



GLBTRT Newsletter

Vol 15
No 1

Spring
2003

A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered
Round Table of the American Library Association



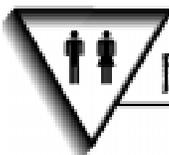
From the Editor

Hello, everyone!!

As you've probably already noticed, starting with this issue, I'm changing the "look" of the newsletter a bit. I had a couple of people at ALA ask me why the round table's logo wasn't on the newsletter, and it got me thinking about doing some design work, so I would really like your input on what I've done. If you like the changes, or have some suggestions, please feel free to tell me! Also, as I'm sure you're tired of hearing by now, I always need new material for future issues, so please consider contributing something to the next issue. May 15 is the deadline!

Thanks for the continued support!

Ken Wells, *GLBTRT Newsletter Editor*
kenwells@ufl.edu



From the Co-Chairs

During the ALA Midwinter meetings in Philadelphia, it became evident of how far this group has come within ALA. This was a great conference for the Round Table. If you have not heard, Barbara Gittings, the long time chair of our predecessor group the Gay Task Force, was voted Honorary Membership by the ALA Council. If you are not familiar with this award, the purpose is given as "*Honorary membership may be conferred on a living citizen of any country whose contribution to librarianship or a closely related field is so outstanding that it is of lasting importance to the advancement of the whole field of library service. It is intended to reflect honor upon the ALA as well as upon the individual.*" Benefits of this honor include: ALA membership dues waived for life, complimentary conference registration for all ALA Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences for life, complimentary copies of all ALA division journals (as desired), and listing on the ALA VIP list to receive complimentary registration and preferential housing assignments at all future ALA Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences. 116 other people have been honored by ALA since the award was first granted in 1893. Among these honorees are Jimmy Carter, Major Owens, Oprah Winfrey, Andrew Carnegie, Bill & Melinda Gates, Johnny Carson, and E.J. Josey. This is a wonderful honor to be bestowed on Barbara and she says she is "thrilled" to hear about it. Barbara will have the opportunity to pick up her award in Toronto during the Annual Conference Opening General Session. I am sure she will have something to say, so I

am marking it on my calendar now. I want to thank Anne Moore, James Carmichael, Roland Hansen, Ellen Greenblatt, and Jim Van Buskirk for assisting me in putting together the packet for the ALA Awards Committee.

Anne and I are also happy that we have two wonderful speakers coming to the Stonewall Awards breakfast in Toronto. So don't forget to order your breakfast tickets when you register for the conference on the ALA Web site or through the form in *American Libraries*. There may also be some special guest speakers included too.

Michael Rowe will be one of the speakers. Rowe is the author of two critically-acclaimed works of non-fiction, *Looking For Brothers*, which Kirkus Reviews called "A heartfelt collection that should win its author a wide readership." and *Writing Below The Belt: Conversations with Erotic Authors*, that the Blade called, "Passionate, intelligent. The astute commentaries about power politics make for engaging reading." He has been nominated for several Lambda Literary Awards for his editing skills on *Queer Fear* and *Queer Fear II*. He is also the co-editor of two original vampire anthologies, *Sons of Darkness* and *Brothers of the Night*. Clive Barker calls him "a visionary editor". Michael is a protege of John Preston, and there is a wonderful essay on this mentoring relationship in *Looking for Brothers*. He is a member of the Horror Writers Association and PEN Canada. Michael lives in Toronto with his partner. There is an interesting interview with Michael located at: <http://www.friendsofmerriil.org/sol23.html#Queer%20Fear> where he talks about his writing, life, and influences.

Our other featured speaker will be Ivan E. Coyote. Ivan is a writer, storyteller, and circus performer, and a member of the celebrated performance collective Taste This, who collaborated on *Boys Like Her*, a critically acclaimed and award-winning book on gender and desire. She currently performs with One-Trick Rodeo, an audio-visual storytelling extravaganza. Her first book of short stories, *Close to Spider Man* (2000), won the Danuta Gleed Award, an award for the best first collection of short fiction in the English language by a Canadian writer. Her second book, *One Man's Trash* (2002) has garnered international acclaim. Coyote was born and raised in Whitehorse, Yukon. She lives in Vancouver and is currently at work on a novel, a music CD, and *Pee America*, an instructional video for travelers. The Bay Area Reporter says, "Coyote writes with spare elegance and more than a little humor. She is a writer of exceptional skill." The Toronto Star adds Coyote is, "a transgendered force whose over-the-top spoken word performances are a legend on the West Coast."

