps the vendor's \$50,000 could have also gone to something worthwhile. Finally, we note the passage of the SRRT resolution calling for a new policy towards Iraq

including the lifting of sanctions, promotion of a weapons free zone in the Middle East, and balancing our collections.

Al Kagan Chair,
SRRT International Responsibilities Task Force
Akagan@uiuc.edu

Alternatives In Print

The Alternatives In Print Task Force has had a change in leadership, with Rory Litwin stepping in as coordinator and Charles Willett continuing as Counterpoise editor. For the midwinter meeting in San Antonio AIP is planning a discussion group with Cinco Puntos Press and Bryce Milligan of Wings Press as guests. This will be an open meeting and will be advertised in the conference program. All are invited to attend. Gerardo Colmenar and Pat Leamon are organizing this event. For the summer conference AIP is planning two programs - *Erotia in Libraries*, with Chuck Munson as chair, and *Alternative Children's Literature*, with Rory Litwin and Teri Weesner as co-chairs. Ongoing projects include the publication of *Counterpoise* by Charles Willett and his fine editorial board (too many to mention); the compilation of *Alternative Publishers of Books in North America* by Byron Anderson, projected to go to the web next year; the annual Eubanks Award for contributions to the alternative press; the not-so-facetious Almost Banned Book Awards for the most significant, least acquired publications in libraries; and an upcoming core list of alternative publications for medium sized libraries. If you would like to be involved in any of these projects, please contact Rory Litwin at rlitwin@libr.org.

Task Force on the Environment

Happenings at EPA

On October 26, EPA Administrator Carol Browner announced the formation of a new office within the structure of the agency, the Office of Environmental Information. The most striking aspect about this is the establishment of this new office is its placement at the Assistant Administrator level. "The Office of Environmental Information will play a key role in supporting the Agency's mission to enhance public health and environmental protection by working to improve the way we collect, manage, integrate, and provide access to environmental information," Browner stated in her

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memo to all EPA staff. One of the more critical aspects of this new office will be the degree to which EPA will make data useful for informing decisions, improving information management, documenting performance, reducing reporting burdens, measuring success and enhancing public access. Management and staff of the Office of Environmental Information will be reaching out to build partnerships within the EPA as well as recommit their existing relationships with other professional organizations, including library and information associations, societies, and organizations. Over the past five years the Task Force on the Environment has sought active participation in ALA meetings with open houses and tours of EPA Libraries or having EPA Librarians and information managers speaking at TFOE programs (Chicago, 1995; New York, 1996; San Francisco, 1997; Washington, DC, 1998; Philadelphia and New Orleans, 1999). TFOE is looking forward to extending its relationship with the EPA Library and librarians at the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago, with a tour and open house of the EPA Region 5

Library. Speakers from the EPA will be telling us first hand about the new organization and the Office of Environmental Information. We hope to have other EPA librarians and information specialists talk about the National EPA Library Network, the continuing work of the EPA's Center for Environmental Information and Statistics, and some of the unique data and information programs and services of the Region 5 Great Lakes Office. TFOE and SRRT approved resolutions voicing concerns about the EPA Libraries, in particular a disturbing trend in the reduction of their budgets. This resolution will be presented to the ALA Council for consideration at the ALA 2000 Midwinter Meeting.

TFOE At the ALA Annual Meeting

At last year's annual meeting TFOE was treated with an outstanding overview of the many services and opportunities for resources sharing with EPA Libraries and information programs. What was special about these presentations was not only were the given by members of the EPA Library staff, but also by a member of TFOE and SRRT! Richard Huffine and colleagues provided an over view of the EPA Library Network, a national network of services, products, publication, and expertise. He also spoke about the EPA's new Center for Environmental Information and Statistics. I had the great fortune of participating with CEIS and representing ALA at the May 1999 President's Conference on Sustainability held in Detroit. The session at which we gave our presentations dealt with engaging communities in dialogues about the environment. A synopsis of my presen-

tation was published in the May 1999 issue of Counterpoise (published by SRRT's Alternatives in Print Task Force). The EPA's Center for Environmental Information and Statistics was created to bring environmental data and information to communities. The CEIS website, <http://www.epa.gov/ceis/>, provides teachers, officials, community and neighborhood activists, students, libraries, and citizens with access to information about their neighborhoods and communities in which they live. CEIS has developed and is adding to its inventories of environmental quality data and information resources specific The data used by CEIS are reported to EPA by states, tribes, territories, and other entities regulated by the EPA. These data and information resources are collected and managed by the EPA to support environmental programs related to laws and regulations, such as the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The CEIS site is rather graphic intensive with many maps, charts, and graphs. If you are looking for information specific for your state, county, city, town, village, hamlet, or your own block, check the EPA's data warehouse in the Center for Environmental Information and Statistics, you'll find a wealth of information to keep your library and your library users abreast of environmental quality issues.

Silver Anniversary for CEI

On October 14th the Center for Environmental Information in Rochester, New York celebrated its 25th Anniversary and Community Salute. CEI was founded in 1974 as a direct result of the demands for information and data by county and local officials and staff, teachers, students, business and community leaders, and citizens — all caught in the wake of an explosion of information created by Earth Day in 1970. To honor its commitment to the environmental cause CEI presented 25 Environmental Achievement Awards to local officials, businesses, activists, teachers, and others you have helped to shape the environmental history of Rochester and the Genesee-Finger Lakes region of New York. Kathryn S. Fuller, President of the World Wildlife Fund, provided the keynote address for the gala evening. She described recent and ongoing efforts of WWF in leading the way for conserving and protecting wildlife resources around the world. The CEI event was attended by more than 300. CEI was founded in 1974 by Dr. Elizabeth Thorndike. CEI's first professional librarian is Fred Stoss, past TFOE Chair and current SRRT Coordinator. It was also Fred's first position as a librarian.

