

GLBTF NEWSLETTER

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

From the Editor:

In this issue you will find information regarding ALA's 2001 Midwinter Conference in Washington DC. A schedule of meetings for the GLBTRT Round Table and travel information is included.

If you are receiving this newsletter, we wholeheartedly thank you for your support of the Round Table. As we conclude our first year as an official Round Table of the American Library Association, we now have over 300 members! The RT's goal for 2001 is to increase that number to 500+ members.

Please ask your friends, coworkers, and other GLBT-supportive members of ALA to join our Round Table when they renew their Association membership.

Also included is a list of the 61(!) books nominated for the 2000 GLBTRT Book Award. The finalists and winners will be named during conference. I look forward to seeing you there!

-M. Callaghan "Cal" Zunt
Newsletter Editor

Program Planning

from the Awards Breakfast Planning Committee

Dorothy Allison secured as the keynote speaker for the Annual GLBTRT Book Awards Breakfast in San Francisco in June 2001!

This year, we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the GLBTRT Book Awards in San Francisco, so the pressure is on to make it a special event indeed!

The Awards Breakfast Planning Committee Team, (Chet Mulawka especially), has been scouring the hills for high voltage speakers and a suitable venue.

After a few disappointing "not this year" responses from several noted authors, Chet connected with Dorothy Allison and she said yes!

Clearly one important author in our midst will provide this special occasion with a significant draw, but we're still looking for others who will join us. The committee is also planning to invite past recipients of the Book Award to support us in celebrating our achievements over the past 30 years.

Although the specific venue has not yet been designated, we are planning a breakfast that will provide attendees with a varied menu (not everyone likes eggs you know) and an opportunity to celebrate our 30 plus years as well as honor the award winners.

We have scheduled the event for Monday morning, June 18, 2001, so mark your calendars now. Registration information will appear in the pre-conference issue (January) of American Libraries. Please remember we do not sell tickets to the event at conference, so pre-conference registration is necessary. The cost of the event will be \$50.

The committee is also seeking local members (in San Francisco) who can help pull the event together, especially as we get closer to June 18. There has recently been talk of a local arrangements function as part of our overall conference planning process, so if anyone is interested and available to help please drop me an email, or join us at midwinter.

Bob Jaquay
Breakfast Committee Chair
rl_jaquay@yahoo.com

Read Aloud Participants needed for Midwinter

Remember to join us for our "read aloud" of GLBT-themed works at this Midwinter conference. This event is more than a chance to read your own creative work, or from a work which has meaning to you. It is a symbolic act against the historical censorship of the GLBT community. And it is fun! This year the Read Aloud will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2001 from 8-10pm in Washington Room 13/14 of the Renaissance Hotel. Interested participants can email Stephen Stillwell at: Rumson2021@Home.com

From the Co-Chairs

Roland Hansen, Male Co-Chair

Greetings: Midwinter is here! It's hard to believe that the millennium is almost upon us! The GLBTRT has a full schedule of meetings, plus the Read-A-Loud to keep us all busy.

Planning for the San Francisco Annual Conference is progressing steadily, and we need to begin planning for 2002 (Atlanta, GA) at this Midwinter Conference. Volunteers are needed for the Program Planning Committee for 2002, especially any of you from the greater Atlanta area, or anywhere in GA for that matter.

New members, returning members, and new volunteers may attend any of the RT meetings – except Book Awards meetings which are closed – or fill out the volunteer form found on the website: http://calvin.usc.edu/~trimmer/ala_hp.html. Our current membership is 327. We need a little push to increase this to at least 500.

The Membership Committee needs members too. If you are interested, please contact me or Faye, or come to the All Committees Meeting on Saturday 2-4pm, Hotel Madison. Our esteemed colleague and RT Treasurer has informed me that we are finally "in the black ink", as far as the budget goes. This is good news indeed.

By the time we meet, I will have met with Susan Roman, Director of ALA Development Office about fund raising efforts and will report at Steering Committee I on the results of that meeting.

At last report, the pledged money for the Book Award Endowment was at \$13,000. The minimum we need is \$40,000 to start the endowment and generate income to fund the \$2,000 we need annually for two Book Awards. At the risk of sounding like a broken record, we need volunteers to join the Fund Raising Committee. Contact Norman, or either Co-Chair, or visit the website.

It's not about anyone else, it's all about US! We need everyone's involvement.