I also want to draw attention to the candidates from the Round Table that are running for ALA Council this spring. Don't hesitate to pass these names around if someone asks you who they should vote for in the upcoming elections.

...Next Page >

❖ Co-Chairs (cont.) ❖

One councilor is elected from the smaller round tables of ALA. Our candidate for the "Small Round Table" councilor is **TJ Lusher**. Please support TJ, as this is the first time we have been able to directly elect someone to council to represent us, as well as the other small round tables. I am glad that someone as dedicated as TJ stepped forward to run for this slot.

We also have eight people running for ALA council on the at-large ballot:

John DeSantis | David Easterbrook | Martin Garnar
Roland Hansen | David Midyette | Michael Miller
Larry Romans | Stephen Stratton

Steve Stratton, Social & Behavioral Sciences Librarian
Virginia Commonwealth University
sestratt@attbi.com

Anne L. Moore, Coordinator for Access Services
W.E.B. Du Bois Library
University of Massachusetts
amoore@library.umass.edu

Treasurer's Report

In July of 1999 when the roundtable first came into existence we had no members and had a negative balance of over \$5,000 as our net asset balance. By the end of our first year we had over \$5000 as a net asset balance and had exceeded our goal of 100 members. Today as of the December 2002 account reports we have a membership of 520 and a net asset balance of \$13,000.

It was at the annual conference in Chicago 2000 that the announcement was made that the roundtable will begin seeking funds to set up an endowment fund so that the book award will be self supporting. By the end of the evening of the 30th anniversary Gala there was \$3000.00 in pledges made from the floor.

As of December 2002, there was \$20,150.36 in cash in the account and another \$8700.00 in pledges yet to arrive. The final goal for my term of office is \$40,000.00. The Roundtable now has a fund raising committee that has been very active and now has taken control of the fund raising process. Once the goal of \$40,000 has been met the next level to be reached is \$75,000.

At the \$75,000 level, funds will be available to provide travel assistance to our award winners and to revisit the dormant idea of a third book award for young adult or children's materials. The next goal after that will be \$100,000. Just think of the things that we can do with that kind of money- a fourth award for nonprint materials, or maybe a scholarship.

Before I step down as treasurer I will have started the process to create our income producing investment fund AKA the book award endowment fund. At midwinter I attended a treasurers forum in which the ALA endowment fund was the main point of discussion. I am now very conversant in the various accounting definitions and the operations of the ALA endowment fund. If anybody is really interested in this topic I will be very pleased to share my note from the various meetings. The road we have traveled to create this account is one that other roundtables will soon be taking. It is possible that we will become the model that these groups use to raise funds to set up their accounts.

When we started out as a roundtable many fiscal procedures had to be created and policies established. Today the roundtable fiscal operations are firmly in place with established rules and guidelines. The ALA staff members in the accounting office and the development office are very impressed with what we have been able to do in these past four years. In fact we have better fiscal control than some other groups within ALA which has increased our visibility within the organization.

My four years as founding treasurer has enabled me to get to know the members of our roundtable better and to meet and work with many people within ALA. I was able to share ideas and experiences with treasurers from many different roundtables and divisions and learn from them as well. One thing that I will miss is the interactions with these people but I will not miss the many meetings that are associated with this job. Now I can go to other meetings on such fun topics as reference services and managing electronic services for the public.

Soon you the membership will no longer have to listen to my presentations at the steering committee meeting or have to put up with my ongoing appeals for money. I can relax but Jim and Margaret are very good at coming up with ways to get more money out of the membership so beware and remember those new goals have to be met.

I shall not endorse any candidate for the upcoming election but I will be there to make sure that the new treasurer has all the help and support that I did during my two terms. At this time I wish to thank everybody who has contributed to money to the operating expense funds and the book award fund. The various members of the steering committees that I have interacted with have been great and the staff at the ALA offices especially Saita Orange and Tanga Morris have been really supportive. The next two years should be exciting as I now get to help to choose the next Stonewall Book Award winners.

