



Social Responsibilities Round Table Newsletter ALA

September, 1981

Newsletter #61

SRRT NEWS

Notes from the SRRT Coordinator
Barbara Pruett

The San Francisco Conference was quite a success for SRRT and our Task Forces. During what was generally a quiet conference as measured with past years, SRRT members spoke out often and clearly to bring before ALA some of the issues we felt to be important. While some groups complained of low attendance, SRRT meetings and programs were generally well attended. Our KKK Awareness program had nearly 300 people in the audience and the Coretta Scott King TF had 500 people at the annual breakfast...these are only 2 examples.

SRRT gained a lot of attention when we introduced 2 Resolutions before the Membership Meeting of ALA and successfully argued/defended them until they passed. SRRT Action Council brought before Membership a Resolution asking that the draft of the Operating Agreement between ALA and its Divisions be published so that the Membership could be aware of this document and the potential changes it could create within ALA. This Resolution was argued for over an hour, at times with great spirit, before it was passed almost without dissention by the nearly 500 members at the meeting. The KKK Awareness Resolution was also treated with great interest by the Membership and created nearly an hour of discussion before being passed with only a few dissenting votes. In all, it was SRRT at our best!

The Operating Agreement document is beginning to be a matter of concern to a number of people now that a published draft is out. The Chairs of the Round Tables of ALA met in the SRRT suite to discuss the effect we felt this document would have on the Round Tables. While some of the Chairs expressed sympathy for the Divisions and their problems, we all agreed to keep a close eye on developments to be sure that Round Tables were not adversely affected by some of the proposals that have been made. The Chairs agreed to meet again at Midwinter in Denver and may work to develop more specific guidelines for action at that time.

Report continued on p. 3

INSIDE:	Gay Book Awards, p.2	Quick Notes, p. 4
	Native American Periodicals, p. 5	
	Editorial Comment, p. 7	and more...

task force news

GAY

Two Gay Book Award winners were honored during the ALA annual conference this year; texts of the presentation and acceptance speeches for both awards are available from the Gay Task Force, Box 2383, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (send SASE with request.)

One winning title, Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality by John Boswell (University of Chicago Press, 1980) "shatters the wall of silence" about gay people in history. It examines the social history of Medieval Europe through a case study of tolerance and intolerance as historical forces. "For all its formal scholarship" according to the award citation, "this book is written with such verve, good will and stylistic grace that it is appealing and accessible to any literate person. Reading this book, discovering the previously unknown and often deliberately concealed historical record, chortling over the footnotes, and pondering the implications of the thesis are profoundly liberating experiences for gay and non-gay alike."

The other Gay Book Award winner, The Cancer Journals by Audre Lorde (Spinsters Ink, 1980) reveals a black lesbian poet's responses to physical and emotional trauma. "Her lesbianism is taken for granted, and her lover and friends are presented, without comment on their sexual identity, as the people who love Audre Lorde and who helped her through a devastating experience. The book powerfully illustrates the physically and emotionally healing nature of the love she received from other women."

THE SRRT NEWSLETTER

is published 4 times a year. Manuscripts and letters pertaining to editorial content should be sent to the editor at 6 Jones St., #2A, New York, NY 10014, attention of Julie McCartney. Other correspondence should be sent to SRRT/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

ISSN 0065-9096

ETHNIC

At the business meeting of the EMIE Task Force in San Francisco the following nominations were presented for an Executive Committee to administer the task force and prepare for the transition to round table status. The list of nominees was prepared by a nominations committee consisting of Natalia Davis, Joan Neumann (chair) and Lucille Thomas. It was moved and seconded to approve the list of nominees; it was so ordered. The nominations committee was thanked for the fine job that was done in assembling the slate of candidates. The list as approved follows:

Coordinator - Sylva N. Manoogian, Principal Librarian, Foreign Language Dept, Los Angeles Public Library

Vice Coordinator - Dorothy M. Haith, Librarian, Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, GA

Secretary - Natalia G. Davis, Director, Spanish Information Center, Brooklyn Public Library

Public Relations - Vladimir Wertsman, Librarian, Leonard Branch, Brooklyn PL
Member-at-large - Dr. Lotsee Patterson-Smith, Professor, Texas Woman's Univ., Graduate School of Library Science

Member-at-large - Dr. Arnulfo D. Trejo, Professor, University of Arizona School of Library Science

With respect to the round table petition, the Committee on Organizations of ALA took no positive action at the time. Support for the petition was recorded by the SRRT Action Council, REFORMA, Alice B. Irig, Councilor at Large and Luis Chaparro, editor, The Amoxcalli Newsletter (El Paso chapter, REFORMA). Until the round table status is fully clarified, the Task Force will continue to operate under SRRT with a new coordinator and executive committee. Program plans for discussion at Midwinter in Denver are already underway. They include a second program dealing with multilingual services and a joint venture on ethnic heritage organizations and publications with the Slavic and East European section of ACRL.

