

GLTF Newsletter

A Publication of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force of the
Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association

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Spring 1990

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Gay and Lesbian Task Force To Celebrate Anniversary

1990 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table. The American Library Association was the first organization to have an officially sanctioned gay/lesbian group, thus making the Task Force the oldest gay/lesbian professional group in the United States.

To celebrate that anniversary, the Gay and Lesbian Task Force will hold a dinner/dance on Saturday, June 23, during the 1990 ALA Conference, at the Bismarck Hotel in Chicago, from 6 pm until midnight.

The festivities will begin with a cash bar cocktail hour at 6 pm, followed by dinner at 6:45 pm. Two entrees will be available: breast of chicken or a vegetarian dish. The dinner will be complemented with musical entertainment. The cost of a ticket for the dinner and dance is \$25.

The evening's special Anniversary Program will begin at 8 pm. The 1990 Gay and Lesbian Task Force Book Awards will be presented, followed by the featured speaker for the celebration, Barbara Gittings, founder and guiding light of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force. All interested persons are invited, and admission is free.

The dance (live entertainment to be announced) is scheduled to begin at 10 pm. Persons wishing to attend the dance only may purchase a ticket at the door for \$6. All proceeds from the dance will go to the Gay and Lesbian Task Force Book Award fund.

Tickets for the dinner and dance are by advance sales only. No tickets will be available for purchase during the ALA Conference. Reservations may be made by sending a check (no cash, please) for \$25 per person to:

Roland C. Hansen
3824 N. Fremont
Chicago, IL 60613

Please make your check payable to: ALA/SRRT/GLTF. Please specify on your check which entree(s) you prefer: chicken or vegetarian. The deadline for reservations is June 15, 1990. Tickets will be distributed on the evening of the Dinner/Dance.

The Steering Committee of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force is very excited about this event, and invites all Task Force members, former members, SRRT members and friends to come and celebrate our first twenty years.

Commemorative T-Shirt Offer Get Your Orders in Now!

As part of the twentieth anniversary celebration of the Gay & Lesbian Task Force, the GLTF is offering a commemorative T-shirt to note the event.

At press time, the exact design was uncertain, but it will highlight the twentieth anniversary theme, emphasizing the fact that the Task Force is the oldest gay and lesbian professional organization in the U.S. The shirts are 100% cotton and will feature two-color artwork. The shirts are being printed in Nashville for the Task Force.

Shirts are available in medium, large and extra-large (sorry, no small size available), and are priced at \$10 each, plus \$3 for shipping and handling. T-shirts may be ordered by sending a check (payable to ALA SRRT GLTF), along with necessary sizes and addresses to:

Leon Bey
P.O. Box 1203
Dayton, OH 45401-1203

May 15, 1990 is the deadline for mail orders to guarantee receipt before the ALA Conference. Otherwise, shirts may be picked up at the Twentieth Anniversary program on Saturday, June 23 at 8 pm at the Bismarck Hotel.

A very limited number of shirts will be available for \$12 at the ALA Conference. However, to assure receipt, mail ordering is recommended.

1990 GLTF Gay/Lesbian Book Awards

The two winners of the 1990 Gay/Lesbian Book Awards are:

Fiction

Eighty-sixed by David B. Feinberg. New York: Viking, 1989.

Non-fiction

In Search of Gay American: Women and Men in a Time of Change by Neil Miller. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1989.

The finalists for the 1990 Gay/Lesbian Book Award of the ALA Gay and Lesbian Task Force were:

Literature and the Arts:

Eighty-Sixed by David B. Feinberg. New York: Viking, 1989.

Equal Affections by David Leavitt. New York: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1989.

In a Different Light: an Anthology of Lesbian Writers. Carolyn Weathers and Jenny Wrenn, eds. Los Angeles: Clothespin Fever Press, 1989.

In Memory of Angel Clare by Christopher Bram. New York: Donald I. Fine, 1989.