Well I am off to go buy a new three piece banker suit, which I hope to wear at our social in Toronto City Hall. I may even have to have those dress shoes polished for the event.

Yours in Black Ink,

Norman Eriksen, Treasurer GLBTRT
n.eriksen@BrooklynPublicLibrary.org





"Recent History"

Book Review: *Recent History*, by Anthony Giardina
Reviewed by: **Russ Singletary**, rpsingl@yahoo.com

Unlike many in our literate circle, I do not read as much as I should, or at least I am one of the few to admit to it publicly. It goes without saying, however, that few of us, at least in my recent memory of history, truly want to appear to be outside the circle, even if we blatantly lie there, floundering for affection.

Just last fall, I read what may be the most heart-wrenching story of personal development and interpersonal awareness that I have come across. The book, *Recent History: A Novel* by Anthony Giardina, was published in 2001. How timelessly this nugget of a gem shines! It does, indeed, appear to read as recent history of our own, as faint memory of our life that we relive as we turn its 250 pages.

Giardina's story about a father's coming of age (so late in life, perhaps) and about a son's (late in life, so the son thought) brought tears to my eyes the first time I read it, and did the same for the subsequent times I re-read my dog-eared pages and underlined passages. I lent this book to several friends, nearly crystalline reflections of its principal characters. The book is marred from bathtub water and salty tear, but its story does not wither.

If you have not read this book, I would encourage you--at the very least--to pick up a copy in a library or bookstore and read the first, 187th, and last pages.

The book's protagonist writes that, as a historian, "my training taught me that lives contain coded moments that hold in them a kind of template for everything that happens afterward....And so for me, the phone call, the trip, the dropping of the ashes, and the decision Gina and I made afterward, all of these constitute...the signifying moment of the second half of my life."

What that paragraph does not tell the casual reader is this: The phone call was made by the mother of the straight guy's childhood gay friend. The trip was to visit her, which would bring up the issue of his gay father. The ashes were those of the gay friend, who had died of AIDS-related complications. And the decision?

Fast forward a hundred pages, to the final page: "I would like to tell the story about what happened to us (straight guy and his wife, Gina) after that night, about our little girls and about the life we live now, about my (gay) father, with whom I have grown closer, and my (straight) mother, with whom I have not, but in the end I suppose the important thing is that I have stepped into it. I have taken a step, and the requirement now is that I not slip back, not allow myself to return to the place where I was outside things."

A 12-year-old boy of the 1960s likely feels "outside things" when his father leaves him and his mother--to begin a new life, with another man.

Outside is not a pretty place. It is certainly not a warm one.

The idea of being outside of something reminds me of a Chicago psychotherapist who defines male homosexuality as a reaction to the loneliness of adulthood, of junior-high physical education classes where the lanky remain forever unchosen, of

women who sing tenor in the church choir, of blacks in the rural American South circa 1950, of whites in South Africa circa 1980.

Giardina's slightly encouraging, frightfully engaging novel of compact form unbinds us from memories of caged, partitioned selves and gently nudges us to let go of the "terrible resistance" to remain outside our humanity.

Singletary is a knowledge management consultant with the Cadence Group Inc. and is assigned to the corporate strategy and planning unit of a Fortune 100 communications company based in Atlanta, Georgia.



Education Assembly

Education Assembly Highlights from ALA Midwinter 2003

The main highlight of this year's midwinter meeting was that the American Library Association/Allied Professional Association (ALA/APA) recently achieved 501(c) 6 organizational status.

A brief history of events that lead to the creation of ALA/APA : In the last 1990s when many MLS granting institutions were considering dropping the word "library" from the name of their school and/or degree and merging with computer information schools which took many forms... from become a single school conferring a single degree of Masters in Information Science, to an Information Science School offering degrees in information science (MIS) and library science (MLS)... This had the effect of leaving librarians feeling marginalized... the poor relations of the information superhighway. In the midst of this turmoil an ALA member brought a resolution to ALA for a vote that stipulated that ALA should not grant accreditation to any school that did not have "Library" in its name. This collection of events led ALA and the library communities at large to take an in depth look at their profession and began grappling with articulating what it actually means to be a librarian.

