

Women In Libraries

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALA/SRRF FEMINIST
TASK FORCE

Volume 12 Number 4

March 1983

Editor: Michele Leber

FTF ENDORSEMENTS

In addition to endorsing E. J. Josey for president of ALA, the Feminist Task Force is endorsing seven candidates for ALA Council and three candidates for other ALA positions. Most of the following endorsements were approved by the unanimous vote of FTF members at the ALA midwinter meeting in January, following the recommendation of the FTF Elections Committee that candidates be endorsed based on their feminist positions and their requests for FTF endorsement.

ALA Council candidates endorsed by FTF are:

Robert B. Croneberger
Bruce Daniels
Norman Horrocks
Cynthia J. Johanson
Suzanne J. LeBarron
Ada M. Seltzer
Carla J. Stoffle

(Patricia Schuman, also endorsed for Council at ALA midwinter, has withdrawn from the election.)

Other candidates endorsed by FTF, and the positions they seek, are:

Ginnie Cooper, PLA Board of Directors
Judy Flum (formerly Kurman), YASD Board of Directors
Sharon Rogers, ACRL President

Keep in mind the effectiveness of "bullet voting": when multiple votes may be cast, as for ALA Council, the weight of each vote is greater when fewer votes are cast. It is not necessary to vote for the maximum number of candidates.

Five persons also will be elected to the FTF Steering Committee at the ALA Annual Conference in Los Angeles in June. Self-nominations are welcome for these positions.

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES LITERATURE

Katharine Phenix, working on behalf of the ALA Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL) is issuing a call for help with the continuing effort to maintain bibliographic control over published literature on women in libraries. Phenix writes:

"During the past three years, Kathleen Heim and I compiled a bibliography designed to supplement the Weibel and Heim classic The Role of Women in Librarianship 1876-1976: The Entry, Advancement and Struggle for Equalization in One Profession (Oryx Press, 1979). The supplement covers the years from 1977 to 1981. You may be interested in the fact that we found almost as many citations in the last five years as were gathered in the first 100 years! We are sending the manuscript to ALA Publishing for consideration in March.

"COSWL has asked me to 'carry the bibliographic baton' for the years 1982 and onwards. Can you help? I found that while it was relatively easy to pick up the major items in the widely circulated library journals (American Libraries, Library Journal, Wilson Library Bulletin) some really good sources were harder to obtain--state association journals and newsletters, library system newsletters, ALA, SLA, ASIS, etc. section and division newsletters, articles in non-library journals, books, and especially material published outside North America.

"I'm collecting anything that gives us a clue about the status of women in libraries: salary surveys, composition of library associations, of deans and directors by sex, attitudes towards librarianship as a 'women's profession,' activities of groups and task forces as they affect the position of women library workers, studies of comparable worth, ERA & ALA, career paths, plus any letters or comments published in response to articles on the above. As you can see, the field is absolutely wide open. I've even cited and annotated a photo of the Library of Congress Women's Program Advisory Board. The only restriction on this topic is the exclusion of reports of individual women, i.e., 'new director is a women' or 'first lady of bibliographic instruction,' etc., or women's studies, or library service to women (I'm depending on other feminist librarians to explore those avenues).

"So please think of me and this ALA project when you read your usual books, journals and newsletters, and drop me a postcard with the citation on it, or even better, the item itself. Don't worry about duplicate citations, you may actually be the only one looking at these materials! Any copies you send to me will go to the COSWL Clearinghouse of materials on women which is housed at ALA Headquarters."

Contact: Katharine Phenix, 412 W. Washington, #2, Champaign, IL 61820, phone (217) 359-8701.

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GUNS OR BUTTER

Materials pertinent to the up-coming FTF-COSWL co-sponsored program "Guns or Butter: Society's Share of the Pie," by Author Sheila Tobias, are available from various sources. (The program will be June 25 at the ALA Annual Conference in Los Angeles, and Tobias' speech will be based on her book What Kinds of Guns Are They Buying for Your Butter? published by Morrow in 1982.)

The February 1983 issue of the SAA Women's Caucus Newsletter cites an item in Women Today, Dec. 2, 1982, about a report titled "Neither Jobs Nor Security: Women's Unemployment and the Pentagon Budget" from a Michigan-based consulting

firm. The report is available for \$2.40, with reduced rates for multiple copies, from Employment Research Associates, 400 South Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

The August-September 1982 issue of Peace & Freedom, a publication of the U.S. Section of the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (which is now being exchanged with WIL), has a GUNS VS. BUTTER section on its publications page. Pertinent publications include:

"Feed the Cities, Not the Pentagon." All new figures on a flyer showing what a trillion dollars spent on arms could do if spent on jobs, housing, health, education, child care and so on. 10¢; 100 for \$3.50.

