



# SRRT NEWSLETTER

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Issue 136

## Coretta Scott King Breakfast Canceled

The labor unrest at the San Francisco Marriott led to the cancellation of the 2001 Coretta Scott King awards dinner originally scheduled for June 19.

The action was, at first, resisted by SRRT leaders who did not wish for the popular event to become politicized. The decision was "based on the leadership's concern that the event was becoming a pawn in a larger, more complex political agenda," said CSK Carole McCollough in a press release.

In the end the CSK committee called off the celebration when Mrs. King requested that a move be made to honor her husband's pro-labor spirit. In her letter Mrs. King stated: "I have always been proud of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, which affirm the values of compassion, social justice, and humanitarian concerns.

However, I also have long supported the struggles of working people for union representation, decent wages and working conditions, and the thought of recipients of the Awards having to cross a picket line of working people to receive their honors is very disturbing to me." Martin Luther King was killed in 1968 in Memphis where he was supporting striking trash collectors.

The contract to have the breakfast at the Marriott had been in place since 1997 and the decision to call it off led to a large cancellation fee.

This annual event honors Coretta Scott King Award winners, who are authors and illustrators of African descent whose distinguished books promote an understanding and appreciation of the "American Dream."

## They didn't get their breakfast, they should at least get the front page...

### Author Award Winner

*Miracle's Boys* by Jacqueline Woodson

### Honor Book

**Let It Shine! Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters** by Andrea Davis Pinkney; illustrated by Stephen Alcorn

### Illustrator Award Winner

*Uptown* by Bryan Collier

### Honor Books

**Freedom River** by Bryan Collier

**Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth** illustrated by R. Gregory Christie; text by Anne Rockwell

**Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys** illustrated by E.B. Lewis; text by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard

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### **SRRT Resolution on Costs of CSK Breakfast Cancellation**

WHEREAS, ALA was responsible for knowingly contracting a conference hotel engaged in an unresolved and intense labor conflict and bears responsibility for units being scheduled in that facility;

Be it resolved that ALA headquarters cover the cost of reimbursement of the Coretta Scott King Breakfast which was scheduled at the Marriott.

Moved by Mark Rosenzweig

Seconded by Nel Ward

Passed Unanimously at Action Council I

June 16, 2001

### **Resolution on Quorum for ALA Membership Meetings**

WHEREAS, official ALA Membership Meetings have rarely, if ever, been held since the quorum was raised; And whereas various solutions have been tried and failed to obtain a quorum; Therefore be it resolved that the following proposal be put forward to the membership to amend the bylaw on the next election ballot:

“Resolved that the quorum for ALA Membership Meetings will be 1% of the personal members registered for the specific ALA Annual Meeting.”

Moved by Al Kagan

Seconded by Ann Sparanese

Passed Unanimously by Action Council

June 16, 2001

### **SRRT Resolution on ALA & the Marriott Boycott**

WHEREAS, the American Library Association selected the San Francisco Marriott Hotel as its convention headquarters hotel for its annual conference held in San Francisco in June 2001; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Marriott Hotel had agreed it would not interfere with workers' right to unionize when it was given permission by the City to build on its land in 1980; and

WHEREAS, since 1996, when Local 2 was selected by a majority of Marriott employees to represent them, over 120 negotiating sessions have been held and still there is no labor agreement in place; and

WHEREAS, in September 2000, Local 2 called for a boycott of the San Francisco Marriott Hotel, which is supported by the Mayor, most of the Board of supervisors and other elected officials as well as many community and religious leaders; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that SRRT supports the cause of the restaurant workers of Local 2 and the organized boycotters of the San Francisco Marriott Hotel and that it decries ALA's indifference to the boycott in its choice of conference hotel and subsequent conference arrangements.

RESOLVED, that SRRT calls on the American Library Association to formally express its regret for having made the San Francisco Marriott the central conference hotel without taking heed of the well-publicized and widely-supported boycott of the Marriott Hotel organized by the San Francisco labor movement and other supporters.