The other topic of discussion was the status of the Core Competencies and Core Values to the profession of librarianship. A draft of these documents were submitted to ALA and their ruling was that ALA/APA need to get the draft out to a wider audience for comment, review and possible revision. These documents along with the documents that came out of the first two Congresses on Professional Education (1999) and Continuing Education (2000) are currently available on the web; and the third Congress focusing on Support Staff is scheduled for May 2003.

Please visit http://www.ala.org/hrdr/ala_apa.html to review and comment on these documents. For the documents on the first two congresses, go to <http://www.ala.org/congress/>

This is your profession and your future; let your voices be heard.

Sydney K. Allen

University Libraries
SUNY, University at Albany
518-442-3625
skallen@uamail.albany.edu



Knowing Our Place

Knowing Our Place:

Moving Diversity to the Center of Library Dialogue

Diversity Matters. Although it can be discouraging at times to observe a cultural climate that regards itself as 'liberal' take on increasingly conservative attitudes, it is important that those of us who believe in the ideals of equity, civil justice, and social inclusion hang on to our soap boxes just a little longer. In libraries especially, it is critical that we continue to forward the agenda of not mere 'tolerance', but an exuberant embrace of difference. The very books, films, and CDs we make accessible speak to the richness created by variances in opinion, ideology and systems of belief. We must strive to mirror that richness in the makeup of our profession. Whether we are hearing or sight impaired, non-native English speakers, gay, lesbian or transgendered, Latino, Native, Black or Asian, poor or striving-class, libraries should be relevant to our lived experience and our present information needs. We should be able to find ourselves named in the pages of books, see our reflections in images, and, most importantly, meet ourselves at the reference desk.

Working in a public library setting for my entire career, and making use of academic libraries as an adjunct professor for the last four years, I am always amazed at how our profession manages, often with meager resources, to rise to the challenges set before it. In 2003—as the Supreme Court weighs in on affirmative action in the University of Michigan case, as Georgia debates confederate symbolism on the state flag, as the most socially and economically vulnerable among us are increasingly being left jobless, homeless and hopeless—one of the largest challenges that librarianship will face is being able to walk the talk of inclusion and diversity. That means moving beyond lip service, recognizing and calling out the race, class, and sex biases that are sometimes so culturally and professionally entrenched they become invisible.

There is a place for each of us, whomever we are in libraries and librarianship—the center! Know your place. Claim it.

Tracie D. Hall

Newly Appointed Director, ALA Office for Diversity

Bio Info: Presently Community Librarian at the Albany Ave Branch of the Hartford Public Library. Hall was formerly Youth Services Librarian at the New Haven Free Public Library and Young Adult Specialist at Seattle Public Library. She directed a Youth Homeless Shelter in Greater Los Angeles before coming to libraries. She writes and stares out of her kitchen window at the Quinnipiac River in her free time.

GLBTRT Newsletter (ISSN 1533-7219) is an official publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table of the American Library Association. It appears quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Subscriptions are included in your membership fee to the round table via annual membership to the GLBTRT.

American Library Association
50 E. Huron St.,
Chicago, IL 60611

Letters to the editor, correspondence to the above address care of:

Ken Wells, GLBTRT Newsletter Editor
kenwells@ufl.edu



Membership Committee

I am currently in the process of creating a database for the members of the GLBT Roundtable. Anne and Steve have asked me to include everyone's past and present positions. (Don't go there) Being the Baby/Toddler/Incipient Roundtable that we are, we don't have all this information in one place yet, so I will need your help. Feel free to send me anything and everything you might want on this database. You can even send me a note to make sure your name is included and that your entry is up-to-date. 500 emails? I am not afraid.

It's time to think about what we can do to make our booth in Toronto the most magnificent of all. Visitors in Atlanta really enjoyed stopping by. At least we brought a smile to many faces. And some red faces also. But, in the process, I think we provided some valuable information. I welcome all ideas.

Thanks!