"Learning Pentagon Jargon." A glossary of the terminology of arms: missiles, delivery systems, and their effects. 10¢; 100 for \$3.50.

"Nuclear Waste, Our Children's Legacy." The costs in money and energy for disposal, incalculable amounts for medical care, not to speak of the pain of cancer and birth defects we are leaving for future generations. By WILPF's Nuclear Information Committee. 5¢ each.

Order from WILPF, 1213 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107; add 20% for postage and handling, which is not included in the above prices. WILPF's publication list is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Some complimentary subscriptions to Peace & Freedom are available to schools, libraries, and community organizations through a Miami Fund grant; contact WILPF.

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Each year since 1953 the Jane Addams Peace Association and WILPF give an award to the children's book that most effectively promotes peace, social justice, and world community. A complete list of winners and honor books 1953 through 1982, published on the 30th anniversary of the awards, is available for a 20¢ stamp per copy and a self-addressed, stamped long envelope from the Jane Addams Peace Association, 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017.

To express interest in serving on the Jane Addams Children's Book Award Committee, or for further information, contact Annette Blank, Chair, Jane Addams Children's Book Award Committee, 5477 Cedonia Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the 10th anniversary of GLAMOUR magazine's annual Search for Outstanding Young Working Women, and applications are invited from young women who have made noteworthy accomplishments in their fields. GLAMOUR editors, and experts in relevant technical fields, will select winners based on their solid records of achievement.

Applications must be requested by May 2 from Search '83-84, GLAMOUR, 350 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017 and must be submitted by July 1, 1983. Winners will receive national and local recognition, gifts from GLAMOUR, join GLAMOUR's Hall of Fame for Outstanding Young Working Women, and be featured in the March issue of GLAMOUR.

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Media Network and the Reproductive Rights National Network are looking for information about films, videotapes, and slide shows on reproductive rights and

related topics for a Guide to Media on Reproductive Rights, for use in educational work and organizing on such issues as abortion, sterilization, contraception, reproductive hazards in the workplace, child care, women's health care, teenage sexuality, and violence against women. The guide will contain evaluative descriptions and tips for discussion and will list related resources, distributors, and low cost film libraries.

Media Network is a national membership organization of activists who use media for organizing and education. Its Information Center is a clearinghouse for information on films, videotapes, and slide shows on a wide range of social issues. The Reproductive Rights National Network is an organization of more than 85 affiliate groups working toward reproductive freedom for women. To provide information about media to be included in the guide, contact Abigail Norman or Aimee Frank at Media Network, 208 W. 13th St., New York, NY 10011, telephone (212)620-0878.

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The National Women's Studies Association annual conference in June (see below) will include an exhibit of library instruction materials related to women's studies. The Librarians' Task Force of NWSA would appreciate receiving any bibliographies, guides, AV materials, etc., that librarians would be willing to donate or lend for the exhibit. Contact Susan Barnard, Kent State University Library, Kent, OH 44242, telephone (216) 672-2962.

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CONFERENCES, ETC.

The National Women's Studies Association will focus on "Feminist Education: Quality and Equality" at its fifth annual convention June 26-30 at Ohio State University. The convention will feature more than 250 workshops, panel discussions, and roundtables, including a keynote address by Deirdre English, editor of MOTHER JONES magazine; a series of poetry and fiction readings by Margaret Atwood, Nikki Giovanni, Marge Piercy, May Sarton, and others, and a final plenary session on the international feminization of poverty, featuring authors Charlotte Bunch and Florence Howe.

The Librarians' Task Force of NWSA will present a program on the librarian's role as educator, by a panel representing public, school, and academic libraries. (The Task Force still needs a representative from a school or public library; send recommendations to Susan Barnard, Kent State University Library, Kent, OH 44242, telephone (216) 672-2962. All speakers must be NWSA members.)

The pre-registration fee for the NWSA convention, which includes conference materials, is \$45 for NWSA members and \$60 for non-members who register by May 15. College students receive a \$10 discount. For information contact the NWSA convention office at the Center for Women's Studies, Ohio State University, 207 Dulles Hall, 230 W. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210, telephone (614) 422-0085.

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The Federation of Organizations for Professional Women (of which COSWL is a member) will hold a one-day seminar "Working Through Professional Organizations to Advance Yourself and Women" May 13 at the Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036. The seminar, adapted by the National Women's Education Fund from its programs for women in the public policy process, will include group discussions and exercises, problem-solving, presentations by experienced organization

strategists and leaders, and individual and group goal setting and action planning.

The fee for the seminar, which includes lunch, is \$35, or \$30 for FOPW Associates. Contact Federation of Organizations for Professional Women, 2000 P St. NW, Suite 403, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 466-3544.