A Place at the Table by Edith Konecky. New York: Random House, 1989.

Non-Fiction (including Biography):

Hidden from History: Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past. Martin Bauml Duberman, Martha Vicinus, and George Chauncey, Jr., eds. New York: New American Library, 1989.

In Search of Gay America: Women and Men in a Time of Change by Neil Miller. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1989.

Not a Passing Phase: Reclaiming Lesbians in History 1840-1985. Lesbian History Group. London: Women's Press, 1989.

Personal Dispatches: Writers Confront AIDS. John Preston, ed. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1989.

When Someone You Know is Gay by Susan Cohen and Daniel Cohen. New York: M. Evans, 1989.

These ten finalists were selected by the Gay/Lesbian Book Award Committee from a total of 26 nominated titles, all published in 1989.

The Committee unanimously voted to give Armistead Maupin a Special Achievement Award in recognition of his wonderful series *Tales of the City*, which came to an end in 1989 with the publication of *Sure of You* (New York: Harper & Row, 1989). Armistead Maupin and his partner will be coming to the dinner and awards ceremony in Chicago.

At press time, David Feinberg indicated that he will probably be attending the dinner as well. Word has not yet been received from Neil Miller. A pre-conference newsletter will be sent in early June confirming all details of the awards ceremony, providing conference information.

It is not too early to start submitting nominations for the 1991 awards for books published in 1990. Nominations should be sent Adam Schiff with a statement why a book is being nominated. Also, anyone interested in serving on the GLTF Gay and Lesbian Book Award Committee should contact Adam Schiff at: Science Library, University of Colorado, Campus Box 184, Boulder, Colorado 80309 or via e-mail at: schiff_@cubldr.colorado.edu (internet).

Librarians with AIDS, ARC, HIV+ Status to Meet at Annual Conference

AIDS has had a significant impact on both the gay and library communities. While we mourn our losses, it is important to remember that there are librarians and library workers who continue to work while having AIDS, ARC or being HIV+. Continuing to work is a way of being brave, and a way to reaffirm out lives. While there is growing awareness of the loss of the library world because of AIDS, there is less sense of the struggle and commitment of PWAs and PWARCs to continue to contribute to the professional community.

At the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago this summer, there will be a meeting of librarians and library workers with AIDS, ARC or HIV+ status. Anyone interested in attending should contact Joseph Smalley, Bobst Library, Technical Services Division, 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012.

GLTF Newsletter Subscriptions Extended

Since there was a large gap last year in the publication of the *GLTF Newsletter*, the GLTF Executive Board decided at ALA Midwinter to automatically extend subscriptions of the *Newsletter* to the end of the volume year. Therefore, subscribers will receive two more issues of the Newsletter in addition to Vol.2, No. 1 & 2 which was mailed out to subscribers in late December — No. 3 (current issue) and No. 4 to be mailed out in June. Please note that the mailing label on your copy of the newsletter now has the expiration date on it. There are four expiration dates, corresponding with the publication dates of the Newsletter: September 1, December 1, March 1, and June 1.

Subscribers are also asked to check the mailing label for accuracy. Please forward corrections to the editor.

Subscription Renewals and Requests

Subscriptions to the GLTF Newsletter are \$5 per year. New subscription and renewal requests should be sent to: ALA/SRRT/GLTF, Office of Library Outreach Services (OLOS), 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Make checks payable to ALA/SRRT/GLTF.

Moving? Don't Forget to Send a Change of Address

Send your new address along with the old mailing label or a photocopy of it to: Editor, GLTF Newsletter, P.O. Box 1817, Costa Mesa, California 92628.