Emily Edwards, Membership Chair
EEDWARDS@leegov.com



ALA Social in Toronto

Councillor Kyle Rae will host the reception in the Rotunda of City Hall, 100 Queen Street East, from 6pm-8pm on Sunday June 22, 2003. The Canadian Gay and Lesbian Archives will be installing the National Portrait collection in the space. It'll be the kick off of Pride Week celebrations as the Rainbow Flag gets raised at City Hall the next day. As for Pride Week - more information is available at www.pridetoronto.com but of interest to those who may be planning to stay on and enjoy the festivities, the popular Dyke March is held on the 28th of June and the Pride Parade is held on the 29th.

Getting to City Hall from the Convention Centre is straight forward. A cab ride would cost no more than about \$5 to \$6, if that. Getting there by subway is also dead easy. From the Convention Centre walk east to the corner of Front and University, go north to King and University and enter the subway. You're at the St. Andrew station and you will go northbound one station to the Osgoode station. Exit at street level (Queen and University) and walk east on the north side of Queen to New City Hall. Cross Nathan Phillips Square to get to the entrance to City Hall.

The map at the Conference Site makes it very clear as the subway stops, the Convention Centre and the New City Hall are marked. For those who like to walk, plan on 15 to 20 minutes.

See you in June.

Greg Kelner, Manager, City-Wide Services
Toronto Public Library
5120 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M2N 5N9

Phone: (416) 395-5502
Fax: (416) 395-5542
E-mail: gkelner@tpl.toronto.on.ca



First Stonewall Award Winners Announced!!

The Stonewall Book Award Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the newly renamed book awards.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT) of the American Library Association (ALA) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2003 Stonewall Book Awards. Noël Alumit, author of "Letters to Montgomery Clift" (MacAdam/Cage Publishing), is the winner of the literature award, and Joanne Meyerowitz, author of "How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States" (Harvard University Press), is the winner of the nonfiction award. The announcement was made January 26 at the ALA's Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. The awards will be presented at the 2003 ALA Annual Conference in Toronto, June 19-25.

Letters to Montgomery Clift weaves 1980's Filipino culture, refugee issues, world policy and politics with personal struggle into a masterful and brilliant first novel. Alumit's writing is terse, unfolding in brief bursts like scenes from a play.

How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States is an exhaustively researched historical study. The author succeeds at expertly exploring the subtle distinctions between sexuality and gender in plainspoken language. Meyerowitz, Professor of History at Indiana University, demystifies the confusion and mystery associated with transsexuality.

The Stonewall Award, formerly called the ALA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (GLBT) Book Award, was established in 1971 and is the oldest award of its kind.

The literature honor books are:

At Swim Two Boys by Jamie O'Neill (Scribner/Simon & Schuster)
Fingersmith by Sarah Waters (Riverhead/Penguin-Putnam)
Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides (Farrar Straus and Giroux)
Lantern Bearers by Ronald Frame (Counterpoint Press)

The nonfiction honor books are:

Dress Codes: Of Three Girlhoods – My Mother's, My Father's, and Mine by Noelle Howey (Picador)
Glenway Wescott Personally: A Biography by Jerry Rosco (University of Wisconsin Press)
Rare and Commonplace Flowers: The Story of Elizabeth Bishop and Lota de Macedo Soares Carmen L. Oliveira translated by Neil K. Besner (Rutgers University Press)
Sex Crime Panic: A Journey to the Paranoid Heart of the 1950s by Neil Miller (Alyson Publications)

The winners will be honored at the annual Book Awards Breakfast, **Monday June 23, 2003** in Toronto, Canada. Please join us for this wonderful celebration!

Special thanks to the Book Awards Committee Members:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Cecil Hixon, New York Public Library
Lisa Johnston, Sweet Briar College
John DeSantis, Dartmouth College
Karl Fattig, Bowdoin College
Marshall Shore, Phoenix Public Library
Patricia Pereira-Pujol, Florida International University
Don Yarman, State of Ohio
Lynn Evarts, Sauk Prairie (Wi) High School
Katie Lynds, San Francisco Public Library
Jamie McGrath, Oakland (Ca)
Chet Mulawka, San Mateo County (Ca) Library
Nick Rosselli, Indiana University Northwest
Cal Zunt, Cleveland Public Library

Ellen Bosman, Chair
Technical Services Librarian
Indiana University Northwest Library
ebosman@iun.edu



GLBT ANNUAL BOOK AWARDS BREAKFAST

Monday, June 23, 2003

7:30-10 a.m.