RESOLVED, that SRRT calls on ALA to alter its policy to provide for re-evaluation of contracts in light of labor conflicts, strikes and boycotts which arise, and which may form the basis for cancellation of arrangements.

RESOLVED that SRRT urges ALA to later its policy to exclude holding conferences in non-union hotels (i.e. ones where the majority of workers are unorganized) and to preclude locating any future conferences in so-called "right-to-work" states where workers rights to collective bargaining are not recognized.

RESOLVED that SRRT calls for an immediate resolution by Marriott of all outstanding issues and full recognition of the rights of all its workers and calls upon ALA to make it clear that bad labor practices in any unit of a chain will influence conference location decision choices with respect to hotels in the whole chain.

Moved by Mark Rosenzweig

Seconded by Al Kagan

Passed Unanimously by Action Council II

June 18, 2001

## What's this new email List?

Last year SRRT Action Council was made aware of some email features and services available through ALA. At the suggestion of OLOS Director, Satia Orange, and members of the SRRT Action Council, we have established a new email list, SRRTMEM, as a means to convey important messages and announcements concerning or of critical importance to all SRRT Members.

As discussed at the Midwinter and Annual SRRT Action Council Meetings in 2001 there are some stringent guidelines for this new list.

All SRRT members providing a correct email address to ALA will be listed on this list. At present only 110 SRRT members have chosen to subscribe to the SRRTAC discussion list. As of July 2001, SRRT has 1556 members. Announcements to SRRT from SRRT AC, OLOS, or other ALA bodies do not reach a majority of SRRT Members. This new list alleviates this communication problem.

Only bona fide members in good standing of SRRT will be subscribed to this new SRRTMEM list. This is an email announcement list created only for the benefit of SRRT Members.

Only four individuals are allowed to send messages to this new SRRTMEM list: The SRRT Coordinator, SRRT Treasurer, SRRT Newsletter Editor, and OLOS Director are the only persons authorized to send messages to this list. This limits the number of persons submitting messages to the list.

There can be no reply or discussion on the list. The SRRTMEM list is to be used to post critical announcements concerning SRRT. It is anticipated that more messages will be posted before Midwinter and Annual Meetings, Newsletter schedules, and other times when we need to circulate to a larger SRRT list important news or announcements or scheduling information. Discussions take place on the SRRTAC list, so if you want to discuss an item posted to the SRRTMEM list, subscribe to SRRTAC and join the dialogues there.

Only announcements concerning SRRT business (e.g., calls for nomination, SRRT or ALA committee vacancies, budgets) scheduling (e.g., SRRT meetings at Midwinter or Annual Conferences), announcements from ALA (e.g., grant availability, policy or issue statements, ALA actions) that have a major importance to SRRT will be posted to this new SRRTMEM list. Task Force Chairs can send the SRRT Coordinator a message to be posted on the SRRTMEM list providing it meet the requirements.

Our test messages last week revealed a number of email addresses no longer functional. For whatever reason these incorrect email addresses will be examined, the person contacted to determine the correct email address, and that correct address put on to the SRRTMEM list.

We ask that all of the SRRT Members on this list not send a message asking to be taken off of this list. Give this list a chance to prove its usefulness and if after a period of time you feel this list has abused any of the criteria set forth, you then have a real reason to request your name be taken off of the SRRTMEM List.

If you have any comments about this list, please direct them to me personally.

Fred Stoss  
SRRT Coordinator

## Hoping for a good read...

SRRT Newsletter welcomes Rebecca Tolley-Stokes, Catalog Librarian Sherrod Library, East Tennessee State University, as its new book review coordinator. Unfortunately, we have no books to review. If you are in contact with alternative publishers who would like to submit books for review, please contact Rebecca at [tolleyst@etsu.edu](mailto:tolleyst@etsu.edu). Thanks!