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SISTERFIRE: Roadwork '83, a day-long festival featuring the presentations of women artists, musicians, poets, dancers, artisans, and organizations concerned with women's issues, will be held June 25 on the grounds of Takoma Park (MD) Junior High School, just outside Washington, DC. June 26 is Women's Cultural Day, proclaimed in 1982 by Washington Mayor Marion Barry..

Roadwork, Inc., a non-profit, political-cultural organization for local and national promotion and production of women performing artists, seeks funding for SISTERFIRE so this event (which in 1982 cost \$25,000, requiring a \$12/\$13 admission price) may someday be held on the Washington monument grounds, where activities must be free to the public. Contact Roadwork, Inc., 1475 Harvard St. NW, Washington, DC 20009, telephone (202)234-9308.

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The Women's Computer Literacy Project, with instructor Deborah Brecher, founder of the National Women's Mailing List, offers 10-hour training courses, in four weekly sessions of 2½ hours each, for \$100 and 17-hour weekend seminars, for \$200 in San Francisco and \$350 elsewhere, with 15% discounts to groups of five or more enrolling together. Tuition fees include all course materials; a limited number of scholarships are available.

The courses, designed for persons who know nothing about computers and prefer to learn in a women-centered environment, will teach students to operate a micro-computer, read and understand most operations manuals for computer hardware and software systems, and understand the differences between various microcomputer systems. Four-week courses are offered continuously in San Francisco; upcoming weekend seminars are scheduled for May 14-15 and 21-22 in New York and June 25-26 (prior to the NWSA convention) in Columbus, OH. Contact Women's Computer Literacy Project, 1195 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

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Summer institutes of interest:

- The National Summer Institute in Women's Studies, July 3-23, University of Michigan. Intensive study in feminist theory and its transforming potential at every level of the academy, for faculty, researchers, administrators, and librarians. Cost \$1300, including tuition, room and board; \$35 registration fee, with some fellowship aid available. Contact Barbara Caruse, Ph.D., Director, The National Summer Institute in Women's Studies, Box 94, Earlham College, Richmond, IN 47374, telephone (317) 962-6561, ext. 505 or 322.
- Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration, July 5-29, Bryn Mawr College. Intensive training in educational administration and management skills for women faculty and administrators. Cost \$2700 for tuition, room and board, plus \$50 application fee. Contact Summer Institute, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010.

SOURCES & RESOURCES

The 1983 Index/Directory of Women's Media lists a wide range of women's media groups - periodicals (including WIL), groups related to radio, video, film, music, and art; speakers bureaus, distributors, book stores, library collections, and more - and individual media women and media-concerned women. Entries include addresses, phone numbers, contact people, and descriptions, all written by the individuals or groups themselves, following the philosophy of directory publisher the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press that all people should speak for themselves. An index to 1982 issues of Media Report to Women, WIFP's periodical, is included.

This directory, like earlier editions, is valuable particularly for the wide range of women's media groups included, for its international slant, and for its timeliness (all entries are updated each year, just months before publication). Available for \$8 from WIFP, 3306 Ross Place NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 966-7783. Groups or individuals wishing to be included in the next edition of the directory should contact Editor Martha Allen at the same address.

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A new source of alternative materials, The Whole Again Resource Guide by Tim Ryan with Rae Jappinen (Capra Press) includes more than 1500 magazines, newspapers, journals, newsletters, sourcebooks, directories, and bibliographies under such headings as appropriate technologies, feminist, gay, holistic health, human rights, new age, psychic studies, sex roles, spiritual growth, and UFOs. The author notes that "many unique features in the indices ... make the book especially valuable to libraries. An explanation appears in the note to librarians in the front matter." The 315-page paperback is available to libraries for 15% off its \$12.95 price from SourceNet, Box 6767, Santa Barbara, CA 93111.

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Because many non-prescription drugs contain alcohol, antihistamines, caffeine, bromides, and aspirin, which can be harmful to unborn babies, a 40-page booklet written by health workers and consumers provides alternatives. "Safe Natural Remedies for the Discomforts of Pregnancy" includes suggestions for easing nausea, heartburn, constipation, hemorrhoids, varicose veins, backache, fatigue, headache, and leg cramps. Available for \$1.50 plus 50¢ postage (or \$1 each plus 10% postage and handling for 25 copies or more) from Over-the Counter Drug Committee, Coalition for the Medical Rights of Women, 1638B Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Make checks payable to the Coalition for the Medical Rights of Women.

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New from the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large at the University of Wisconsin are four bibliographies and lists of particular interest to feminist librarians: Women and Technology - Readings on Selected Issues; Women in Management: A Selected Bibliography; 20th Century Third World Women Writers, Black American and African: Selected Bibliography, and Women Mystery Writers: A List, which includes the names of series detectives and notes titles of special interest to feminists. Contact Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large, 112A Memorial Library 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706, telephone (608) 263-5754.

