

GLBTRT NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL TRANSGENDERED ROUND TABLE
OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

2002 Book Awards Announced

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT) of the American Library Association is pleased to announce the winners of their 2002 book awards in Literature and Nonfiction. **Moisès Kaufman and the Tectonic Theatre Project, win the literature award for their play, *The Laramie Project* (Vintage). Barry Werth wins the 2002 Nonfiction Award for *The Scarlet Professor* (Nan Talese/Doubleday).**

The masterfully edited, *Laramie Project* was written as a play but succeeds as literature. Exploring the events surrounding the murder of Mathew Shepard, the drama allows the townspeople and participants to speak for themselves through interviews and moments captured by the members of the Tectonic Theatre Project in several visits to Laramie, Wyoming. "I found this a captivating read," said committee chair John Bradford (Villa Park Illinois Public Library), "one that I did not want to put down. The use of the moment to capture the essence of an individual or an event worked as well here as in an impressionist painting."

The Scarlet Professor unearths an important part of GLBT history. In addition to detailing the life and struggle of Newton Arvin, a prominent scholar of American Literature, this book describes the puritanical crusade by police and the U.S. Postal Service that led to the arrest of Arvin and two other Smith College professors for possessing "obscene" materials. Anne Moore (University of Massachusetts), past chair of the award committee, remarks, "The impact of this beautifully written and well-researched work can, in part, be measured by the decision of the current Smith College Board of Trustees 'to explore appropriate responses by the college' regarding the dismissal of the professors involved in the case."

The 2002 Honor Books in Literature were *Guess Again: Short Stories*, by Bernard Cooper (Simon & Schuster); *The Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things*, by J.T. Leroy (Bloomsbury); *Pages for You*, by Sylvia Brownrigg (Farrar, Straus and Giroux); and *Welsh Boys Too*, by John Sam Jones (Parthian Books).

The 2002 Honor Books in Nonfiction were *Courting Justice*, by Joyce Murdoch and Deb Price (Basic Books); *How I Learned to Snap*, by Kirk Read (Hill Street Press); *Loss within Loss: Artists in the Age of AIDS*, by Edmund White (ed.) with The Estate Project for Artists with AIDS (University of Wisconsin Press); *The Stranger Next Door*, by Arlene Stein (Beacon Press); and *You're Not from Around Here, Are You?* by Louise A. Blum (University of Wisconsin Press).

--John Bradford, Chair
jpbmls@yahoo.com

From the Editor

In accordance with our (wise) bylaws, I will be stepping down as Newsletter Editor after serving two consecutive terms. It has been a pleasure to serve the GLBTRT Roundtable in this capacity. I want to thank you, gentle reader, for your support of the Round Table, and of the newsletter. I am continuing my commitment to our professional work, and will be serving as a member of the Book Award Committee for the coming term.

The capable Ken Wells of the University of Florida has accepted the position of Editor. I will continue to support the work of the Newsletter Committee in an advisory capacity, as needed. If you are interested in working on the newsletter, please email Ken at: kenwells@ufl.edu.

With best and warmest regards,

Mary Callaghan "Cal" Zunt
Outgoing GLBTRT Newsletter Editor

Breakfast Planning

Last month GLBTRT members received information regarding our Annual Book Awards Breakfast by mail. **As noted in our previous mailing, the event is scheduled for Monday June 17, 2002 at 7:30am-10:00am -- note that it will begin at 7:30am.**

Join us in Atlanta to honor our Book Award winners Moises Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project, for *The Laramie Project*, and Barry Werth, for *The Scarlet Professor: Newton Arvin, a Literary Life Shattered by Scandal*. **Featured speakers will include author and playwright, Jim Grimsley and Redbone Press publisher, Lisa Moore.**

Jim Grimsley, who won the - then named- GLBTF Literature award in 1996, has published three novels: *Winter Birds*, *My Drowning*, and *Comfort and Joy*, and a book of plays, *Mr. Universe and Other Plays*. His new work, *Boulevard*, will be published this spring. Lisa Moore is the owner of the only publishing house in the country, dedicated to publishing the work of black lesbian writers.