## Alternatives in Publication Report

At the ALA Annual meeting in San Francisco, The Alternatives in Print Task Force voted unanimously to change its name to the Alternatives in Publication Task Force. This name change reflects the Task Force's interest in alternative material published in non-print formats as well as traditional print media.

Also in San Francisco, at AIP's annual Free Speech Buffet, the task force presented the 2001 Jackie Eubanks Memorial Award to Franklin Rosemont, Penelope Rosemont and Carlos Cortez for their work in rescuing and re-charging the alternative publisher of American letters, the Charles H. Kerr Publishing Company of Chicago, Illinois. Founded in 1886, the Kerr Company is the oldest ongoing publisher of socialist books and pamphlets in the United States. The press exists to publish the finest in revolutionary theory, history and imagination, and to promote a wider awareness of writers such as Edward Bellamy and Mary Marcy, and was the original U.S. publisher of Marx's *Das Kapital*. Renowned San Francisco poet Diane DiPrima accepted the award on their behalf, reading her poem "Rant," as

well as a statement from Cortez and the Rosemonts.

During Midwinter 2002, AIP will be hosting a discussion group that will explore issues of the alternative press and libraries. Watch for more information on that gathering during the conference, and please participate if you can work it into your busy schedule.

AIP continues its work to "promote the acquisition and use of alternative information resources in libraries" with a new initiative to create a group of short bibliographies of exemplary alternative press materials in a variety of subject areas. These annotated bibliographies are intended for use as a tool for collection development. Look for the bibliographies to begin appearing on the AIP website, <http://www.libr.org/AIP/>, during 2002.

## Jackie Eubanks memorial award winner announced

Franklin Rosemont, Penelope Rosemont and Carlos Cortez received the Jackie Eubanks Memorial Award for their work in rescuing and re-charging the alternative publisher of American letters, the Charles H. Kerr Publishing Company of Chicago. Founded in 1886, the Kerr Company is the oldest ongoing publisher of socialist books and pamphlets in the United States. The press exists to publish the finest in revolutionary theory, history and imagination, and to promote a wider awareness of writers such as Edward Bellamy and Mary Marcy, and was the original United States publisher of Marx's *Das Kapital*.

The Jackie Eubanks Memorial Award is conferred annually by the Alternatives in Publication (AIP), formerly Alternatives in Print, a Task Force of the American Library Association's (ALA) Social Responsibilities Round Table. The award honors the late Jackie Eubanks, former AIP Task Force member and vigorous champion of alternative views in library collections.

Since 1995, the award has recognized outstanding achievement in promoting the acquisition and use of alternative materials in libraries. For the past two years, the \$500 award has been generously endowed by Sanford Berman of Minnesota, a close friend of Jackie's and a widely known spokesperson for democratic and activist librarianship.

The three winners are not only responsible for the Kerr Publishing Company, but are themselves writers and artists of system-challenging work. San Francisco-based poet Diane di Prima, accepted the award on behalf of Cortez and the Rosemonts.

Introduced Eubanks's committee member, Mark Rosenzweig, at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, di Prima read one of her own poems, "Rant," suggested by the Rosemonts. She also read a statement from Cortez and the Rosemonts, which expressed gratitude for the award and money that will help them make the Kerr catalog's offerings better known to librarians.

ALTERNATIVES  
IN  
PUBLICATION

The nomination process for the 2002 Eubanks Award will begin with the AIP Business meeting at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Following that meeting, all business regarding nominees or procedures will be carried on by email or other means as necessary.

Nominations must be received by the Jury Chair by February 15th. Nominating letters should state the nominee's specific contributions and may be accompanied by further documentation (e.g., publications, press notices). Any current ALA member may submit a nomination. Task Force officers and jury members are not eligible for consideration. Submit

nominations to:  
Byron Anderson  
University Libraries  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
Email: [banderson@niu.edu](mailto:banderson@niu.edu).