Join your GLBT friends and colleagues for the annual celebration of the GLBT/RT Book Awards. Now in its 32nd year, the winners will receive awards under their new name, The Stonewall Book Awards.

Our Keynote speakers are, Michael Rowe, award winning journalist and essayist, editor of *Queer Fear I & II*, and five time Lambda Literary Award Finalist and Ivan E. Coyote, performer and author of the award winning *Close to Spider Man* and *One Man's Trash*.

Meet Noël Alumit author of this year's literature award winner: *Letters To Montgomery Clift*, Barbara Gittings, chair of the ALA gay task force 1971-1986, noted gay activist, and honorary member of ALA, and Nancy Garden, award winning author and friend of the round table.

This has been a sell-out event in the past, so join us and make your reservations early.

If you have not registered, please submit your registration for the Breakfast at that time. If you have already registered, but did not add on the Breakfast, it's not too late to do so. You can register online for the breakfast only, or fax in your request to 312-280-1538.

It has been our policy not to sell tickets at the conference. We are considering having some available for those who truly have found out about it at the last minute (book sellers, press, etc.). If you know of anyone outside of GLBT-RT or ALA who would like to attend the event, please have them contact me by email: rl_jaquay@yahoo.com.

One of the traditions of our breakfast is the printed program. It lists the current winner, past winners and is a wonderful memento of the event and our Round Table's work. The ads make the program pay for itself...so, if you have any ad suggestions, know of someone who would most likely take an ad out, or would like to place an ad yourself, here are the rates.

Full page=\$100, Half=\$50, Quarter=\$25 Inside the front and back cover=\$200. Usually publishers take out the inside cover ads. The ads also make the publication better, as we can also afford pictures, etc.

The deadline for ads is May 19th, 2003.

Please mail checks and ad copy to:
Robert L. Jaquay
Director, Sanford Town Library
629 Albany-Shaker Rd
Loudonville, NY 12211-1126

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Jaquay.

Bob Jaquay, Chair
Breakfast Planning Committee
rl_jaquay@yahoo.com



Call for Reviewers

So, you want to review GLBT books for the newsletter, but you don't know how to get started? Now is your chance! As the new Book Review Editor, I am looking for new (and returning, and continuing) book reviewers. Get free review copies and share your opinions with the world, or at least the Round Table.

Book reviews should include a description of the work's contents, the intended audience, its usefulness for libraries, and critical comments. The length may be up to 250 words, and they will be due (to the Book Review Editor) on February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Reviewers will not be required to submit reviews for every newsletter. Current Book Award Committee members may not write reviews for the newsletter. For full review guidelines, to request specific titles for review, or for more information, please contact me at btarr@lapl.org.

Beth Tarr
GLBTRT Newsletter Book Review Editor
btarr@lapl.org



Gender Studies at NIU

Dell Papers Anchor Gender Studies Collection At NIU

Northern Illinois University formally dedicated its new Gender Studies Collection in a ceremony on February 7, 2003. The featured speaker was Rev. Gregory Dell, whose donation is the latest significant body of material to be added. The files of the "In All Things Charity" collection cover the period 1996-2001 and are arranged into five series. The first covers the organization itself, the second Rev. Dell's trial within the United Methodist Church for performing a same-sex marriage for two men in September 1998 (including transcripts of the trial proceedings and documents related to the anti-gay rally staged by Fred Phelps at the Broadway church on November 22, 1998), third materials on Broadway United Methodist Church, the fifth a file of articles on gay couples dating from 1996-2000 related to Rev Dell and services of union, and the sixth a group of video and audio tapes on Dell's trial. Rev. Dell was welcomed by Dr. Arthur Young, Director of the University Libraries, and Professor Robert Ridinger, who serves as advisor to the collection. Additional holdings in Gender Studies useful for gay and lesbian studies research are expanding holdings of books which were awarded or nominated for the American Library Association's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Round Table book awards, centering on several hundred books donated by Professor Ridinger as a former member of the book award committee, and substantial holdings in paper of the Chicago areas popular gay magazines *Gay Chicago*, *Blacklines* and *En La Vida* and the newspapers *Windy City Times* and *Chicago Free Press*. Further information on this collection is available online at <http://www.niulib.niu.edu/rbsc/Dell.html>. We encourage all librarians who know of materials which might need a home to contact us.

