

Women In Libraries

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALA/SRRT FEMINIST
TASK FORCE

Volume 13 Number 5

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DALLAS CONFERENCE

The 103rd Annual Conference of the American Library Association is meeting in Dallas from June 23 to 28. The theme of the conference this year is "Paths to Power." Some of the meetings you won't want to miss:

Feminist Task Force meetings:

Saturday	2 - 4 p.m.	Coalition program*	Convention Center West Ballroom C
Saturday	8 -10 p.m.	Program: The Gender Gap**	Hyatt Cascade Ballroom
Monday	9:30-11 a.m.	Business meeting	Sheraton Rio Grande Room
Monday	10 p.m. to ??	Women's Nite Out	Moon Dreams, 3913 Cedar Springs Rd.
Tuesday	9:30-11 a.m.	Business meeting	Convention Center Room N 230

* Coalition program: ALA groups interested in women's issues have been invited to send representatives to share information about their programs and concerns. This meeting should be an introduction to women's networks and to ALA from a woman's perspective.

**"The Gender Gap: Women's Political Clout" is a program cosponsored by the FTF and the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship. It will explore the issues of significance today for American women. Guest speakers will be Elizabeth Minnich, consultant and political theorist, and Eddie Bernice Johnson, Former member of the Texas House of Representative and regional administrator during Carter's presidency. This colloquium will present the views of a theorist and a practical politician on a broad spectrum of approaches to power for women.

Other meetings of interest to women:

Saturday:

8-9 a.m.	ACRL Women's Studies Discussion Group
9:30-11 a.m.	" " " " "
11:30-12:30	COSWL Legislation Subcommittee

Sunday:

9:30-11 a.m.	Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship
11:30-12:30	ACRL Women's Studies Discussion Group

Monday:

2-5:30 p.m.	COSWL
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Tuesday:

4:30-5:30 p.m.	ACRL Women's Studies Discussion Group
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OTHER MEETINGS:

The Library Union Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table and the Staff Organizations Round Table will be co-sponsoring a panel discussion entitled, "Libraries, Unions, and Political Action," which will focus on the ways library unions in particular and the union movement as a whole have been using political activity to further their goals. Speaking on the panel will be Harriet Newton, vice president of the Librarians' Guild, AFSCME Local 2626; Patsy Hays, president of the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW); and Jim McCasland, secretary-treasurer of the Dallas County AFL-CIO. Mary Rosenthal of St. Lawrence University will act as moderator. The program will be held on Saturday, June 23, from 8 to 10 p.m.

The Library Union Task Force is also holding a program, "Managing VDTs for Employee Well-Being," from 9:30 - 11 a.m. on Tuesday. This program will present the latest information on potential health and safety issues for operators of video display terminals and practical methods for minimizing the problems.

On Tuesday, at 7:30, the SRRT Coretta Scott King Award Task Force will hold the fifteenth annual awards breakfast. Presentations will be made to Lucille Clifton, author of Everett Anderson's Goodbye, and to Pat Cummings, illustrator of My Mama Needs Me. A special citation will go to Coretta Scott King for her book, The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Women's National Book Association will have its annual breakfast on Saturday from 8 to 10 a.m. This is a gathering of librarians, publishers and distributors interested in women's books.

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEETS

WIL has received three fact sheets from Mary Lou Goodyear, chair of COSWL's Legislation Subcommittee on the subjects of the Equal Rights Amendment, pay equity, and abortion. Each of the fact sheets provides ALA policy and activities, describes what legislative action has been taken, and what avenues of action are open to us.

The ERA fact sheet lists conference programs which discussed the topic, describes the pamphlet, "ALA's for ERA," and briefly describes the work of the ERA Task Force. Since ERA will never be a dead issue, it is suggested that we continue to let our legislators know how we feel about it.

The background of pay equity as an issue is described in the second fact sheet, along with the affirmation of ALA support. Sources of information and suggestions for individual action are included.

ALA's policy on abortion is described and the major national legislation is discussed. Language to restrict abortion is frequently introduced in Congress and, consequently, careful monitoring is important.

If you are interested in obtaining the full text of these interesting fact sheets, contact Margaret Meyers, COSWL Liaison, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

A NEW BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE MAKING

The Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large for the University of Wisconsin System has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to compile a core bibliography of recent books in women's studies. The award of \$46,569 will support the preparation of a five-year supplement to Women's Studies: A Recommended Core Bibliography (Libraries Unlimited, 1979). The original volume was widely praised by librarians and scholars, was selected as an Outstanding Reference Book of 1979 by the American Library Association, and was listed as one of the best academic books of the year by Choice. The supplement will cover publications issued between late 1979 and 1985. Collaborating on the project are Catherine Loeb (staff member in the office of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large and contributor to the first volume), Susan Searing (current Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large), and Esther Stineman (former Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large and principal author of the first volume).