## Action Council Members Sought

If you, or someone you know, would like to run for the office of SRRT Action Council Member, we have three vacancies to fill for next year.

If you would to submit your name or the name of another SRRT member into nomination, please make your nominations to Fred Stoss, SRRT Coordinator, Science and Engineering Library, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260; [fstoss@acsu.buffalo.edu](mailto:fstoss@acsu.buffalo.edu)

This is an outstanding opportunity for you to further your leadership skills and make an influence on SRRT and ALA. I would strongly encourage SRRT Task Force Chairs to consider nominating individuals you feel have made significant contributions at the Task Force level and are now ready to test the leadership waters at the SRRT level.

—Fred Stoss

## MLK Idea Exchange a Hit

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Task Force presented its first Idea Exchange program on Saturday, June 16 at 2:00 PM in the Moscone Convention Center. With an enthusiastic attendance, a panel of Task Force members from Prince George's County (MD) Memorial Library System began the discussion. All participants were encouraged to share the noteworthy activities in their libraries and library systems in celebration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Roy Joynes, Branch Manager, Largo-Kettering Library, served as the moderator while all attendees expressed important ideas, plans, and concerns about past and future programs.

Encouragement for presenting the program came from many who were unable to attend the event because of previous commitments and rigorous conference schedules. However, the Task Force members are especially grateful to ALA President-Elect Maurice J. Freedman for his generous support. As Library Director of the Westchester Library System (NY), Dr. Freedman provided highly impressive announcements and programs from the remarkably successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual African American Writers and Readers Literary Tea on Martin Luther King Day (2001).

Truly, the success of the Idea Exchange program was quite evident from the comments immediately following and with the evaluations received. There was unanimous agreement that the program should be repeated and expanded at the 2002 ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta. Consequently, we have begun the search for panelists to represent various types of libraries and multicultural activities. Applications can be requested at [www.vm0013@mail.pratt.lib.md.us](mailto:www.vm0013@mail.pratt.lib.md.us) for a February 15, 2002 deadline.

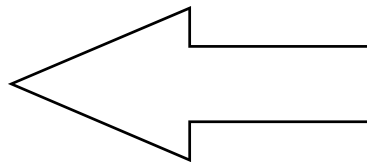
In addition to the Holiday Idea Exchange program, the Task Force took part in the festive Diversity Fair. Our display contain photos, clippings, poster, etc. about the Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunrise Celebration at the 2000 and 2001 ALA Midwinter Conferences, Dr. King's philosophy and Task Force activities. Accordingly, there was emphasis on observing the King Holiday as an American holiday of service with rededication to Dr. King's ideals and the role of libraries in the community.

We extend our wholehearted appreciation to Fred Stoss, Chair, SRRT and to Satia Orange, Director, OLOS for their guidance and assistance. Also, we thank all members and participants in successful work of the Task Force. Members involved in the Annual Conference events included: Mary Biblio, Cecilia Chapple, Mamie Grady, Janice Greenberg, Roy Joynes, Barbara Spears, Ellen Utley, Harriet Ying, Aberill Kadis, Co-Chair and Virginia Moore, Chair. As we plan for the 2002 Sunrise Celebration, the Idea Exchange, and the Diversity Fair, we ask for new members to join and we urge all members to become fully involved to "Keep the Dream Alive."

Virginia B. Moore

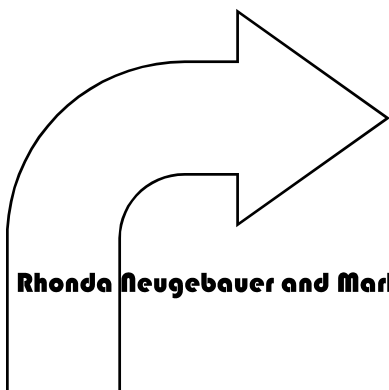
The logo for MLK Holiday features the letters 'MLK' in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below 'MLK', the word 'Holiday' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is positioned on the right side of the page.