R.B. Ridinger
rridinger@niu.edu



"He's My Daughter"

He's My Daughter. By Lynda Langley. Indra Publishing, 2002. \$21.95 paper (ISBN 0-9578-7355-7)

Lynda Langley points out in the introduction to *He's My Daughter* that there are many published books about, by, and for transgender people. These books include medical and psychiatric texts written for health care professionals, as well as autobiographies and biographies providing personal accounts of the transition process. For friends and family of transgender people, though, there has been little available information reflecting their perspective.

To fill this void, Langley offers her own experience as the mother of a transgender person. Her story begins with the day she learned her eldest son had been hospitalized after castrating himself, and continues through the day her daughter, now named Toni, was released from the hospital after the reassignment surgery. She shares the funny moments and the difficult moments of her child's transition, from shoe shopping and hair styling to doctor's appointments and dating. The events she details are not always easy or cheerful: one chapter describes the evening a man attempted to rape Toni, and Toni's relationship with her ex-wife and children is left unresolved, but the overall tone of the book remains positive. Langley writes with an engaging, conversational style, occasionally rambling, but always drawing the reader's attention, and her compassion for, and support of, her child is clear throughout the book.

This book provides a much-needed voice of experience and makes a good addition to academic and public libraries, particularly those with specialized GLBT collections that may be lacking the perspective this book provides.

Beth L. Tarr, Children's Librarian
Jefferson Branch, Los Angeles Public Library
btarr@lapl.org



Call for Volunteers!

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table needs your time, talent, and energy if our success in contributing toward libraries and library professionalism is to continue. Filling out and sending this form is one way to let the Round Table know about your interest in serving on committees or in a leadership role. We are eager to learn about how you want to work as a part of the Round Table team.

Name:
Library/Organization:
Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Phone Number:
Fax Number:
E-Mail address:

What special skills/talents do you have that you would be willing to share with the Round Table?

Additional comments?

If you are interested in volunteering, please send the above information to **Emily Edwards**, Membership Committee Chair: EEDWARDS@leegov.com Questions are always welcome!



I am honored to be nominated for the office of President of ALA, and want to thank the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table for the opportunity to publish my statement in this newsletter. I bring to this candidacy more than twenty-two years experience as a public librarian, and have served "in the trenches," just like many of you.

As President of ALA, I pledge to lead our organization in the following initiatives:

- ◆ Promotion of literacy and the freedom to read for all;
- ◆ Protection and defense of intellectual freedom;
- ◆ Safeguarding our patrons' privacy, now threatened by the USA Patriot Act, the Homeland Security Act, and related laws and regulations;
- ◆ Bridging the digital divide, ensuring that everyone has the technology needed to access information;
- ◆ Support for the ALA Better Salaries and Pay Equity initiative;
- ◆ Funding of recruitment and retention programs such as the Spectrum Scholarship program, to increase diversity in our profession;
- ◆ Advocacy for libraries, with continued support for the "Campaign for America's Libraries" and the Library Advocacy Network.

More of my platform may be found on my website:
www.CarolBrey.com

I have been an active member of ALA since 1983, and have been a member of its chapters in Missouri, Oklahoma, Illinois, New Mexico and Texas. I am currently a member of the ALA Council, and previously served as Illinois Chapter Councilor from 1992-1995. I chair the Council Orientation Committee, and serve on President Mitch Freedman's Better Salaries Task Force. I am also an active member of REFORMA, and have received REFORMA's endorsement for the ALA Presidency.

Like members of the GLBTRT, I believe that diversity represents the heart of our nation, and for that reason must be at the heart of the library profession as well. I believe that our library staffs, collections, programs and services must reflect the diversity of our communities. As an experienced public library administrator, I have celebrated the diversity of every community I have served and found ways to meet the unique needs of their populations.