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Two free catalogs are available from the Women's Educational Equity Act Publishing Center. Resources for Working Women 1983 describes inexpensive materials available

from WEEA about careers and occupations; for minority, rural, and disabled women; and about training for programs that develop skills, advance educational opportunities, and eliminate sex bias and stereotyping. Resources for Educational Equity includes inexpensive and easy-to-use resources from WEEA for all subjects and grade levels, designed for teachers, counselors, administrators, and parents to use in counteracting sex-role stereotyping and encouraging educational equity. Contact WEEA Publishing Center, Education Development Center, 55 Chapel St., Newton, MA 02160, or call toll free (800) 225-3088 (in Massachusetts, (617) 969-7100).

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On sexual harassment:

- a 32-page booklet "How to Stop Sexual Harassment: Strategies for Women on the Job" by Cara Peters and Erin Van Bronkhorst is full of straightforward help about how to handle harassment from the start and at various decision points. Includes information about legal rights, sources of help, handling stress, and preventive strategies, illustrated with appropriate "Cathy" cartoons. Single copies of the 1982 revised edition are available for \$3.50 (includes postage and handling) from Facts for Women, P.O. Box 15113, Seattle, WA 98115. Bulk rates are available on request.
- a 2-page paper "Writing a Letter to the Sexual Harasser: Another Way of Dealing with the Problem," by Bernice R. Sandler, Executive Director of the Project on the Status and Education of Women, describes in detail one possible course of action. Letter-writing, as described, is advocated as "the only method that usually works and at little cost," and it tends to help the victim regain a sense of being in control of the situation, as well as generally keeping the situation quiet. The paper is included in a packet on rape and sexual harassment available for \$2.00 from the Project on the Status and Education of Women, Association of American Colleges, 1818 R St. NW, Washington DC 20009. Bulk copies are available.
- Stopping Sexual Harassment: A Handbook by Elissa Clarke includes such topics as fighting back, union procedures, legal remedies, getting organized, and on the campus. A publication of the Labor Education & Research Project, this is available for \$2.50 each plus 75¢ postage each from LERP, P.O. Box 20001, Detroit, MI 48220. Individual orders must be prepaid. A discount of 40% is available for orders of 10 or more.

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The Comparable Worth Project, a nonprofit organization which supports and generates education, networking, and workplace activities on the issue of pay equity for women's occupations, has published an annotated catalog of materials in its Clearinghouse, some of which can be ordered from the Project and others duplicated if unavailable from the sources listed. The Catalog is \$3.00, and subscriptions to the Project's quarterly newsletter are \$16 for institutions, \$8 for individuals, and \$4 for low-income subscribers; back orders of the newsletter, which started in 1981, are \$2.50 per issue. Contact Comparable Worth Project, 488 41st St., No. 5, Oakland, CA 94609; orders must be prepaid and include postage and handling, of 20% or \$1.00, whichever is larger. Add \$2.00 additional for first class mail.

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The second edition of "A Look at Gayness," a 19-page annotated bibliography of gay materials for young people, includes books (fiction, non-fiction, biography), comics, pamphlets, articles, journals, and records. Materials considered basic for

any collection on this subject are starred, and two not recommended non-fiction titles are included (Morton Hunt's Gay: What You Should Know About Homosexuality and David Reuben's Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Sex...). The bibliography, by Christine Jenkins, a librarian, and Julie Morris, an educator, has a sensitive introduction intended for gay young people and a note for librarians, parents, and teachers. A must for public libraries, middle to senior high school libraries, and all others concerned with the subject. Copies are available for \$1.50 each (with bulk rates available on request) from Kindred Spirit Press, P.O. Box 7281, Liberty Station, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. Make checks payable to either Christine Jenkins or Julie Morris.

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DID YOU KNOW...

- that women workers with 4 or more years of college education had about the same income as men who had only 1 to 3 years of high school - \$12,085 and \$11,936 respectively, in 1981. When employed full time year round, women high school graduates (with no college) had about the same income on the average as fully employed men who had not completed elementary school - \$12,332 and \$12,866, respectively.
- that women represented 63 percent of all persons below the poverty level who were 16 years of age and over in 1981.

(From "20 Facts on Women Workers" from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Secretary, Women's Bureau, Washington, DC 20210.)

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - May 15, 1983

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES, newsletter of the American Library Association Social Responsibilities Round Table Feminist Task Force, is published 5 times a year from September to June. Subscriptions are \$4 for individuals, \$6 for institutions prepaid, and \$8 for institutions invoiced. Send checks, payable to WOMEN IN LIBRARIES, to:

Michele Leber
4927 Gadsen Dr.
Fairfax, VA 22032