**SRRT Members Walk the Line... (photos courtesy of Library Juice; thanks Rory!)**



**ALA President-Elect Mitch Freedman confers with  
Boycott Coordinator Dave Glaser**

Monika Antonelli



**Rhonda Neugebauer and Mark Rosenzweig**

For more great photos, see <http://libr.org/Juice/pics/4.23/Marriott.html>

# Report to SRRT on ALA Council, June 2001

Here is my report on the activities of the ALA Council in San Francisco. I would be happy to try to answer any questions that you may have. SRRT endorsed two resolutions for ALA Council, the first was on adding a boycott clause for ALA hotel contracts, and the second was on reducing the quorum for ALA Membership Meetings. The Government Documents Round Table also endorsed our hotel contracts resolution. Although neither resolution was adopted, they are both still under consideration. The hotel contracts resolution would make it possible to nullify contracts in situations such as we faced with the Marriott Hotel in San Francisco. The Resolutions Committee sent the proposed resolution for review by the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), and BARC supplied a Q & A response. That Committee recommended a full review and a report back at the next meeting. Council agreed with BARC's recommendation but also sent the resolution to the ALA Conference Committee for review. At least we were able to put expressions of union solidarity on the Council floor.

The quorum resolution addressed an excessively high quorum, which currently makes it nearly impossible to hold official Membership Meetings. That means that membership resolutions are no longer sent to Council. It would have put a question on the election ballot to change the bylaws. Membership Meeting quorums would be reduced from 1% of the personal membership to 1% of personal members attending any particular meeting. However, we were challenged by another resolution to instead set up a special study committee. The Council voted to establish the Special Committee, and I made the point that SRRT wants a representative there.

The International Relations Committee (IRC) and then Council took further positive action on Cuba as a result of SRRT lobbying at the Midwinter meeting. President-elect John W. Berry led a US delegation to the ACURIL meeting in Havana at the end of May 2001. (ACURIL is the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries.) They were joined by the IFLA Secretary-General and the new Director of the IFLA FAIFE Office. (FAIFE is Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression.) President-elect Berry issued a very positive report drafted by the delegation members. The IRC endorsed the report's recommendations, which include cooperation with Cuba's library associations, preparing a joint IFLA resolution with the Cuban Library Association (ASCUBI) opposing the US blockade, promoting legal travel to Cuba, and encouraging donation of books and journals. The Council then passed an IRC resolution opposing all efforts including those of the US Government to limit access to information by Cuba's libraries and library users, urging US Government book aid to Cuba's public libraries, urging fair US postal rates for sending materials to Cuba, and urging IFLA support for improving access to information through Cuba's libraries. The IRC even drafted a protocol of cooperation between ALA and ASCUBI. Furthermore, it appears that the joint delegation has had a salutary effect on the IFLA officials, which may result in a more reasonable IFLA policy (which currently

reads like a Cold War propaganda document).

Following up on SRRT's and other groups' successful battle to defeat the Core Values document last year, the Core Values Task Force II presented its first report. They plan on promoting a wide dialogue with a final report at the Annual Meeting in 2003. So far, the TF has identified ten value domains: "Access, Collaboration, Diversity, Education, Intellectual Freedom, Preservation, Privacy, Professionalism, Public Good, and Service."

Following-up on the privatization debate, the Executive Board recommended a definition and policy that proved acceptable (with a slight amendment) to the Council. As approved it states that "ALA affirms that publicly funded libraries should remain directly accountable to the publics they serve. Therefore, the American Library Association opposes the shifting of policy-making and management oversight of library services for the public to the private, for-profit, sector." Given previous reports and debate, this is great progress.