Submitting Materials for Publication in the GLTF Newsletter

This is just a reminder that the next issue of the Newsletter will be sent out by June 1. Materials are due by May 20. Materials can be submitted in a variety of ways:

- Fax — (714)856-8095 (if the material is more than one page, please send it on disk as it avoids the task of having to re-type information).
- Electronic mail —
Bitnet: swooldri@uci.bitnet
Internet: swooldri@uci.edu
- Typed, double-spaced text (letter quality or laser printed so it can be scanned).
- On disk: 3.5- or 5.25-inch MS-DOS diskettes, as text files or word processing files or 3.5-inch Macintosh diskettes. Please identify which word processing program is used and its version (e.g. Macintosh/Microsoft Word 4.0)

Please send material to the following address (you can photocopy or clip this and tape it directly to the mailer!):

Steve Wooldridge
Editor - GLTF Newsletter
P.O. Box 1817
Costa Mesa, California 92628.

Gay/Lesbian Library Directory To Be Published

If you'd like to be listed in the Task Force's forthcoming *Directory of Gay and Lesbian Library Workers*, you need to fill out an entry form and return it to the directory coordinator by the end of April.

The *Directory*, scheduled for publication in time for the 20th anniversary of the Task Force at this summer's ALA Annual Conference, will list gay and lesbian librarians, archivists, and other people working in all types of libraries. Designed to be used as a professional resource guide and a social networking tool, the *Directory* will be listed in the *ALA Publications Checklist* and distributed through the Task Force's Library Information Clearinghouse. Everyone requesting a listing in the first edition will receive a copy of the directory free of charge.

A copy of the entry form has been included in this issue of the GLTF newsletter. If you need a form mailed or faxed to you or to someone else who you think might be interested in the project, contact: Cal Gough, Directory Coordinator, 491 Seminole Avenue, Apt. 14, Atlanta, GA 30307; home phone: (404) 577-4600, work phone: (404) 730-1910.

AIDS Bibliography Published

Sorting through the AIDS literature, are you feeling overwhelmed by the hundreds of AIDS-related books in print? A new bibliography can help you decide which ones are worth your time.

A Bibliography of AIDS-Related Books was prepared as a public service by Alyson Publications. Eleven reviewers, booksellers, AIDS activists, and educators were asked to grade and briefly comment on the books they knew from a list of 200 supplied by Alyson. In the resulting bibliography, each evaluator's comments and grade are listed for each title. Thus, the listings not only indicate which titles were universally liked (Paul Monette's *Borrowed Time* received all A's) but also which are controversial (Louise Hay's *You Can Heal Your Life* got every grade from B to F).

Other widely-praised titles included *AIDS: A Self-Care Journal* by the AIDS Project of LA; *AIDS: The Women* edited by Ines Rieder and Patricia Ruppelt; and *Valley of the Shadow* by Christopher Davis.

At the other end of the spectrum, the William Masters' book *Crisis: Heterosexual Behavior in the Age of AIDS* received all D's and F's. So did David Black's *The Plague Years*. And *Healing Ourselves Through AIDS* by Naboru Muramoto, received an F from Richard Labonte, the only bookseller familiar with it — "Hug-a-teddy twaddle," wrote Labonte.

Single copies of *A Bibliography of AIDS-Related Books* are available free by sending a 6x9-inch (or larger) self-addressed envelope with two first-class stamps to Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118. Please request it by title.

Ending Discrimination on Campus

The Campus Project of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has released a publication outlining strategies for organizing non-discrimination policies on campuses.

Making It Official: Organizing For a Policy to End Discrimination highlights successful organizing efforts and outlines the mechanics of changing campus policies. It lists college and universities that have nondiscrimination policies which include sexual orientation.

Copies may be ordered by sending \$1 to: NGLTF Campus Project, 1517 U St., NW, Washington DC 20009. Two earlier issues of the Campus Project newsletter, concerning gay and lesbian film resources and securing fair AIDS policies on campus, may also be ordered for \$1 each.