I will be staying at the Hotel Washington, arriving Thursday afternoon, and leaving Wednesday afternoon. Looking forward to seeing all of you again.

-- Roland

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About GLBTF Newsletter

GLBTF Newsletter (ISSN 1045-2893) 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 your annual membership fees to ALA.

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

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

Newsletter Editor -

M. Callaghan "Cal" Zunt
or via email at: cal.zunt@cpl.org

Treasure's Update

We have been in existence now for one year and we have exceeded our membership goals! As of the last report from ALA, we have 327 members. We need to increase those numbers. It is important that every member recruit new members to the roundtable.

At the steering committee meeting in Washington D.C. there should be some discussion about the possibility of creating students memberships, corporate memberships and increasing the current membership to \$15.00.

We closed the fiscal year in the black thanks to the Gala event in Chicago. Donations are slow in coming in as of this writing we have gotten \$1100.00 in donations that can be applied to the challenge grant, which ended on December 1, 2000.

The endowment fund pledges total \$12,750.00. I am currently working with another member of the roundtable on second challenge grant for donations from nonroundtable members. We also received \$500.00 in donations from publishers.

The fund raising committee needs members to work with the chairperson and me. We all need to continue the search for possible sources of money. If you have an idea send it to me at the email address below.

It is my goal to have by the midwinter conference the draft procedures for each committee in the roundtable for the handling of fiscal matters. It is the responsibility of the committee chair and the membership of the committee to review and make corrections to each procedure.

At the annual conference in San Francisco 2001, my current term will end. I am throwing my hat back into the ring to run for a second term. I do hope I can count on everyone voting for me at least once. It is too bad we are unable to follow the unwritten laws set down during the golden age of American politics -- "to vote early and often" -- things would be so much more fun.

I remain yours in black ink,

NormanEriksen
Treasurer
n.eriksen@brooklynpublishing.org

Volunteer with Us

Volunteer with the GLBTRT!!!

Join us! We are always looking for energetic committee members. Interested candidates must be members of ALA. Please mail/email your nominations to the GLBTRT at the ALA address on the back of this newsletter, or attend our meetings during conference and see if you would like to volunteer. We look forward to working with you!

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Book Award Committee

While December may mean most of us are preparing for the upcoming holidays, it means crunch time for the Book Award Committee. At the close of nominations last Friday, the committee had 61 nominations, 34 non-fiction and 27 fiction/literature. Between now and our meeting at midwinter, the committee will conduct 2 votes - on December 14 and December 28. These votes will determine the 5 finalists for the 2 awards.

Non-Fiction Nominations:

Alternate Channels: gay and Lesbian Images on Radio and Television, 1930's to the Present - Stephen Capsuto (Baltimore)

Baby Precious Always Shines: Selected Love Notes Between Gertrude Stein...ed. by Kay Turner (St. Martin's)

Brave Journeys: Profiles in gay and lesbian courage - David Mixner (Bantam)

Coming Out of Cancer : Writings from the Lesbian Cancer Epidemic ed. By Victoria Brownworth (Seal Press)

Gaylaw: challenging the apartheid of the closet - William N. Eskridge (Harvard Univ. Press)

Golden Men: the power of gay midlife - Harold Kooden w/ Charles Flowers (Avon)

Handbook of counseling and psychotherapy with lesbian, gay, and bisexual clients ed. By Ruperto M. Perez, Kurt A. DeBord, Kathleen J. Bieschke (American Psychological Association)

Hey Paesan: Writing by Lesbians and Gay Men of Italian Descent - Tommi Avicolti Mecca, Denise Nico Leto, Giovanna Capone (3 Guineas Press)

Homosexualities - Stephen O. Murray (Univ. of Chicago Press)

Impossible Women: Lesbian Figures and American Literature -Valerie Rohy (Cornell Univ. Press)

Janet, My Mother and Me: a memoir of growing up - William Murray (Simon & Schuster)

Lesbian and Gay Voices: An Annotated Bibliography and Guide to Literature for Children and Young Adults - Francis Ann Day (Greenwood Press)

Lesbian Art in America: A contemporary history - Harmony Hammond (Rizzoli)

Losing Matt Shepard - Beth Loffreda (Columbia Univ. Press)

Manual Puig and the Spider Woman - Suzanne Jill Levine (Farrar Strauss Giroux)

Margaret Mead Made Me Gay - Esther Newton (Duke Univ. Press)

Measure of Life, The: Virginia Woolf's last years - Herbert Marder (Cornell University Press)

Men Like Us: the GMHC complete guide to gay men's sexual, physical, and emotional well being - Daniel Wolfe (Plume)

Mentor, The: a memoir of friendship and gay identity - Jay Quinn (Haworth Press)

My Dangerous Desires - Amber Hollibaugh (Duke Univ. Press)

Original Story By: A Memoir of Broadway and Hollywood - Arthur Laurents (Knopf)

Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned - Judd Winnick (Henry Holt)

Politics of Gay Rights, The - ed, Craig Rommerman, et. al (Univ. of Chicago Press)

Sex the Measure of All Things: A life of Alfred C. Kinsey - Jonathon Gathorne-Hardy (Indiana U. Press)

Sexing the Body: Gender politics and the construction of sexuality - Anne Fausto-Sterling (Basic Books)

Something to Tell You - Gilbert Herdt (Columbia Univ. Press)

Stitching a Revolution: The making of an activist - Cleve Jones (Harper SanFrancisco)

Taste for Freedom, A : The Life of Astolphe De Custine - Anka Muhlstein, Teresa Waugh (Translator) (Helen Marx Books)

Trailblazing: The true story of America's first openly gay track coach - Eric Anderson (Alyson)

Transmen and FTMs: Identities, Bodies, Genders, and Sexualities - Jason Cromwell (Univ. of Illinois Press)

Non-Fiction Nominations (con't):

Truly Wilde: The Unsettling Story of Dolly Wilde, Oscar's Unusual Niece - Joan Schenkar (Basic Books)

Way To Go, Smith! - Bob Smith (Weisbach)

Wedding, The: A family's coming out story - Douglas Wythe, et. al. (Avon)

Whole Lesbian Sex Book - Felice Newman (Cleis Press)

Fiction/Literature Nominations:

Affinity - Sarah Waters (Riverhead Books)

Black Girl in Paris - Shay Youngblood (Riverhead Books)

Breakfast with Scot - Michael Downing (Counterpoint)

Danish Girl, The - David Ebershoff (Viking)

Dare, Truth or Promise - Paula Boock (Houghton Mifflin)

Eight Seconds - Jean Ferris (Harcourt Brace)

Girls Will Be Girls - Leslea Newman (Alyson)

Kamikaze Lust - Loren Sanders (Akashic Books)

Married Man, The - Edmund White (Knopf)

Michael - Henry Flesh (Akashic Books)

Most Fabulous Story Ever Told, The - Paul Rudnick (Overlook Press)

Night Listener - Armistead Maupin (HarperCollins)

Night Work: a Kate Martinelli mystery - Laurie R. King (Bantam)

Notorious Dr. August - Christopher Bram (William Morrow)

Outline of My Lover - Douglas Martin (Soft Skull Press)

Pastoral - Carl Phillips (Graywolf Press)

Powerbook, The - Jeanette Winterston (Knopf)

Rooney's Shorts - Dan Rooney (Harrington Park Press)

Sarah - JT LeRoy (Bloomsbury)

Sunday You Learn How to Box - Bill Wright (Scribner)

Telling, The - Ursula Le Guin (Harcourt)

Traveling Light - Katrina Kittle (Warner)

Troublemaker - Brian Pera (St. Martin's)

Valencia - Michelle Tea (Seal Press)

Whose Song? And Other Stories - Thomas Glave (City Lights Books)

Word of Mouth: an anthology of gay American poetry - ed. by Timothy Liu (Talisman House)

World in Us, The: Lesbian and Gay poetry of the next wave - ed. Michael Lassell & Elena Georgi (St. Martin's)

Committee Chair Anne Moore

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Book Reviews

Psappha: A Novel of Sappho by Peggy Ullman Bell
Upstart Press, 2000 (ISBN 0-9701274-9-9)

Because little is known about this fascinating figure of ancient Greece, many writers have been compelled to take up pen to fill in the blanks of Sappho's life. Most scholars agree that she was the greatest woman poet of that time, known as "The Poetess" just as Homer was known as "The Poet." However, the early Christians destroyed her work because of its lesbian content resulting in years of disagreements about her sexual orientation.

Bell makes her debut as a novelist by exploring anew Sappho's life and loves. The title (the name Sappho used for herself) reflects the story's emphasis on her personal life.

After an excerpt from Will Durant's Life of Greece in which Sappho's notoriety, accomplishments, the destruction of her work, and the unknown circumstances of her death are discussed, the story begins when Sappho is banished from Lesbos. Kerkolos, her future husband, rescues her from a storm-ravaged ship and in his gynaeceon (harem), Sappho is introduced to the delights of Iphis by Gongyla, an African woman of royal blood. Sappho experiences motherhood before Kerkolos dies leaving her to fight her mother-in-law over the house where she starts a school. Sappho's tumultuous life includes bedding both men and women but at Gongyla's death she throws herself off a cliff to remain with her most beloved.

It is obvious that Bell has done much research and her sensuous sex scenes are titillating but the book needs a good editor. Typos, grammar and plot errors overwhelm the writing. Superior novels of Sappho have already been written.

Reviewed by Susan Ballard

Reviews are a regular feature of the GLBTF Newsletter.

If you would like to be a reviewer or receive reviewing guidelines, please contact:

Barbara R. Stevens
GLBTRT Book Review Editor

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715-836-2522 or Fax 715-836-2902

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Meeting Schedule for the
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table
The American Library Association's Midwinter Meeting
Washington DC

January 12, 2001 - January 17, 2001

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Tear me out! The following is a schedule of meetings and events for Midwinter. We look forward to seeing you in DC! Check your conference

book and Cognotes for meeting locations and last minute changes.

Committee/Event	Date/Time	Location
Steering Comm I	Friday, 1/12 8pm-10pm	Grand Hyatt/Independence I
All Committees	Saturday, 1/13 2pm-4pm	Madison Hotel/Mt Vernon A
Book Awards Comm I	Saturday, 1/13 2pm-5:30pm	Madison Hotel/ExecChambers
CLOSED MTG		
All Conference Reception	Saturday, 1/13 3pm-5pm	Washington Convention Ctr. Exhibit Floor
Social	Saturday, 1/13 6pm-8pm	TBA - check Cognotes
Book Awards Comm II	Sunday, 1/14 9:30am-11am	Madison Hotel/Drawing Rm I
CLOSED MTG		
President's Program	Sunday, 1/14 2pm-4pm	TBA - check program
Read-A-Loud	Sunday, 1/14 8pm-10pm	RenaissanceWashington/Rm 7
Program Planning	Monday, 1/15 2-4pm	Capitol Hilton/Continental Rm
Steering Comm II	Tuesday, 1/16 9:30am-12:30pm	RenaissanceWashington/Rm13/14

Bring a Friend! - All meetings except for the Book Award Committee are open to all. The Steering Comm II will probably not last the full three hours.

ALA Executive Board Meetings

Friday, January 12, 2-5:30 p.m., Monday, January 15, 2-4 p.m., Wednesday, January 17, 2-5:30 p.m.

ALA Council Meetings -Washington Convention Center

Monday, January 15, 9-10:15 a.m., Tuesday, January 16, 8:30 a.m.- 12 noon, Wednesday, January 17, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. An additional Council Orientation Session will be held Saturday, January 13, 9-11 a.m.

The ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session is scheduled for Sunday, January 14, 9:30-11 a.m. Planning and Budget Assembly, Saturday, January 13, 2-4 p.m.

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ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION:

GLBT-RT Web Access: http://isd.usc.edu/~trimmer/ala_hp.html or
http://www.ala.org/alaorg/rtables/rtables_home.html

Additionally, a copy of this flyer will be available at the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) desk in the ALA office at the Convention Center. Our Social continues to be a highlight of the conference for GLBT librarians. We look forward to seeing you there!

ALA Travel Technology Group: 800-999-0925

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION: Three airports serve the DC area, BWI (Baltimore), IAD (Washington Dulles), and DCA (Regan National).

Shuttle Service — Super Shuttle operates between the airports and downtown hotels 24 hours a day. Fares range from \$10 at DCA to \$30 one-way from BWI. Phone: 800-258-3826.

Cabs & Conference Shuttles: Cab rides to downtown from the airport range from \$10-50 each way. Conference shuttles will run between the conference center the hotels (except for the Grand Hyatt, Renaissance Washington, and the Marriott Metro Center).

Train Service: Amtrak 800-872-7245; MARC Rail 800-325-RAIL.

Metro: Washington DC has a superior subway system, known as the Metro to get you anywhere your heart desires. Phone 202-637-7000 or via the web at:
<http://www.wmata.com>.

Notes:

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

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

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

GLBTRT Newsletter

M.C. Zunt, Editor

c/o GLBTRT

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