

Women In Libraries

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALA/SRRT FEMINIST
TASK FORCE

Volume 12 Number 2

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Editor: Michele Leber

ALA MEETINGS

The Feminist Task Force will have three meetings at the 1983 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio January 8-13:

Saturday, Jan. 8	2-4pm
Monday, Jan. 10	4:30-5:30pm
Tuesday, Jan. 11	2-4pm

Midwinter meetings of the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship will be:

Saturday, Jan. 8	9:30-11am
Sunday, Jan. 9	2-5:30pm

Author Sheila Tobias will speak on "Guns or Butter: Society's Share of the Pie" at a program June 25, 1983 during the ALA Annual Conference in Los Angeles. The program will be co-sponsored by FTF and COSWL and will focus on Reaganomics, especially the effects of military spending on social programs, including libraries. (Tobias is the author of What Kinds of Guns Are They Buying for Your Butter? A Beginner's Guide to Defense, Weaponry, and Military Spending published this month by Morrow.)

And a Philadelphia postscript: FTF member Jody Bush wrote, in response to the September 1982 WIL coverage of the ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia: "I thought I'd add a note about Joanna Featherstone's (FTF-sponsored program) performance because it was such a 'high' at that conference. She brought us all together in a joyful chorus of response to her happy, angry, poetic, lonely, historical sense of being a woman (sometimes a child) with her dramatization and song. It was wonderful." (And it was. With special thanks to Betty-Carol Sellen; this performance was a gift to her from her friend Joanna Featherstone, and it was shared with all of us.)

SRRT MEMBERSHIP DUES

A reminder that the Feminist Task Force is a unit of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table. SRRT has had to declare a moratorium on spending because of lack of funds. This means there may be little or no money available for our programs. All FTF members should pay their SRRT dues; support of SRRT is support of the Feminist Task Force.

OTHER ALA NOTES

Feminist librarian buttons, which can be sold at state or local library conferences (for 50 cents each), are available from Diane Davenport, Past Co-Coordinator of FTF, at Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University, Berkeley, CA 94702. Proceeds of the button sales go to FTF.

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The Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship is updating its Directory of Library Information Profession Women's Groups. COSWL is seeking information about national, state, regional, town and single library groups that address the status of women or other issues. Persons involved in any group or knowing of groups appropriate for the directory should send the group's name, address, phone number, name of contact person, type of membership (librarians, support staff, etc.), purpose of group, and the dates and locations of the group's meetings or get-togethers through January 1984 to Tina C. Fu, COSWL Directory, Libraries & Learning Resources, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

The third edition of the directory will be issued at the 1983 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio.

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Margaret Myers, ALA OLPR and staff liaison to COSWL, sends a reminder to watch for the December 1982 issue of Wilson Library Bulletin, which will contain five or six articles on women's issues in librarianship, some of them written by COSWL members.

PAY EQUITY HEARINGS

Testifying at Congressional subcommittee hearings on pay equity September 30, 1982, ALA Immediate Past President Elizabeth W. Stone noted that "ALA has gone on record as supporting the concept of equal pay for work of equal value. We support the efforts of those library workers who have documented and are challenging the practice of discriminatory salaries for librarians which are not commensurate with pay for comparable predominately-male professions that require similar levels of education, experience, responsibility and working conditions."

Dr. Stone, appearing on the third day of pay equity hearings before the Subcommittees on Civil Service, Human Resources, and Compensation and Employee Benefits of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, also spoke of the history of depressed wages in librarianship and its designation as a "women's profession;" results of comparable worth studies including librarians, and the concern of ALA about the proposed standards for federal library and information service positions issued by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Concerning the OPM standards, she commented: "In view of our concerns regarding OPM's application of the Factor Evaluation System to the librarian series, we suggest a study by an independent group should be considered not only to look at how the system is applied but to also look more closely at how the FES was developed, how the factors were determined and if the system was evaluated for sex-bias at the time it was developed."

Attachments to her testimony included the 1978 ALA resolution supporting comparable worth, a list of brief case summaries of library-related pay equity actions, and the article "Pay Parity for Library Workers" by Helen Josephine from The ALA Yearbook: A Review of Library Events 1981.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE CENTER

The 80-acre Woodstock Conference Center in Woodstock, Illinois, a \$3 million property, has been promised to the National Forum for Women - if the group can raise \$175,000 by December 31, 1982 for a revolving maintenance fund. The donation, from the Sylvia and Aron Scheinfeld Foundation, is believed to be the largest single gift made to a women's organization. The National Forum for Women was established to accept it.

The Woodstock Conference Center, which includes fully equipped meeting rooms, lodging and dining facilities, a large lake, trout pond, swimming pool, tennis court, nature trail, and barn suitable for renovation, would become the only conference site dedicated to having a comprehensive program for the discussion of women's issues. But the Center will continue to host all organizations that are working to bring about constructive social change and find solutions to complex social problems, the National Forum for Women notes.