My first experience was at the age of 22, where as a native of Chicago who had just accepted the position of Bookmobile Services Librarian for the Ozark Regional Library in Missouri, I found myself serving a rural clientele for the first time in my life. Traveling through our four-county region nestled in the Ozark hills, I learned that listening to the people you serve and taking the initiative to meet their needs will build bridges across any cultural, ethnic, or language differences. I have retained these lessons as I moved on to other positions in communities reflecting different aspects of diversity, such as Oak Park, Illinois, a community known for its efforts to bring all diverse populations together long before others tried it. As Director of the Oak Park Public Library, I initiated a series of programs that celebrated our community's ethnic and cultural diversity, working with community residents to develop events related to Gay Pride Day, Hispanic Heritage Month, African American Heritage Month, and others.

These experiences and others have prepared me well for my current position as Director of the El Paso Public Library in Texas, where I serve approximately 600,000 people in a community that is 80% Hispanic. I believe these experiences have also prepared me to serve as the next President of the American Library Association. I care deeply about access to information for all the people. Thomas Jefferson once said, "A democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry." This is reflected in the theme of my campaign "Democracy @ your library."

Carol Brey
Director of Libraries
El Paso Public Library
915-543-5413
breyxc@ci-el-paso.tx.us

Should I be elected, I would bring to the American Library Association (ALA), its members, and its stakeholders my deep passion and enthusiasm for the library field and my experiences in education and library administration. Thirty-five years of experience as a leader has not only allowed me insight into ALA's challenges, but also allowed me time to develop close associations with the incredibly talented members of ALA. Both the insight and the associations provide me with the necessary preparation to respond effectively to ALA's opportunities in the 21st century.

Libraries are providing services to increasingly diverse populations. We must ensure that diversity is recognized and accepted. We must understand that diversity not only includes ethnicity, but also age, gender, social class, sexual orientation, and/or physical disabilities.

"Each person's map of the world is as unique as the person's thumbprint. There are no two people alike. No two people who understand the same sentence the same way ... so in dealing with people, you try not to fit them to your concept of what they should be."
—MILTONERICKSON

Librarians provide information and resources to teach others that "diversity can become a resource for enrichment rather than a source of conflict and divisiveness."
—CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Lifelong learning is the watchword for library workers in the Information Century. Not only do library workers promote lifelong learning, but they are also known for continuing their own education. Consequently, they are equipped to offer unparalleled principles and practices to their customers.

My experience as an educator and library administrator have instilled in me an abiding appreciation for the partnership and deep bond between education and practice. My many years at the University of North Texas have provided numerous opportunities for sharing the challenges and delights to many libraries across this great nation. Educators must maintain and strengthen their ties with libraries. Entwining these abilities and perspectives will give us the cutting edge concepts and strong traditional values of service.

The need for equity of access — free access for everyone to libraries and information, is paramount. There should be no economic, ethnic, physical, or political barriers between people and information.

We must join together throughout the nation and around the world to ensure effective use of and equal access to information. American libraries will play a fundamental role in applying information to the needs of the economic, technical, political, and natural environments.

I truly do believe in "First-class Pay For A First-class Service." I am committed to support pay equity and better salaries for all library workers. I intend to promote programs and funding to ensure the recruitment, education, and retention of a diverse library work force.

It is crucial that practitioners and educators collaborate on clear goals, objectives, and workable solutions to the challenges confronting the dissemination of information. Because library workers are expected to serve our diverse communities quickly, accurately, and effectively, we must continue not only to encourage diversity and equity of access, but also leadership, literacy, intellectual freedoms, and privacy.

Herman L. Totten, Ph.D
Regents Professor of Library and Information Sciences and
Faculty Executive Assistant to the President
University of North Texas
P.O. Box 311425
Denton, Texas 76203-1425

Voice: (940) 565-3514
Fax: (940) 565-4322
Email: totten@unt.edu

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 *kenwells@ufl.edu*.

Thank you for your support!!



GLBTRT Newsletter
Ken Wells, Editor
c/o GLBTRT
ALA / OLOS
50 East Huron St.
Chicago IL 60611

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

First Class U.S. Mail