Microfilming Efforts

Are any libraries microfilming lesbian and gay periodicals or newspapers? A number of individuals are interested in inventorying what's out there in microform. If you know of any such microfilming, or are interested in this issue, please con-

tact: Daniel Tsang, Social Sciences Bibliographer, Main Library, University of California, Irvine, PO Box 19557, Irvine CA 92713; Tel. 714/856-4978; E-mail: dantsang@UCI [bit-net] or dtsang@uci.edu [internet].

Tools for Cataloging Gay and Lesbian Materials

Dee Michel, former male co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force, has created some tools for cataloging lesbian and gay materials. They are available for purchase at cost.

Gay Studies Thesaurus

Contents: 1215 entries, 911 preferred terms. Useful for indexing materials relating to homosexuality and the gay movement.

Date created: Aug 1985

Size: 82 pp.

Price: \$12

Cataloging Manual

Contents: Procedures for descriptive and subject cataloging of both fiction and non-fiction, with examples from lesbian and gay literature. While written specifically for catalogers at the library of the ONE Institute in Los Angeles, it could be used by anyone beginning to catalog a collection of lesbian and gay books (but not artifacts such as buttons).

Date Created; Jan 1987

Size: 16 pp.

Price: \$3

Michell/Moore Classification Scheme

Contents: 12 Schedules for areas such as Reference works, History, Sexuality, Fiction, Biography, etc. Also includes Library of Congress table for book numbering.

Date Created: Jan 1987

Size: 14 pp.

Price: \$3

These three items are also available in a combined package bound in one spiral binding

Contents: Manual, Classification, Thesaurus

Size: 113 pp.

Price: \$16

Prepaid orders only are accepted. Costs cover primarily the copying and postage fees. Orders should be sent to: Dee Michel, 1534 N. Coronado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

What Causes Heterosexuality?

Many of us have encountered horribly biased questions about our sexual orientation. The following was found on an electronic bulletin board (soc.motss on Usenet). It is a humorous exercise in turn-about for fair play.

Heterosexual Questionnaire

1. What do you think caused your heterosexuality?
2. When and how did you first decide you were a heterosexual?
3. Is it possible your heterosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the same sex?
4. Is it possible your heterosexuality is just a phase you may grow out of?
5. If you've never slept with a person of the same sex, is it possible that all you need is a good Gay lover?
6. To whom have you disclosed your heterosexual tendencies? How did they react?
7. Why do heterosexuals feel compelled to seduce others into your life-style?
8. Why do you insist on flaunting your heterosexuality? Can't you just be what you are and keep it quiet?
9. Would you want your children to be heterosexual, knowing the — problems they would face?
10. A disproportionate majority of child molesters are heterosexual. Do you consider it safe to expose your children to heterosexual teachers?
11. With all the societal support marriage receives, the divorce rate is spiraling. Why are there so few stable relationships among heterosexuals?
12. Why do heterosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?
13. Considering the menace of overpopulation, how could the human race survive if everyone were heterosexual like you?
14. Could you trust a heterosexual therapist to be objective? Don't you fear (s)he might be inclined to influence you in the direction of her/his own leanings?
15. How can you become a whole person if you limit yourself to compulsive, exclusive heterosexuality, and fail to develop your natural, healthy homosexual potential?
16. There seem to be very few happy heterosexuals. Techniques have been developed that might enable you to change it you really want to. Have you considered trying aversion therapy?

Getting Published in ALA Periodicals

How to Publish in ALA Periodicals is issued annual by the ALA Office of the Director of Publishing and is distributed free of charge upon receipt of a self-addressed 9x12-inch envelope with \$.45 of postage. The compilation provides current information on those periodicals published by ALA that accept unsolicited materials for publication. Each entry contains a brief description of the journal or newsletter, its frequency and scope, the type of submissions accepted, brief instructions to authors or how to obtain them, and editors' names and addresses. The listing is offered to encourage ALA members to

and others involved in the library and information sciences to offer contributions to ALA publications and make that effort a little easier.