The National Forum for Women is seeking tax-deductible contributions from founders and friends for this project. (Organizations which give \$500 or more, individuals who give \$1,000 or more, and corporate groups which give \$2,500 or more will be named founders and will have their names inscribed on a plaque at the center.) Contact National Forum for Women, 820 Pleasant Lane, Glenview, IL 60025, phone (312) 724-5244 or (312) 967-0472.

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CONFERENCES

A two-day workshop "Women in Community Building: Applying Feminine Skills and Values to Local and Global Change" will be held December 3 and 4 at Teachers College, Columbia University. The workshop centers on the three themes of the International Women's Decade - equality, development, and peace - and will feature resource persons and facilitators from universities and national and international organizations. Sponsors are the Church Women United; the Consortium on Peace Research, Education, and Development; the Institute for World Order; the International Council for Adult Education; the United Ministries in Education; the Seminar on Education for Peace, and the Office of continuing Education, Teachers College, Columbia University.

Graduate academic credit is available for the workshop. The \$60 registration fee does not cover lodging and meals. Contact the Office of Continuing Education, Box 132, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, phone (212) 678-3065.

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"Women & Public Policy: A Washington Seminar" will be an intensive three-week look at women policy-makers January 3-21 in Washington, D.C. The seminar is sponsored by the Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN), Goucher College, and the National Women's Education Fund. Individual colleges determine tuition costs for their students' participation in the seminar, and the colleges are billed by PLEN (\$250 per student for PLEN member colleges, \$300 for non-member colleges); additional are housing, food, and transportation costs and a \$35 application fee and \$30 materials charge.

Registration (including reasons for wanting to participate in the seminar) is due December 1. Contact Women & Public Policy Seminar, c/o Dr. Marrienne Alexander, Goucher College, Towson, MD 21204, phone (301) 337-6291.

WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK

March 6-12, 1983 will be Women's History Week, and there are several sources of information and materials to help recognize the occasion.

A resource catalog from the National Women's History Week Project includes curriculum guide, community organizing guide, posters, lesson plans, study sets, books, records, bibliography, games, calendar, t-shirts, buttons.... For a catalog, contact the Project at P.O. Box 3716, Santa Rosa, CA 95402, phone (707) 526-5974. (And contact your congressional representatives to ask that they support House Joint Resolution 460, introduced by Rep. Barbara Mikulski, and Senate Joint Resolution 215, introduced by Sen. Orrin Hatch, designating the week beginning March 6, 1983 as "Women's History Week.")

TABS: Aids for Ending Sexism in School includes an idea exchange from Women's History Week 1982 in its current issue (vol. V, no. 3) and notes that the next issue will be filled with materials for Women's History Week - posters, biographies, lesson plans, and activity ideas. Contact TABS, published quarterly by the Organization for Equal Education of the Sexes, Inc., at 744 Carroll St., Brooklyn, NY 11215, phone (212) 788-3478.

TABS also notes a substantial effort by a number of Maryland organizations to observe Women's History Week in Maryland this year. The Maryland Women's History Week Resource Packet - 1982, which included a speakers list, lesson plans, and bibliographies, was prepared by the Commission for Women and the State Department of Education and was mailed free to every school and library in the state. A new packet will be available in 1983. Contact Jill Moss Greenberg, Maryland State Department of Education, 200 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

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WORTH COMMENT

An item in a recent issue of The A. B. Seer, which gives news of the Springfield, Ill. chapter of the National Association of American Business Clubs, is worthy of note - and comment - since the item concerns ERA activity by women in Illinois and the editor of the newsletter is an assistant state's attorney. The item:

Last year, the boys at Douglas Park were in the news. This year, the chain gang girls invaded the Capitol Building on behalf of the E.R.A. We had a lot of fun at the courthouse this summer with the chain gang and their friends. We learned what can happen when the female of the species decides to lick their opponents (or each other). We learned that there is a conspiracy among the Governor, the legislature and the male-dominated judiciary to put them in jail. We learned other things, too. We found a recipe for a new douche left behind in their jail cells after release of the chain gang. Here it is: one part marijuana, one part talcum powder and one part chicken fat. They said it keeps them high, dry, and finger lickin' good.