SEX DISCRIMINATION AND THE RISE OF THE GENDER GAP

The Women Employed Institute has prepared a position paper which attributes the rise of the "gender gap" - the discrepancy between women's and men's approval rating of President Reagan's performance - to the divergence between women's economic needs and the philosophy and policies of the Reagan administration. The paper outlines specific recommendations for federal government policies to address the continuing problems of sex discrimination in the job market. If you think this 10-page pamphlet could clarify your thinking (or that of someone around you), order from Publications Department, Women Employed Institute, 5 South Wabash, Suite 415, Chicago, IL 60603 for a cost of \$3.00

SEXUAL COMPOSITION OF SPEAKERS, ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1983

WIL has received this analysis of gender of speakers at the annual conference. Unfortunately, the attribution on the commentary is not clear. I apologize for not knowing whether to thank Katharine Phenix, Ellen Broidy or someone else for the following commentary:

"This report is not statistically valid for a number of reasons. Primarily, those names which were recorded in the 1983 Annual program, which were noted only as initials, or those which could not be determined by sex were excluded from the count. Some of them could have been women, or all of them may have been men. With such small numbers to work with, the actual number or percentage of female speakers could be significantly different. Other programs reported 'speaker to be announced', and that could make a big difference as well.

"The interesting thing to note here is that with what names we do have we find that as the importance of the event or speaker diminishes, from keynote speaker, to one of several, to panel participants, to presider-moderators and finally to discussion group leader, the number and percentage of women increases.

"Why is this?"

The figures for number of men or women speaking at ALA last summer are on the following page.

Sexual Composition of Speakers
ALA Annual Conference 1983

GROUP	Keynote		Speaker		Panel		Prs/Mod		DisGrp		TOTALS		% ♀
	♀	♂	♀	♂	♀	♂	♀	♂	♀	♂	♀	♂	
AASL	01	--	09	01	--	01	01	01	05	01	16	04	80
ACRL	--	01	15	27	01	06	05	04	--	--	21	38	36
ALTA	--	02	04	04	--	--	03	01	--	--	07	07	50
ASCLA	--	--	09	06	05	02	04	02	--	--	18	10	64
Asian	--	01	01	03	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	04	20
Booklist	--	--	03	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03	--	100
Child/Bk	--	--	--	--	06	01	--	--	--	--	06	01	86
EMIE	--	--	--	01	--	--	01	--	--	--	01	01	50
Friends	01	--	01	03	--	--	01	--	--	--	03	03	50
GODORT	--	--	02	03	03	01	01	01	--	--	06	05	55
IFC	--	--	--	01	--	--	--	03	02	01	02	05	29
JMRT	--	01	--	02	03	01	01	01	--	--	04	05	44
LAMA	--	01	12	15	16	11	08	04	02	04	38	35	52
LegisCom	--	--	01	01	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	01	50
LHRT	--	--	02	03	--	--	--	01	--	--	02	04	33
LibEdCom	--	--	01	02	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	02	33
LibServCh	--	--	02	01	--	--	01	--	--	--	03	01	75
LIRT	--	--	02	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	02	--	100
LITA	--	01	01	08	--	--	02	01	--	--	03	10	23
LRRT	--	--	05	12	01	02	01	04	--	--	07	18	28
MGRT	--	--	05	08	--	--	03	01	--	--	08	09	47
NLA	01	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	--	100
OLPR	--	--	--	01	--	--	01	--	--	--	01	01	50
PLA	--	01	08	13	11	05	05	04	07	--	31	23	57
RASD	--	--	01	01	04	08	04	02	--	--	09	11	45
RefBKCom	--	--	--	--	--	03	01	--	--	--	01	03	25
REFORMA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	02	--	--	--	02	0
RTSD	--	--	14	21	--	--	02	04	--	--	16	25	39
SORT	--	--	02	--	--	--	01	--	--	--	03	--	100
SRRT	--	--	01	02	--	--	--	--	--	--	01	02	33
YASD	01	--	06	04	--	--	02	--	--	--	09	04	69

TOTALS 04 08 107 143 50 41 48 36 16 06 225 234

% ♀ 33 43 55 57 73 49

* Prs/Mod = Presidents/Moderators
* DisGrp = Discussion Group Leaders

For: Social Responsibilities Round Table Feminist Task Force
Midwinter Conference 1984

Katharine Phenix

ANTI-NESTLE BOYCOTT ENDS

Did you see the notice in the March American Libraries that the International Nestle Boycott Committee ended its 6½ year boycott after Nestle agreed to meet the codes set up by the World Health Organization and UNICEF with regard to marketing infant formula? It may be premature to rush out and buy some Quik or some Taster's Choice, but if they do indeed meet the international standards, we should let them know that we will support their products again.