You can register for this breakfast online at ala.org when you register for the annual conference, by completing the registration form you received in the mail, or by sending a check made out to ALA, care of ALA, Dept. #77-6565, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL, 60678-6565.

Please indicate "31st Annual GLBTRT Book Awards Breakfast" in your correspondence. **The cost is \$50.00 how matter how or when you register, but register soon, we often sell out, and no tickets can be sold at the conference itself!** See you there!

Bylaw Changes Regarding Creation of Fundraising Committee

The following information was provided by Norman Eriksen, Treasurer of the GLBTRT regarding the proposed creation of a permanent Fundraising Committee. Please forward any comments to him at the email address below. In accordance with the GLBTRT Bylaws, this change will be voted on at the Annual Membership meeting of the GLBTRT Round Table. Three-fourths of the voting members attending must approve any change. Thanks to David Van Hoy for researching the by-laws.

Proposed bylaw revision:
Establishment of the Fund Raising Committee

The purpose of this committee is to organize and oversee the raising of funds from sources other than dues to support the roundtable activities. There shall be a chair of the committee and the treasurer shall serve as an ex-officio member.

The membership shall be recruited from the regular roundtable members. The chair shall be appointed to serve for a two year period alternating with the election of the treasurer. In the absence of a committee chair, the treasurer and one of the co-chairs will supervise the activities of the committee.

Funding sources can be defined as individual or organizational donations; income derived from fund raising activities such as sale of donated goods and services or monies received from grants.

All committee activities shall be in accordance with the bylaws and rules of the American Library Association. The committee chair and the treasurer will provide the Development Office of the American Library Association with copies of all proposed activities prior to implementation.

Current members of the Ad hoc committee are:

James Simonis, Chair -simonis@lemoyne.edu
Norman Eriksen, Treasurer-
n.eriksen@brooklynpubliclibrary.org

Committee Members-
Steve Stratton-sestratt@mail1.vcu.edu
David Van Hoy-dcvh@mit.edu
Margaret Pas -m.pas@brooklynpubliclibrary.org
Robert Ridinger -c60rbrl@corn.cso.niu.edu
Barbara Stevens-steinbr@uwec.edu

Treasurer's Update

Donations are starting to come from the letter that was mailed out looking for donations to the book award fund endowment. Please consider any amount possible. (I will refrain from my usual NPR pledge text but it is in the files for future use).

If we get to the \$40,000 mark in this year we can then think about the next stage to \$60,000 for the establishing a Children/Young Adult Book Award. The roundtable is currently in good financial shape and the membership is growing. The ad hoc fund raising committee is becoming a standing committee with Chair James Simionis and a good crew of volunteers.

If anyone knows of potential funding sources, please post them to the listserv and we will then follow up on them. New Orleans was fun Atlanta should be just a much fun. I hope to see everyone there.

I remain yours in black ink,

Norman Eriksen
Treasurer, GLBTRT
Division Chief
General Reference Center
Brooklyn Public Library
Grand Army Plaza
Brooklyn, New York 11238
Fax- 718.230.2065
Telephone – 718.230.2716

n.eriksen@brooklynpubliclibrary.org

Volunteers Needed for GLBTRT Exhibit Booth Annual Conference in Atlanta

YOU are needed! And isn't it nice to be needed? **The Membership Committee is planning an exciting Exhibit Hall Booth for Annual in Atlanta.** If you have an hour or two to spare, we would be honored to have your smiling face in the booth.

Helping out at the booth is a great way to promote the work of the Round Table and network with colleagues and vendors. Last year, over 200 attendees stopped at our booth.

Reserve your volunteer slot early and you can choose the prime times! Please contact me if you can help on any way. Later, I may have to resort to begging and dramatics and that's not really pretty, is it?