(The "chain gang" refers to a number of women from Champaign-Urbana who chained themselves to the capitol.) A group of concerned women in the Springfield area request that people who are offended by this article put their responses in the form of a letter addressed "to whom it may concern" and send them to Polly Poskins, 1101 N. 6th St., Springfield, IL 62702. A copy also might be sent to J. William Roberts, States Attorney for Sangamon County, 404 County Building, Springfield, IL 62701. A. B. Seer editor John Michelich is Assistant States Attorney for Sangamon County. Though the newsletter is for private circulation, it is written by and read by a number of prominent lawyers; does this item reflect their opinion

AWARDS & GRANTS

The Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America of Radcliffe College is seeking nominations for Lifetime Achievement Awards which will be made in the fall of 1983 to as many as 10 American women "whose contributions over many years, as professionals or volunteers, on the community or national level, have resulted in profound changes in our society or had a lasting impact on the field in which they work."

Nominations are particularly sought of women who have contributed in the following areas: scholarship, learning, and educational leadership; the reduction of conflict and the achievement of peace; the health and safety of American women and their families; preserving and improving our living spaces; equality for women; gaining civil and political rights for all citizens; improving opportunities for the disadvantaged; the enrichment of our culture; ethical, moral and spiritual leadership. The selection committee will pay particular attention to the enduring effect of the work done and its significance for many other people; the committee "especially seeks to honor those whose lives have been an inspiration for others and is particularly, although not exclusively, concerned to identify those whose efforts have benefited or provided inspiration to other women."

Nominations, which must be made by someone other than the nominee or a member of her immediate family, are due by December 15. For nomination forms or information, contact Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, c/o The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

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Applications are now available for two Business and Professional Women's Foundation research grant programs. Applicants for Lena Lake Forrest Fellowships/BPW Research Grants must be doctoral candidates or post-doctoral scholars; applicants for Sally Butler Memorial Fund for Latina Research grants must be Latin American women of descent or citizenship, including women in the Caribbean, North, South, and Central American regions, who are engaged in pre-doctoral or advanced research on issues of importance to women. Research topics of primary interest to the BPW Foundation include comparable worth, technological change in women's work, occupational segregation, analyses of women's cooperative efforts to improve the quality of their work lives, and work and the seasons of a woman's life.

Awards range from two to five each year per program in amounts from \$500 to \$3,000; the average fellowship award is \$1,000. Applicants are required to write a preliminary letter requesting an application form and including a concise statement about the proposed research subject and the applicant's academic level; candidates for the Sally Butler also should indicate Latina background in this initial letter. Applications (plus summary of proposed research, budget, three letters of recommendation, and research timetable) must be submitted by January 1, 1983. Contact BPW Foundation, 2012 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION POLICY

From Susan Searing, Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large, University of Wisconsin, comes word that inflation and a growing mailing list have meant the end of free distribution of publications. Beginning January 1983, mailings from the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large will be available to non-Wisconsin residents by subscription only. An annual subscription fee of \$12 for individuals and women's programs and \$24 for institutions, libraries, and others will cover FEMINIST PERIODICALS, FEMINIST COLLECTIONS, and NEW BOOKS ON WOMEN & FEMINISM, plus all bibliographies, directories, and occasional publications produced throughout the

year. All subscriptions will be on a calendar year basis. Subscription orders, with checks payable to University of Wisconsin-Madison, should be sent to Acquisitions Dept., 324 Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706. For further information contact the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large, 112A Memorial Library, at the same address.

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PERIODICALS

NETWORK, a tabloid biweekly newspaper about women in the Baltimore-Washington area, debuted October 15, 1982. The first 16-page issue, heavy on ads, features articles about women in Maryland minority business programs, women in non-traditional jobs, and networking, plus a list of area networks and calendars. Publisher Jan Prince writes that "All women and women's groups are invited to use NETWORK - whether it's to publicize meetings and events, to sound off about a law or policy affecting women, to look for employment or to advertise their services." Subscription cost is \$15 for 24 issues; contact NETWORK, P.O. Box 128, Columbia, MD 21045, phone (301)997-4619 (Baltimore) or (301) 596-3161 (Washington).

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Womanbooks announces a new title for its collection of book synopses which has been sent out free for the last year - WOMEN'S WORKS IN REVIEW - and a new subscription price of \$3 for 7 issues. The first issue of WWIR has 10 pages chock full of short reviews and lists of books and records from establishment and alternative presses and producers and seems fine value for its price. Contact WOMANBOOKS, Dept. RWR, 201 W. 92nd St., New York, NY 10025.

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Single issues of interest include...

The third and last issue of WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY: Where Were They? Where Are They? Where Are They Going? dated August 1982 is the last such report on the Radcliffe College-National Endowment for the Humanities funded project of the same name, with more information about programs by and for women. The editor notes: "Although this publication comes to an end, the process that has been set in motion will, as many of you have noted in your letters to us, continue to affect 'both the personal and professional lives of women across the country.'" From NEH Public Library Program, The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

The Journal Issue of Sing Heavenly Muse! includes meditations and musings: poems, prose, prose poems, and classical dated journal entries, about "friends, children, work, laundromats, fishing, love, death and The Great Depression" by 35 women writers of all ages. Available for \$6 including postage from SING HEAVENLY MUSE!. P.O. Box 14059, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

The special April 1982 issue of AEQUUS, the Commission for Sex Equity newsletter from the Los Angeles Unified School District, is devoted to Title IX. It details the Title IX commitment, the district Title IX watch, a self-study tool, and resources and assistance. AEQUUS is published by the Commission for Sex Equity, Los Angeles School District, 450 N. Grand Ave., Room H-256, Los Angeles, CA 90012 and is funded by the Women's Educational Equity Act and Title IV of the Civil Rights Act, U.S. Department of Education.