Margaret Meyers, COSWL's ALA liaison, has sent some background for distribution to the FTF. The Nestle boycott was begun in 1977 by INFACT-USA as a strategic campaign to achieve two goals: to educate the public about the suffering caused by Nestle infant formula marketing practices, and to bring pressure on Nestle to change those practices. The International Nestle Boycott Committee was formed in September, 1979, to unify the many endorsers of the boycott in the U.S. and Canada so that Nestle could not "divide and conquer" the boycott support. The ALA Council never passed the boycott resolution that Membership passed in 1980, probably because it was never brought to Council's attention. Therefore, ALA did not "officially" endorse the boycott but was often listed as an endorser organization because of the Membership resolution supporting the boycott.

INFACT has contacted all the organizations supporting the boycott and credited them with making a significant impact around the globe: not only to Nestle's corporate headquarters in Switzerland, but to a family shack in a Rio slum, to a subsistence farm family in Kenya, and to a maternity clinic in the Philippines. It has been estimated by the former Chief Executive Officer of the Honeywell Corporation that the boycott cost Nestle \$1 billion in sales. Exercising no power but purchasing power, the boycott forced changes in the global marketing practices of the world's largest transnational food corporation. The boycott pressure forced Nestle to stop mass media advertising of infant formula, stop mass distribution of sample formula tins to mothers, stop high value personal gifts to health workers, stop providing free samples to mothers who decide to breastfeed in hospitals, and change the formula tin labels to warn of the hazards of infant formula use.

INFACT launched a dream that the boycott supporters helped make a reality, but there are still babies suffering from bottle baby disease. Nestle's Leadership in changing their marketing practices must also be followed by other transnational formula companies, including those in the U.S. They too have engaged in unethical baby formula marketing practices and now the pressure will focus on them.

At a recent International Baby Food Conference sponsored by the INBC, representatives from 24 countries voted to institute an intensive compliance campaign. INFACT does not anticipate a boycott; rather, they are urging boycott supporters to write to the U.S. formula companies (Abbott-Ross Laboratories, American Home Products, and Bristol-Myers Company) and ask that they comply with the International Code. Other pressure tactics being considered include lawsuits, shareholder resolutions, and "reparations" to focus public attention on the U.S. companies and their unethical promotion practices.

The victory of the boycott against Nestle is exciting; see what we can do when we all work together?

DEANSHIP OPEN

Thomas A. Bowers, Associate Dean at the University of North Carolina has asked WIL to announce that they are seeking applications for the position of Dean of the School of Library Science. The position will be available July 1, 1985. The Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of the School and reports to the Provost. Applicants or nominees should have distinguished scholarly records and experience appropriate for a tenured appointment to the School, demonstrated administrative ability, knowledge of and commitment to library and information science education, and a commitment to affirmative action and equal educational opportunity. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to identify themselves voluntarily. Send letter of application, with vitae and three letters of reference, or nominations, by October 15, 1984, to: Dr. Thomas A. Bowers, Chair; Search Committee for School of Library Science Dean; School of Journalism, Howell Hall 021A; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

WOMEN LEADERS

WIL would like to recognize and congratulate two women who have been appointed to positions of leadership. Mary F. Lenox has been appointed dean of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Missouri, Columbia, as of March 1. Lenox was previously an associate professor of library science at the School and was responsible for its school librarianship study program. She has a doctorate from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an MLS from Rosary, and a bachelor's degree from Chicago State University.

Sharon J. Rogers has been named University Librarian of George Washington University effective July 9. She has been the Associate Dean of Bowling Green State University Library since 1980 and is the president-elect of ACRL. Rogers has a doctorate from Washington State University and an MLS from the University of Minnesota.

Congratulations to these two women on their significant achievements!

GUNS AND BUTTER

Remember that wonderful program we had on Guns and Butter at ALA in Los Angeles? Author Sheila Tobias' book, What Kinds of Guns are They Buying for Your Butter, is now available in paperback and would be appropriate as a textbook for courses in defense policy, women's studies, or public administration. The name has been changed to The People's Guide to National Defense and is published by Morrow. Tobias says, "In addition to lobbying for arms reduction and 'peace' as against war preparation and war, feminists and students of women's studies need to be 'armed' so to speak to argue the case that defense policy, as it is being made, is not just evil, but stupid." Also available at low cost is an illustrated lecture, "Know Your Weapons," prepared by Tobias under AAUW auspices and available either in slide-tape or in 1/2" or 3/4" video tape formats. Contact Tobias at the Department of Political Science, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, for costs and further details if you are interested in the audio-visual presentation.