SRRT NEWS Report, continued from p.1

The new SRRT Constitution was passed at our Membership meeting in San Francisco. This should allow SRRT to act more efficiently and more clearly explains some of our responsibilities. All SRRT members received a copy of the final draft in the mail in early June. This was the draft that was passed in San Francisco. Major changes: 1. Clearinghouse was absorbed into Action Council and the Editor is now appointed instead of elected, 2. Task Forces each have a seat on Action Council, 3) Action Council is responsible for the scheduling of all ALA Conference meetings and programs for SRRT and the Task Forces.

We hope to start a membership drive this year and Linda Pierce has been appointed Chair of our Membership Committee. If you have any ideas for this or are interested in being on the committee, please contact her. Initial suggestions included buttons, more emphasis on a good, attractive booth, contacting old members who have dropped out, asking task forces to canvas their own membership, and the use of poster boards.

We also need to take more advantage of the opportunities we have now. I can see from the results of the last election that fewer than one-third of the SRRT membership voted! And I think that this clearly showed in that so few of the people SRRT supported were elected to Council. All of us in SRRT, voting together, could make a difference in the direction ALA is going. We should all know this by now! I hope that by next year, the results will be different. I can not begin to express the importance of having our people in positions that allow us to have a voice and a vote throughout ALA. ALA's Committee on Committees will soon be making appointments and recommendations to a number of committees in ALA. If anyone would like to be on a committee or has a nomination to one of them, please let me know. I will be glad to write a letter of recommendation to COC in support of any SRRT member.

I would like to welcome our new Action Council members and thank those who are leaving for all of their hard work. I would also like to give special thanks to Marjorie Joramo, who has agreed to continue as our Conference Arrangements coordinator. This is one of the hardest jobs in SRRT at the present time and Marjorie has always been willing to put a great deal of energy and time in coordinating the scheduling for SRRT and our Task Forces.

It was clear during the Conference that there are a number of problems facing ALA, most of them financial. SRRT members should be aware that we will also be affected by these problems. I think we should act this year to come to terms with our financial needs and re-commit SRRT to providing a forum for social concerns in ALA. Now that ALA has completed review of "Priorities" for ALA, perhaps we should review our own priorities. What are SRRT's priorities? With the shrinking of our budget, how should we spend our money? Action Council will have to take a long, hard look at our budget during Midwinter and then report to the SRRT membership in Philadelphia next July. We would like input from our membership regarding their concerns and interests throughout this year so that the Philadelphia Conference is one during which we can clearly define the Direction of SRRT.

QUICK NOTES

GEORGE KENNAN WARNS OF THE DANGER OF OUR EAST/WEST POLICIES

On receiving the Einstein Peace Prize, Ambassador Kennan used strong words:

"Adequate words are lacking to express the full seriousness of our present situation. It is not just that we are for the moment on a collision course politically with the Soviet Union, and that the process of rational communication between the two governments seems to have broken down completely; it is also - and even more importantly - the fact that the ultimate sanction behind the conflicting policies of these two governments is a type and volume of weaponry which could not possibly be used without utter disaster for us all".

The address was given May 19, 1981 and is reprinted in the Congressional Record, June 11, 1981, p. S6141.

PRESSURE LOBBYING ENDS HUMAN NUTRITION CENTER

Pressure from meat, poultry, egg and dairy interests has closed an educational unit of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For three years the Human Nutrition Center provided information on the connection between malnutrition and disease, and attempted to link reasonable behavior and knowledge with government policy. This closing means the loss of one of the few groups in agricultural research which worked from the consumers', as opposed to the producers', point of view.

(Further information, see Science, July 31, 1981, p. 518-520).

FOR LIVELY INFORMATION

on the interaction of science and society we recommend that libraries subscribe to the Public Interest Report of the Federation of American Scientists (307 Massachusetts Ave, NE, Washington, DC 20002) headed by Jeremy Stone. Not only does the Federation tap the wisdom and wit of a large number of leading thinkers from the United States, it does not pull punches when reviewing governmental policies and regulations. The June 1981 issue offers the comments of five prestige economists on the Reagan economic plans. The executive director speaks his mind (as quoted in Science, July 31, 1981 p. 423) in saying of the new nonproliferation of atomic and nuclear technology program of the Reagan government: "a rhetorical cover for the desire to sell reactors abroad. It reads like a congressional resolution. The string of 'whereases' deal with nuclear nonproliferation, but the only substantial thing, the resolving clause, is about selling reactors". \$25.00.

THE STORY OF WOUNDED KNEE

The self-sufficient community of the Mohawk Nation in New York state is plagued by a large police force, which is attempting to supervise the activities of this relatively small group. The Nation's efforts to recall their ruling council, which was selected by political manoeuvres of the New York state government, were turned down by the court. The Nation has been under siege for the last several years, but they cannot get their story before the public. Both state and federal powers continue to grind down, cheat and exploit the remaining possession of Indian peoples here and many other places.

JAMES WATT HANGS IN THERE

A new five year plan for selling oil and gas rights on the outer continental shelf is essentially the same plan proposed last April, which created much controversy in the California community. By the end of 1986 Watt hopes to allow prospectors the opportunity to buy drilling rights virtually anywhere on the one billion acres of federally controlled ocean shelf. It remains to be seen how well the amendment to the Interior Department's budget to forbid drilling off the coast of northern California fares, after which other policies of the Secretary of the Interior may be either contained or a new era of exploitation opened.

SOURCEBOOK

NATIVE AMERICAN PERIODICALS

A list compiled by Lawrence D'Urso

Native American Information/Referral Center, Chicago Public Library

- Akwesasne Notes, Mohawk Nation, Program in American Studies,
Rooseveltown, NY 13683 \$5.00
- Aligator Times, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 6073 Stirling Road, Hollywood,
Florida 33024 NT 663-T \$4.00
- American Indian Art Magazine, American Indian Art, Inc. 7333 E. Monterey
Way, no. 5, Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 \$16.00
- American Indian Crafts and Culture, Tyrone H. Stewart, P.O. Box 3538
Tulsa, OK 74152 NT 663-T \$5.00
- American Indian Law Newsletter, American Indian Law Center, University
of New Mexico School of Law, 1117 Stanford N.E., Albuquerque,
NM 87106 \$18.00
- American Indian Quarterly, Society of American Indian Studies and Research,
Box 443, Hurst, TX 76053 \$20.00
- Americans Before Columbus, National Indian Youth Council, 201 Hermosa NE,
Albuquerque, NM 87108 \$5.00
- Blue Cloud Quarterly, Benedictine Missionaries, Blue Cloud Abbey,
Marvin, SD 57251 \$2.00
- Daybreak Star Monthly Reader, United Indians of All Tribes Foundation.
Daybreak Star Press, Box 99253, Seattle, WA 98199 \$5.00
- Indian, American Indian Leadership Council, Route 3, Box 9, Rapid City,
SD 57701 \$3.00
- Indian Affairs, Association on American Indian Affairs, 432 Park Ave. South,
New York, NY 10016 \$10.00
- Indian Education, National Indian Education Association, 1115 Second Ave,
Ivy Tower Bldg., Minneapolis, MN 55403 \$10.00
- Indian Educator, United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, Adult Careers
Education, Box 99253, Seattle, WA 98199
- Indian Forerunner, Eight Northern Pueblos, Box 927, San Juan Pueblo,
New Mexico 87566 \$1.00
- Indian Trader, Box 31235, Billings, MT 59107 \$10.00
- Indian Truth, Indian Rights Association, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia,
PA 19102 \$15.00
- Journal of American Indian Education, Arizona State University, College of
Education, Tempe, Arizona 85281 \$4.50
- Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, Broadway at 155th St.,
NY, NY 10032 Membership is \$20.00
- National Indian Council on Aging News, Box 2088, Albuquerque, NM 87103 \$2.00
- Nations: the Native American Magazine, Box 30800, Seattle, WA 98103 \$30.00
- Native American Philanthropic News Service Publications Package
Phelps-Stokes Fund, 1029 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20005 \$26.00
- Native American Rights Fund. Announcements, J.C. Liberman, 1506
Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302 \$10.00

(Continued on page 6)

ETHNIC MATERIALS TASK FORCE



Public Library Services to Multilingual/
Multicultural Communities

"Building Bridges: Strategies for Developing Multilingual Collections and Services" was the theme of a multifaceted program focusing on Canadian and American experience in servicing non-English speaking minorities. It attracted more than 150 participants in the Civic Auditorium at the ALA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Delia E. Martinez, Chair, Committee for the Implementation of Resolutions adopted at the White House Conference on Library and Information Services, highlighted the main issues confronting us and expectations for strengthening multilingual library services. She pledges to maintain constant communication with us for mutual support. Then, three Canadian speakers (Marie Zielinska, Chief, Multilingual Biblioservice, National Library of Canada, Genie Lorentowicz, National Multilanguage Services, Toronto, and Stephanie Hutcheson, Toronto Public Library) shared their experiences with the help of a slide presentation in acquisition, building and developing multilingual/multicultural

collections. Of course, these efforts are supported by national government policy as well as adequate financing.

Three American speakers (Gaetano Verdini, Brooklyn Public Library, William McElwain, Chicago Public Library and Sylva Manoogian, Los Angeles Public Library) discussed alternative techniques for developing multilingual collections and ways of handling non-English speaking patrons. The presentations were followed by extensive group discussion and distribution of leaflets, bookmarks, and buttons. Copies of a foreign language vendors list and a list of foreign language collections in major public libraries in the U.S. were also distributed.

The program was chaired by Sylva Manoogian, and co-sponsored by the SRRT EMIE Task Force, RASD Library Services to the Spanish speaking Committee, and the RASD Multilingual Materials Subcommittee. Audio cassettes are available for this program from ALA Publishing in Chicago.

BIBLIOGRAPHY continued from page 5

- Navajo Times, Navajo Tribe, Box 310, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 \$14.00
Nishnawbe News, 4 Lee Hall, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan 94855 \$6.50
OH-HE-Yoh-Noh, Seneca Nation of Indians, Box 231, Haley Bldg, Salamanca, NY 14779 \$10.00
Rawhide Press, Times Publishing Co., Box 393, Wilpinit, WA 99040 \$5.00
Sundance, Amerind Club of the University, SUPO Box 20788, Tuscon, Arizona 85720 \$4.00
Tsistsistas Press, Box 8, Lame Deer, MT 59043 \$8.00
Wotanin-Wowapi, Williston Herald, Box 1447, Williston, ND 58801 \$4.00



EDITORIAL COMMENT, by Elizabeth Morrissett

The Social Responsibilities Round Table needs to do some recruiting. We need a group who wants to monitor the press, and the Office of Intellectual Freedom is more and more driven by pressures of censorship incidents.

Television coverage of the attacks on Secretary of the Interior Watt in recent weeks have been so shallow as to totally confuse any watcher about the real issues. In particular a CBS coverage on TV of the criticism of Watt in a half-hour feature never told the viewer any of the regulations and policy changes which Watt had ordered which created the fuss. Their interview with Ansel Adams, old time Sierra Club supporter and well-known photographer selected his weakest remarks about being sometimes a little over-supportive of all environmental causes, and I am sure he must have been very disappointed in their editorial choices of his remarks about James Watt. The coverage of news in general avoids

SRRT BOOTH

Although the "whole earth" flag did not arrive after a six month wait, the booth was successfully decorated by the efforts of Bill Galaway and Nancy Gruber. The quality of the display was due to the result of work done on compiling the Directory of Peace Research and Action Organizations of North America. A number of publications dealing with human rights and other issues were displayed, to the delight of many a passer-by.

Next year the booth will be supervised by Bill Galaway; those who wish to display materials are advised to request space early so that the design can be planned. We intend to make the booth more attractive and interesting.

Additional interest for the booth this year was stimulated by the presence of several authors, including Ann Ginger of the Meiklejohn Institute on Human Rights and Adah Maurer, author of Paddles Away, an analysis of physical punishment of children, especially in schools and institutions.

issues, concentrates on personalities, and really cuts the news down to a very limited reporting on events at the "easy-to-read" level, and although this is more noticeable on TV and radio, it is more common in newspapers than before.

I have a lot of faith in common folk who have information on which to base opinion - our biggest problem now is total blackout of information. We do not know of the wars going on in our own country against the Mohawk Nation and the Navajo people. It is almost impossible to hear the labor issues in strikes presented and when strikes are reported, there is a football-reporting theme somewhat like the reportorial attitude toward political elections during the past decade.

The Social Responsibilities Round Table was formed to allow concerned people to develop information and distribute information on subjects of interest to librarians. It is easy to come to the Action Council and discuss the need for a task force, and request the first year budget of \$50 to get underway. From then on, you are the leader.

The EMIE Reporter

Issued by the Ethnic Materials Information Exchange, Community Facilities Building, Room 251, Queens College, CUNY, Flushing, NY 11367.

The EMIE is a new, 4-page periodical published occasionally by co-sponsors Queens College Jewish and Ethnic Studies Project and the Queens College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, and is edited by David Cohen, Adjunct Professor in the Library School. The Reporter's purpose is to serve as an information dissemination and transfer point for all those interested in furthering multiethnic understanding. Information on resources, activities, and bibliographic resources will be its chief focus. To receive future issues of the Reporter, send your request to the Ethnic Materials Information Exchange at the address above.

SRRT MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION:

To join, subscribe, or renew, please send this coupon - with payment - to: SRRT, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611. Please make checks payable to ALA/SRRT Clearinghouse.

THANKS!!

Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ \$5 (ALA Personal Member) _____ \$5 (Affiliate, non-ALA Member)
_____ \$20 (Institutions) Back issues are available at \$1 each
(numbers _____) Please request back issues from: SRRT/ALA,
50 East Huron, Chicago, IL 60611.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
50 EAST HURON STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Permit No. 3226