Without discussion, the Council approved a resolution from the Legislation Committee concerning the Hague Convention on Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Cases. It urges the US Department of State to include a representative from the library and education community on the official US delegation that will negotiate the Convention. The resolution also urges the negotiators to refrain from establishing Internet rules against the public interest, and most importantly it urges the removal of intellectual property cases including copyright from the Convention to assure continued library access to materials.

Following on Nicholson Baker's convincing talk on the need to preserve materials in their original format, the Council passed a very weak revised Preservation Policy. It makes one wonder how many Councilors were in Baker's large audience. The policy even states that libraries have an obligation to advise donors and others of the "ephemeral nature of primary source materials." In sponsoring Baker, I think the Progressive Librarians Guild and SRRT are again leading the profession, and we will need to follow-up at the Midwinter meeting.

External accreditation was again before the Council, and the end of the Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session was given over to small group discussions of the issues. New President-elect Mitch Freedman and others were eloquent at my table in asking how we will retain our shared values in a broad federation. School librarians noted the omission of their accrediting body from the proposed document. I spoke against the idea of accrediting BA degrees in librarianship. This would devalue the M.L.S., and provide an opportunity for profit-making institutions to hire us at low salaries with little status. As a result of these discussions, the External Accreditation Task Force decided to revise the proposal and bring it back at the Annual Meeting in 2002.

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

The Committee on Education again brought forward a document on establishing a new allied professional association to provide post-master's specialization certification. This can't be done by ALA under its existing tax status. Council had previously expressed general support for the concept at the 2001 Midwinter meeting, and now gave approval. Although these programs are supposed to be voluntary, it seems likely to me that employers will soon demand such credentials in job postings. And such a system may also devalue the M.L.S., as well as focus more on training than on education. We should watch future developments carefully.

Of two resolutions proposing meeting schedule changes, Council passed one and rejected one. Council approved trying to avoid meetings on the Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday so that librarians can celebrate in their local communities. Although I supported this resolution, I reminded Council that we have had some of our most important and inspiring programs on January 15th, and that we should continue programs honoring Dr. Martin Luther King even if they are not on the exact holiday. Council defeated a similar resolution regarding Father's Day. Several school librarians spoke in favor of the resolution because this holiday falls at the end of the school year. It is quite possible that they will bring another resolution to Council regarding this timing.

Finally Council received two reports of interest that were not discussed. Following on a public hearing, the Committee on Organization (COO) reported that electronic meetings violate ALA's open meeting policy. COO will continue to investigate the issues and report at the 2002 Midwinter Meeting. The ALA Conference Committee has proposed shortening Midwinter Meetings and called for feedback before September 1st. Since the SRRT Action Council voted against this proposal, I have already notified the Committee of SRRT's position through its web form. I note that the Intellectual Freedom Committee is also against this change.

On a personal note, let me again thank SRRT members for their confidence in electing me to represent them at the ALA Council.

Al Kagan  
SRRT Councilor

### **The Task Force on the Environment continues ALA's interest in sustainable development**

The two-year project "Deciding Tomorrow Today: Libraries Build Sustainable Communities" inaugurated by the American Library Association (ALA) and Global Learning Inc., and funded by the United States Agency for International Development, reached its end. Hopefully the main goal of the project, which was to educate the members of the ALA about the connection between sustainability issues for local and global communities, was reached.

ALA members participated in training workshop in Chicago in 2000. During 2000 and 2001 they organized state-based workshops throughout the country and trained the public about the three components of sustainable development: economy, equity, and environment. Components of sustainability are already in library practices. The economic model of libraries is based on borrowing and licensing rather than unnecessary consumption. The issue of equity is expressed in library policies of equal access for all people. Environment concerns are embedded in libraries' practices that lessen our impact on nature.

The Libraries Build Sustainable Communities Project brought fresh and important ideas to librarianship. It emphasized that libraries can be involved in the life of their communities: in their economic development, air quality, land use, job training, health care, civic participation, literacy, and education. Now that the funding is exhausted and the project is coming to an end the main question arises - how can the ALA interest in sustainable development be continued?