Two New Databases Added to *AIDSLINE*

The national Library of Medicine, which announced the availability of *AIDSLINE* in 1988, has added two new AIDS-related databases to its nationwide computer system. The databases—*AIDSTRIALS* and *AIDSDRUGS*—provide online access to current information on clinical trials of AIDS drugs and vaccines, including the general criteria for participating in those trials.

The Health Omnibus Programs Extension Act of 1988 (Public Law 100607), passed by Congress in the fall of 1988, called for the establishment of a databank of information on clinical trials and treatments of AIDS. The two databases, *AIDSTRIALS* and *AIDSDRUGS*, represent the Public Health Service's (PHS) response to that mandate.

The content of databases is provided by the NLM through the cooperation of two other PHS components: the Food and Drug Administration, which provides information on privately sponsored experimental tests of efficacy, and the National Institutes of Health's National Institute Of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which provides information about NIH-funded safety and efficacy trials.

PHS currently makes this information available through its toll free confidential telephone service, 1-800-TRIALS-A. But as NLM director Dr. Donald B. Lindberg points out, "While many will find it handier to call the toll-free hotline for assistance, others who have a repeated need for information, such as physicians or community-based AIDS organizations, will now have the option of performing their own searches directly, online, through the NLM system." The system operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For further information about the specific content of *AIDSTRIALS* or *AIDSDRUGS*, contact NLM's Specialized Information Services — Tel. 301/496-3147. For information about how to have access to the two databases on NLM's system, call the Library's MEDLARS Management Section — 301/496-6193 or 800/638-8480.

The National Library of Medicine, the world's largest medical library, is a component of the PHS's National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD. Its 25 online databases are now accessible to more than 30,000 users throughout the country. Among these databases, *AIDSLINE* provides bibliographic information from the medical literature on AIDS, and *DIRLINE* includes annotated directory information for hundreds of AIDS organizations.

GLAAD Works to Get Reference Tools Updated to Remove Biased Language

The New York chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation recently inaugurated Reference Works Project now tallies four victories. GLAAD has won promises from two encyclopedias (*Colliers* and *Encyclopedia Americana*) to bring outdated, bigoted entries on homosexuality in line with the times. Microsoft Word has committed to removing from its thesaurus bigoted slang expressions as synonyms for "gay" and "homosexual." *Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus* has agreed to do the same. Next target: *Roget's Thesaurus*, possibly the worst of all!

—reprinted from the *GLAAD Newsletter*, Winter 1990, page 4

Book on Library Services For Gays and Lesbians Scheduled for June Publication

The first comprehensive manual on how librarians can improve their collections and services for gay and lesbian library users is scheduled for publication this June by MacFarland Publishers.

Co-edited by GLTF members Cal Gough and Ellen Greenblatt, many of the anthology's sixteen essays were written by GLTF members. The anthology examines a wide range of issues for all types of libraries and includes attention to all types of media. Issues addressed include collection development, bibliographic access, major selection and reference tools, and censorship of gay/lesbian library materials by librarians themselves.

A major portion of the book is devoted to almost two dozen appendices, many of them directories, checklists, and bibliographies currently being distributed separately by the GLTF's Library Information Clearinghouse.

MacFarland hopes to have copies of the anthology, entitled *Gay and Lesbian Library Service*, available at its exhibit at ALA's annual conference.

Profile: International Gay & Lesbian Archives

The International Gay and Lesbian Archives aka the Natalie Barney/Edward Carpenter Library, is a publicly accessible library, a repository of the gay and lesbian community and movement, and a museum of gay and lesbian history and contemporary culture.

It includes 22,000 books, countless clippings, many issues of over 3000 periodicals, thousands of posters, photographs, artwork, T-shirts, buttons and memorabilia. The largest and oldest such collection, and broadest in scope, it focuses as well

on other issues related to the gay and lesbian experience.