The March 1982 issue (volume X, number 4) of SIECUS REPORT includes two charts with detailed evaluations of 25 textbooks on human sexuality, plus full bibliographic information for the 25 texts. SIECUS REPORT is published bimonthly and distributed only to SIECUS Associates; SIECUS Associates fees are: individual, \$30; organization, \$75; student (with validation), \$15; library (with validation), \$30, and benefactor, \$100 and over. Single copies of SIECUS REPORT are available for \$3 prepaid from The Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S., Inc., 80 Fifth Ave., Suite 801-2, New York, NY 10011.

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SOURCES & RESOURCES (WITH AN OCCASIONAL FREEBIE)

An updated publication from the Women's Bureau, "Employers and Child Care: Establishing Services Through the Workplace," features changes in tax law affecting child care services, the growing number of employers supporting such services, and the increased variety of care programs. It includes guidelines on program design, resource lists, recent survey reports, and statistical data. A limited number of single copies of the 83-page pamphlet is available free from the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210; send a self-addressed mailing label.

Records of the lives of women from actress Mary Tyler Moore to suffragist Ada James are in the collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and access to these materials has been made easier with the revised and enlarged 4th edition of "Women's History Resources at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin." The 88-page paperbound guide, with eight pages of photographs, is \$3.95 prepaid (\$4.70 if billed) from Publications Orders, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St., Madison, WI 53706.

An "Annotated bibliography on Sexual Harassment in Education," which appears in the WOMEN'S RIGHTS LAW REPORTER of Winter 1982 (volume 7, number 2) is available for \$2.50 from the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, 132 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036

"Women and Poverty," a report published by the Business and Professional Women's Foundation, asserts that women's poverty and women's employment are two sides of the same coin. Among the facts in the 4-page summary:

- * Three out of five working women earned less than \$10,000, and one out of three earned less than \$7,000 in 1980.
- * Other things being equal, women household heads would be paid 30 per cent more if they were male.

"Women and Poverty" is \$1 prepaid from BPW Supply Service, 11722 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20852; include 35 cents postage for fewer than five copies.

Resources listed in recent quarterly issues of the Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers newsletter include:

- "Tip Sheet: Starting a Displaced Homemakers Program," free from the Network, Sangamon State University - CC150D, Springfield, IL 62708.
- "Options for a New Beginning - A Handbook for Midlife and Older Women," developed by and available from the Illinois Commission on the Status of Women, 300 W. Monroe St., Springfield, IL 62706. phone (217) 782-8468.
- "A Good Start: Improving Opportunities for Women Under the Vocational Education Act" is available through the National Network for Displaced Homemakers, Inc., 1531 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, D.C. Send a self-addressed 9½ x 12½ envelope with 88 cents postage attached.

DID YOU KNOW...

... that 97% of all incest victims are young girls abused by adult males... that 58% of victims are under the age of 10...that incest victims are 70% of adolescent drug addicts, 75% of adolescent prostitutes, and one third of all girl children. So says Cleis Press, publisher of Voices in the Night: Women Speaking About Incest, a collection edited by Toni A.H. McNaron and Yarrow Morgan of stories, letters, poems, journals, essays and rituals by 37 women survivors of incest. Voices in the Night is \$7.95 from Cleis Press, P.O. Box 8281, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

... that if wives and working women heads of households were paid wages comparable to men's, half the poor families in the U.S. would be freed from poverty ... that the more women in an occupation, the less the occupation pays. Facts about office work and a working women's agenda for the 1980s are contained in the national report Office Work in America published by 9to5, National Association of Working Women, 1224 Huron Rd., Cleveland, OH 44115. The report, which reviews the latest national statistics in the areas of pay, working mothers, sexual harassment, office automation and workforce trends, is \$3 for 9to5 members, \$4 for individuals, and \$8 for institutions.

9to5 also has issued the Working Women's Agenda, a six-point statement of the most critical issues for women workers in the 1980s. Items on the agenda: end job discrimination; close the wage gap between men and women; ease the burdens on the working family; improve economic security for older women; create safe working conditions; and control office automation. 9to5 is currently conducting a nationwide survey of working women to examine job problems and ask women to rate public policies needed to help solve these problems.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 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