The Task Force on the Environment, "Energize Your Search for a Sustainable Future @ Your Library" by organizing two programs for the San Francisco conference. In the first program, "Earth Day in the 21st Century, Environmental Activism to Save the Planet," Denis Hayes, the founder of The first Earth Day in 1970, discussed the history of Earth Day and its importance as a political action model for environmental awareness. Hayes, Fred Stoss, and Maria Anna Jankowska presented ways that librarians can join citizens in five continents to develop an activist agenda and inform a global constituency to achieve a sustainable planet and efficient use of renewable resources.

"Sustaining Libraries for the Future: Energy Efficiency, Friendly Buildings and Librarians' Sustainability" was the title of the second program. Cate Gable, Donald Wulfinghoff, James Weiner, and Irwin Weintraub answered the main question of how libraries can spend more of their budget for information resources by spending less for energy. The speakers offered practical guidelines on how to plan, design, and operate library buildings that are energy efficient, conserve resources, save money, focus on the people, and are sustainable for use in the long run.

Maria Anna Jankowska  
Chair of the TFOE



# Literacy Assembly Report

I have enjoyed my last three years as the SRRT Representative to the Literacy Assembly. I hope the new representative does so as well. OLOS Literacy Officer, Dale Lipshultz, says that I have made a big difference in the Assembly.

Three years ago, the Assembly was a mess. It was not functioning the way that it should in accord with its charge from ALA Council. Most divisions and round tables ignored the Assembly, usually fewer than five official representatives showed up.

At Midwinter, the Assembly hopes to complete a series of projects designed to get it back on track. First, policy issues have been removed from the Assembly and placed firmly in the hands of a new Standing Committee of ALA Council on Literacy -- where they should have been in the first place.

Second, an initiative to make the divisions and round tables take the role of the Assembly seriously has begun. And an effort to include the Ethnic Caucuses has been undertaken, as well. These two initiatives should bear fruit by next Annual.

Third, the Assembly's work traditionally bogged down because ALA members came to the Assembly as a place to share their literacy experiences, get help starting a program, and so on. This mission was outside the Assembly's charge. In response to this need, the wheels have been set in motion to found a Literacy Advocacy Round Table.

This new tripartite structure (Committee, Assembly, Round Table) will mirror that that Education already has in the Association.

With this new structure in place, the Literacy Assembly can return to its major function - coordination of Literacy programs and the like among the divisions, round tables, and other ALA units.

There will be a request to Action Council coming in mid-September to allow a representative from the Assembly to address them at Midwinter about these issues and the strengthening of the Assembly.

The Assembly also will be forwarding to Action Council a resolution on the ALA Standards for Accreditation for Library and Information Science Programs. We hope that you will endorse this resolution.

-- Stephen J. Stillwell, Jr.

SRRT thanks Stephen for his commitment to being SRRT representative to the Literacy Assembly. SRRT Vacancies need to be filled for this and for the following other ALA Committees:

ALA Standing Committee on Membership  
ALCTS-CCS Committee on Cataloguing  
Freedom to Read Foundation  
Intellectual Freedom Round Table  
Library Education Assembly  
Recruitment Assembly

If any member of SRRT would like to serve as SRRT's representative to these, contact Fred Stoss with their name, phone number, and eMail address and he will see they get added to the rosters.

Fred Stoss, SRRT Coordinator

## WHAT IF?

**AT THE EXTREMELY** informative session on Cuban libraries, Larry Oberg told a poignant story about a Cuban child asking to have his pen-- a school supply that is hard to come by there.

What if ....instead of collecting free pens at the ALA Exhibit Hall and toting them home to throw in a desk full of freebies from the last conference, we gathered them and sent them to our Cuban counterparts to use at their library or local school?

What if...instead of gobbling the free candies and boxed lunches from the vendors, we found a way to save some for the hungry and homeless of our host city? What happens to the leftovers anyway?