As an outgrowth of Jim Kepner's personal library, started in 1942, assembling papers from many pioneer groups, it was used by others for years before it became a California nonprofit corporation in 1979. It was located on Hollywood's Hudson Avenue until 1988. Currently it is a "guest" of the City of West Hollywood at 626 N. Robertson Boulevard, second floor, side entrance.

The IGLA depends on individual donors and on grants from such organizations such as the Chicago Resource Center, the Southern California Women for Understanding and the March on Washington Committee, to help preserve records of the struggles and accomplishments of the gay/lesbian community and to provide information to students, activists, the media, government agencies, worldwide visitors and to gay and lesbian friends.

IGLA has been vital to the work of defining the gay community, defending against homophobia, changing the law and public attitudes, and creating a better tomorrow. With proper funding for staffing and for preservation and retrieval techniques, it hopes to be far more useful worldwide.

Preserving gay/lesbian history is often forgotten in the press of current concerns. Many don't know gay/lesbian history beyond the notion that all of the past was persecution.

Support is needed to preserve the gay/lesbian heritage, to enhance their ability to handle questions which come daily—questions touching every aspect of gay/lesbian history, culture, theories on the cause of homosexuality, on coming out, AIDS, civil disobedience, racism, ultimate goals of the gay/lesbian community, the law, feminism, demographics, travel advice, spirituality, and so forth.

The Archive is looking for financial support as well as donations of materials such as antique works, artwork, photos, film and theatre books, memorabilia, avant garde literature, biographies and poetry, personal effects and bio-sketches of persons lost to AIDS and of movement activists in their own areas, personal correspondence, coming-out accounts, legal experiences, erotica, etc. For further information on how to support this archive, contact the International Gay & Lesbian Archives, P.O. Box 38100, Hollywood, California 90038-0100.

Boston Speakers Bureau Offers Manual for Sale

The Boston Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau offers its manual (revised in 1987) for sale. It is 72 pages of information, history, questions and exercises that can be used to educate people in the fight to end homophobia. The cost of this training manual is \$12.50 which includes postage and handling. Gay and lesbian groups are encouraged to use this manual as much as they like, or find useful. The address of the bureau is P.O. Box 2232, Boston, MA 02107. The telephone number is 617/354-0133.

Name

Job title(s) or function(s)

Institution & address

Work phone
Fax phone

Formal education

Other education

Previous work titles and/or
information about other work
experiences

Current and past memberships in
library/archive organizations
(and offices held, if any)

Other memberships/offices held
(particularly in gay/lesbian
organizations)

Professional interests, expertise,
accomplishments, and/or activities
related to gay/lesbian issues

Publications and unpublished papers related to lesbian or gay issues (with dates)

Major leisure activities/interests

Other information that might be useful or interesting to your colleagues

Other publications (with dates)

Honors, awards, etc.

Mail the completed form to:

Cal Gough
491 Seminole Avenue, #14
Atlanta, GA 30307

**USE THIS HALF OF THE FORM TO ORDER TICKETS
FOR THE DINNER AND DANCE AT THE ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

I am ordering ___ tickets at \$25 each. Enclosed is my check, payable to: ALA/SRRT/GLTF, for \$ _____.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I want: ___ Chicken Entree ___ Vegetarian Entree

Tickets for the dinner and dance are by advance sales only. No tickets will be available for purchase during the ALA Conference.

Send this order to: Roland C. Hansen
3824 N. Fremont
Chicago, IL 60613

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I would like to order the following items (sorry, small size not available):

___ Medium Shirt(s) @ \$10 each + \$3 shipping/handling
___ Large Shirt(s) @ \$10 each + \$3 shipping/handling
___ Extra Large Shirt(s) @ \$10 each + \$3 shipping/handling

I have enclosed a check, payable to ALA SRRT GLTF, for \$ _____.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send this order to: Leon Bey
P.O. Box 1203
Dayton, OH 45401-1203

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FIRST CLASS

To: