

ALA
Social Responsibilities
Round Table
CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD
TASK FORCE

February 18, 1984

To: SRRT Coretta Scott King Task Force

From: Effie Lee Morris, Chair

Re: Update since Midwinter *Effie*

Good News! Coretta Scott King has agreed to come to Dallas. It took letters and many phone calls but she's coming to make this Fifteenth anniversary special indeed. We can all be deeply grateful to her publisher, Esther Margolis, Newmarket Press for making her appearance possible and to Ethel Ambrose for calling attention to the book.

Cordie Hines, Dallas Public Library, has accepted the Local Arrangements Chair position. In this brief time, her committees are organized and ready to work. She has found the manual prepared last year by Penny Carr extremely helpful. She will also handle the advance ticket sales. I have requested a ballroom to seat ~~4000~~ ⁵⁰⁰, so please start encouraging your colleagues to attend. See the enclosed press release for ticket information.

Mamie Grady's Fund-Raising Committee has followed through on their proposals. The sponsor letters are ready. You should receive yours soon. Again, we really need your help. This is an opportunity to get the Task Force on a firm financial footing and relieve us of unnecessary stress. Mamie is also developing a manual for future use.

John H. Johnson has generously agreed to underwrite the program booklet and has provided \$500.00 for start-up letter costs thanks to Basil Phillips' persuasive skills. Norman Hunter of Johnson Publishing Company will do the design and layout. While the Fund-Raising Committee is busy with the sponsor letters, Basil, David and I will assemble, write and edit copy.

*Original request of
500
Dyatt Regeaney*

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Update memo -2-

At the Action Council meeting at Midwinter, the proposals and costs for the seals that Jean Coleman had presented to the Task Force were accepted. The profits will accrue to the Task Force. The Action Council was supportive and by consensus accepted the Fund-Raising sponsor letter proposal which was reported by May Biblo. Our debt problem is still unresolved but the Action Council is not pressing us. And, now through Task Force efforts, we have some hope.

Lucille Thomas, Publicity Chair, has worked effectively with the Public Relations Office. The press releases will go out through ALA channels this month. Lucille is also developing another list of the media, especially black, to whom the releases can be sent. She will welcome suggestions. She too is developing a manual.

Barbara Rollock has forwarded the citation which you have seen. With the suggestions from the Task Force, it is a sensitive well-written statement. It has been sent to Jean Coleman for printing and framing. Jean also has the information for the plaques and certificates. I assume all the winners have been notified. We do know that Lucille Clifton will be in Dallas to accept her award. Barbara too should be pulling together a manual for the Book Selection Committee.

Three new members have joined the Task Force and have asked for committee assignments. We welcome them and I ask them to contact their committee chairs immediately.

Violette Y. Fooks - Fund-Raising (Mamie Crady)
Dorothy S. Jones - Publicity (Lucille Thomas)
Constance McCollough - Lifetime Award (Henrietta Smith)

THINGS TO BE DONE

DEADLINE MARCH 15, 1984

Please check the enclosed lists carefully.

The mailing list for correct spelling of names and addresses to which you want mail sent. Add telephone numbers.

The Task Force and Committee list will appear in the program booklet. Please make sure that your name is listed as you wish it to appear.

The donor list for the booklet is also included.

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Update mem0 - 3-

Wanted and needed are any comments and suggestions for the program booklet, breakfast, and Task Force. By the end of the year I hope to have a firm grasp on our expenditures and have procedures worked out so that we will not face another stressful year like this. We have come a long way and must now move out of our informal operating mode. Of course, having funds will make it much easier. Like all ALA operations we are becoming complex. The manuals we develop will help to reduce confusion. I am still working to identify items which must go into the budget to support our activities. Please keep accurate records of any cost you may have. I have also received the printouts of our budget reports from the controller's office but they don't help. All I want to know is what we must order and pay for to make sure that we can! I am also working on the Chair's task list and responsibilities. It is extensive even with Jean Coleman's help from headquarters. The past two years have been unusual but with more cooperation, future Task Forces should function more easily and with less consumption of every one's time.

Please be sure that you have paid your SRRT dues. We are trying for 100% Task Force membership.

DALLAS BUSINESS MEETING

Responding to the request of Task Force members who will only attend the conference on Tuesday, I have scheduled the business meeting immediately following the breakfast in the 9:30am to 11:00am slot. Please mark your calendars now for this important meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you by March 15th. On to a gala celebration in Dallas! Thank you for your cooperation.