For more information about CEI: 55 St. Paul Street, Rochester, New York 14604-1314; (716) 262-2870. CEI is creating anew Web site at: <http://www.rochesterenvironment.org/>.

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Whereas, the EPA Library Network serves as and time-tested, reliable, and trusted gatekeeper for the identification, acquisition, management, dissemination, and archiving of critical environmental data and information through the development of its special collections, repositories, services, networking, and expertise; and

Whereas, the EPA Library network has made tremendous strides to provide the American people a strong commitment to the skills and services of libraries and librarians to make environmental information as accessible; and

Whereas, the EPA and the American Library Association are initiating the development of stronger ties to improve, enhance, and evolve existing programs, services, and resources to provide comprehensive, long-term and consistent data and information base of environmental information; and

Whereas, the Task Force on the Environment is dismayed at the failure of any public comments about the EPA's environmental initiatives to recognize or mention the data and information management roles of its (or other) libraries or its (or other) librarians; and

Whereas, the Task Force on the Environment deplors the recent and proposed massive cuts in budget allocations to support the EPA Libraries, EPA and EPA-contract librarians; EPA library collection; and

Whereas, the Task Force on the Environment feels that these reductions will seriously diminish the EPA Libraries to provide collections, services, and expertise not only for the public but to the scientific, policy, and administrative staffs of the agency;

Be it resolved that the American Library Association continue to work with the EPA Libraries and centers for environmental information to construct stronger relations and resource sharing; and that the American Library Association work with the U.S. Congress to include a clear and meaningful recognition of the skills, resources, expertise, and collections of the EPA Libraries and Library Network; and that the American Library Association investigate the funding of the EPA Libraries and Library Network to assure that government resources are being used to adequately fund the collections, staffs, resources, services, and functions all of the EPA Libraries, EPA Librarians, and EPA-contract librarians.

Respectfully submitted by:

Frederick W. Stoss, M.S., M.L.S.
Science and Engineering Library
SUNY University at Buffalo

Submitted on behalf of the Task Force on the Environment
Social Responsibilities Round Table
Passed by SRRT Action Council, 6/28/99

STILL RESOLVING

Gay and lesbian literature since World War II: history and memory.

Sonya L. Jones, editor.

1998: The Harrington Park Press,
New York.

(Co-published simultaneously as *Journal of Homosexuality*, Vol. 34, Numbers 3/4, 1998.)

BOOK REVIEW

In the introduction, Sonya L. Jones calls *Gay and Lesbian Literature since World War II* "an attempt to chronicle the multifaceted explosion in gay and lesbian writing that has taken place in the second half of the twentieth century". Topics covered in this anthology include American gay poetry ("The Calamus Root: A Study of American Gay Poetry Since World War II" by Walter Holland), the birth of independent lesbian feminist presses in the 1970s ("Built Out of Books: Lesbian Energy and Feminist Ideology in Alternative Publishing" by Kate Adams), and the effect the AIDS epidemic has had on Latino literature ("Breaking the Silence, Dismantling Taboos: Latino Novels on AIDS" by Alberto Sandoval Sanchez). The essay on preservation and access with regards to queer archives ("Resources for Lesbian Ethnographic Research in the Lavender Archives" by Alisa Klinger) is notable for two reasons: it addresses genuine concerns with regards to LGBT research and is also the only essay in this collection that does not have a colon in its title. The writing in this anthology ranges from clear and concise ("The literary and theoretical products of alternative lesbian-feminist publishing have been one of the richest and most last accomplishments of the women's liberation movement" from the Kate Adams essay) to incredibly pedantic ("In a gesture that reverses the Lacanian model of the child moving into the Symbolic Order as he separates from the pre-linguistic bond with the mother..." from "Inscribing a Lesbian Reader, Projecting a Lesbian Subject: A Jane Rule Diptych" by Marilyn R. Schuster). Overall, however, the anthology is well-written, well-edited, and covers a lot of new territory. Recommended for any academic or queer library.

Katia Roberto
kroberto@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu

Students and New Members Welcomed

THE FINAL WORD

I would like to say a very special welcome to those are receiving this newsletter as their first issue and have recently joined SRRT or ALA and have included Social Responsibilities as one of your professional or personal priorities. Let me be the first to say that you have made a wise and noble decision! To new student members I want to say a special thanks for not only considering SRRT, but also for doing so within the constraints of hectic, crowded, and demanding class schedules. Your participation in SRRT is welcomed and needed. The areas covered by SRRT are broad and have far-reaching effects and impacts. If you are coming to the Midwinter meeting in January, I would like to invite you to attend the ALL-Task Force Event on Saturday, January 15, at 8:00 a.m. Bring a cup of coffee or tea, a bottle of fruit juice, and a danish and visit the task forces comprising the Social Responsibilities Round Table. You may want to come and meet them all or sit in on the discussions for a particular

one or two. Introduce yourself as a new member or as a student. Provide us an opportunity to meet each other. Don't be shy or afraid, we won't put you to work right way. We'll wait at least five minutes for you pitch in and share your talents and expertise among us! If you are not planning to attend the Midwinter meeting, drop a short note to the chair or coordinator of the SRRT groups with which you would like more information. We all can use your comments, suggestions, expertise, help, and encouragement. This is your Round Table and you are invited to contribute to its future. I look forward to meeting our new and student members at the Midwinter meeting.

Fred Stoss
SRRT Coordinator

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<http://www.jessamyn.com/srrt>

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