-Emily Edwards
EEDWARDS@leegov.com

Book Award Committee

The Book Awards Committee is please to welcome the following new members for the 2002-2004 term:

Lynn Evarts, Sauk Prairie High School (WI)
Mary Callaghan "Cal" Zunt, Cleveland Public Library (OH)
Jamie McGrath, Oakland Public Library (CA)
Katie Lynds, San Francisco Public Library (CA)
Chet Mulawka, San Mateo County Library (CA)
Nick Rosselli, Indiana University Northwest (IN)

Continuing members of the committee are:

Ellen Bosman, Indiana Univ. Northwest (Chair)
Cecil Hixson, New York Public Library (Vice Chair/Chair Elect)
John DeSantis, Dartmouth College
Karl Fattig, Bowdoin College
Lisa Johnston, Sweet Briar College
Patricia Pereira-Pujol, University of South Florida
Don Yarman, Time Warner Communications

On behalf of the Committee and the Round Table, I would like to thank departing committee members for their dedication and service:

Anne Moore, University of Massachusetts
Jim Hoogstra, Detroit Public Library
Nancy Silverrod, San Francisco Public Library
Susan Parker, California State University Northridge

Ellen Bosman, Incoming Chair

Technical Services Librarian
Indiana University Northwest Library
3400 Broadway / Gary, IN 46408
Ph: 219-980-6947 : Fax: 219-980-6558
<<http://www.iun.edu/~libemb>>

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50 E. Huron St.,
Chicago, IL 60611.

Letters to the editor, correspondence to the above address care of:
Cal Zunt
Newsletter Editor
email: cal.zunt@cpl.org

Clearinghouse/Website News

The following information is summarized from the full report presented during ALA regarding the GLBTRT Clearinghouse and Newsletter by Keith Trimmer, Clearinghouse/Website administrator for the roundtable.

Our website is a fantastic resource. Visit it soon at: http://calvin.usc.edu/~trimmer/ala_hp2.html.

"As usual, I am pleased to report that overall traffic on the web site continues to grow. With one notable exception (the Religion and Spirituality page), every page on the site had more hits in the last six months than in the previous six months. Traffic on the home page more than doubled during the period. For example, the Home Page has received 31,607 hits since the counter was first added on April 27, 1997. During the last six months, 9,055 hits were recorded. During the previous six months (between Midwinter 2001 and Annual 2001) there were 4111 hits.

"Clearinghouse: Since Annual 2001, three orders have been received through OLOS. One (request) was for the three free titles (Book Award Winners, Round Table Programs, and ALA Policies of Interest to Lesbians and Gay Men), one was a request from a jobber for a copy of the Religion & Spirituality checklist, and the third was for a copy of Special Collections of Gay/Lesbian Materials in North America."

Respectfully submitted,
Keith R. Trimmer



Diversity Fair Seeks Entries

Has your library made a special effort to reach out to GLBT people? Share your experiences of "diversity in action" with other libraries at the Fifth Annual Diversity Fair at the 2002 ALA Annual Conference on June 15, 2002 from 3-5pm. ALA is now accepting entries for this year's poster session/table talk presentation on services to a variety of communities, including "people discriminated against due to sexual orientation." To submit your program, send an abstract of 150 words or less that includes a description of the library's initiative, implementation, and the degree to which the initiative has succeeded, and the potential uses by other libraries. The entry form and an Information Release Form (required for each entry) are available online at:

<<http://www.ala.org/olos>>

Application deadline is April 15, 2002. Entries may be emailed to divfair@ala.org or faxed to (312) 280-3256, Attn: Tanga Morris. All entries will be included in the 2002 Diversity Fair notebook, and selected entries will be invited by April 19 to exhibit at the conference. The 2001 notebook is available online at <<http://www.ala.org/olos>>

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

This newsletter is now included in your membership fee to the GLBTRT via your regular ALA membership registration. Just be sure to join the GLBTRT when you renew your membership or initially join.

Subscription questions should be forwarded to the newsletter editor at cal.zunt@cpl.org. Thank you for your support.

GLBTRT Newsletter

M.C. Zunt, Editor

c/o GLBTRT

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50 East Huron St.

Chicago IL 60611

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