CONFERENCES

There are some terrific conferences coming up this summer. If you are unable to attend any, you might want to be alert for coverage in local media or for conference proceedings for your libraries.

"A Woman's Place is in ... the Curriculum" will be held June 18-20 at Tiburon Lodge, Tiburon, California, and is sponsored by the National Women's History Project. This curriculum conference will prepare educators and community organizers to conduct training sessions on the why's and how's of integrating the multi-cultural study of women into all areas of the K-12 curriculum. For further information, contact the National Women's History Project, P.O.Box 3716, Santa Rosa, California 95402, or call (707) 526-5974.

"Sisterfire" is a two-day open-air festival in celebration of women artists. This annual urban festival will take place on the grounds of the Takoma Park Junior High School, Takoma Park, Maryland, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., June 23-24. This multi-racial, multi-ethnic, cross-cultural display of women's talents includes weaving of fabric and kneading of bread, and other domestic arts as well as "Sweet Honey in the Rock" and other female musicians and dancers. Sisterfire 1984 is open to everyone and will be wheel-chair accessible and interpreted for the deaf. Tickets in advance will cost \$14 for one day, \$22 for both or at the gate, \$15 for one day or \$25 for two. Contact Roadwork Dept. SF, 1475 Harvard St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 for tickets.

"SurvivalFest 1984" will be a two-week cultural festival dedicated to peace and justice with activities in two cities: the weekend before the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, July 13-16, and the week before and after the opening of the Olympics in Los Angeles, July 24-August 4. SurvivalFest is dedicated to peace and justice, and will celebrate the diverse ethnic talents and traditions of all people through concerts, street theater, music and dance, candlelight vigils, and forums. The whole point is to send a message to the Reagan administration and to the people of the world through the forum of the Olympics that the people of America are interested in peace instead of nuclear war, cooperation instead of intervention, justice instead of deprivation, and money for human needs and survival instead of weapons and death. For further information, contact Carol Ono, Staff Coordinator, '84 Mobilization for Peace and Justice, 620 W. Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90016, (213) 746-5028.

9to5 is holding a sixth annual summer school for working women July 20-22 at Rutgers University. It will focus on how women can wield power in the 1984 election and how we can influence the course of the computer revolution through the campaign on video-display terminal risks. There will be a wide range of subjects of interest to working women covered in workshops. The cost of early registration, due by June 15, will cover housing, meals, registration materials, and program activities; after June 15, the cost is \$125. Send registration to Chris Sciulli, 9to5, 1224 Huron Rd., Cleveland, OH 44115.

"Unity Day, 1984" is being planned by the Seneca Falls National Women's Center and Educational Institute. On July 21, teas will be sponsored across the country by individuals and organizations. Teas, of course, hold historical significance for women of all races who often initiated change over tea. To volunteer to host a tea, or for further information on Unity Day, contact the Seneca Falls National Women's Center and Educational Institute, Unity Day Committee, Box 132, Seneca Falls, NY 13148.

PRIZES FOR WOMEN'S LITERATURE

Capra Press has announced the Rhodora Prize for women's literature, which will consist of \$500 and a standard publishing contract from Capra Press for a novel, collection of stories, essays, or memoirs, 50,000 words minimum. We have missed the deadline this year, but you should be getting your manuscript ready for next year as Capra plans for the Rhodora prize to be annual.

The University of Michigan announces the availability of the Hamilton Prize of \$1,000 for the best original, scholarly, book-length manuscript to encourage services and significant scholarship about women. The deadline for a two-page abstract is July 15, 1984. For information, contact Hamilton Prize Competition, The University of Michigan, 354 Lorch Hall, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109.

Farleigh Dickinson University Press is offering a \$2500 prize and publication for the best book-length manuscript in the field of Women's Studies. The manuscript may be a contribution to the scholarship or study of any discipline or interdisciplinary area. Deadline is October 15, 1984. For a copy of the rules and an entry form, write Chairperson, Editorial Committee, Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 285 Madison Ave., Madison, NJ 07940.

Even if you don't have an eligible manuscript, notify some of the faculty at your university in order to support the concept of prizes for women's literature.

Send articles or comments to Kay Jones, UNM Library, Albuquerque, NM 87131. 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:

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