# Action Council I Minutes

## SRRT ACTION COUNCIL I

Saturday, June 16, 2001

Draft Minutes

In attendance: Carol Barta; Juanita Benedicto; Sue Belin; Mary Biblo; Cici Chapple; Yvonne Farley; Jen Ferro; Jenna Freedman; Roberta Frye; Julie Herrara; Nana Hyland; Jane Ingold; Maria Anna Jankowska; Marie Jones; Al Kagan; Rory Litwin; Dena Marger; Carole McCollough; Virginia B. Moore; Satia Orange; Melissa Riley; Mark Rosenzweig; Michael Santangelo; Ann Sparanese; Stephen J. Stillwell, Jr.; Fred Stoss; Dan Tsang; Nel Ward.

Meeting was called to order by Fred Stoss at 9:45 am.

Fred expressed SRRT's sympathy to Satia Orange on the deaths of her parents and thanked her for all her help.

Approval of minutes for AC I and II from Midwinter was tabled off to ACII.

Fred announced the location of the SRRT booth and SRRT bin for distribution of flyers and other materials.

Fred announced the results of AC elections: Mark Rosenzweig, Carolyn McCollough and Rory Litwin have each been elected for three-year terms, beginning at the close of Annual Conference, 2001.

Fred announced that SRRT has now been totally divested of Counterpoise journal.

Resolutions were move to the top of the agenda. All resolution follow the minutes.

### *Resolution # 1 Resolution on ALA and the SF Marriott Boycott*

Two resolutions on the Marriott situation will be put forward in Action council. The first is the resolution that will be sent to Council for passage

Moved by Al Kagan  
Seconded by Steve Stillwell  
Passed Unanimously

The second resolution is a SRRT resolution on policy relating to hotels in labor disputes. This was deferred to Acton Council II.

Order of the meeting was interrupted to greet Mitch Freedman, President-Elect, who arrived at 10:15am. Mitch, a founder of SRRT, thanked the Round Table and all the organizations and individuals that endorsed his candidacy. He discussed some issues surrounding the Marriott situation, including his input into the SRRT resolution, and his attempt to have Executive Board meetings moved from the Marriott, which was defeated. The process and implications of moving the CSK Breakfast situation was also discussed.

Since the discussion with Mitch appeared to be evolving into a discussion of the CSK Breakfast situation, Nel moved that the CSK Task Force/Breakfast report be moved to the top of the agenda. Yvonne seconded, passed with one opposed.

### *CSK Task Force Report*

Dr. Carole McCullough, CSK Task Force Chair, outlined the chronology of events, which began in January 2001, that led to the cancellation of the event. It was ultimately cancelled in response to the letter by Coretta Scott King, and in order to preserve the integrity of the award. The Task Force felt that the event, involving 800 people, could not be picked and moved on the short notice that was involved. The Task Force did feel pushed and pulled by various forces in the ALA, including SRRT, ALA headquarters, the needs of the Task Force and finally by Coretta Scott King and the King Center, whose requests could not be ignored.

The Task Force felt that both alternatives – moving the event or canceling it - were losing propositions, but chose to cancel.

BART recognizes the financial impact of the decision and has committed to working with the CSK Task Force to get the resulting obligations paid off. Seven hundred tickets were sold at the time of cancellation. Cognotes will print an announcement with a tear off sheet that will allow ticket-holders who desire to do so to donate the cost of the ticket to the Task Force.

The Task Force also announced the titles of the CSK award-winning books;

There is also a new CSK web page: <http://www.ala.org/srrt/csking>. The task force has used public awareness funds to make a video about the award. They have done two presentations about the public awareness campaign; there will also be a "train the trainer" program at Annual next year in Atlanta.

Carolyn also reported that there was some negative publicity on the award published in the Horn Book Magazine.

Discussion was entertained on the financial implications of the awards cancellation; the disagreements over the advisability and feasibility of moving the event; and the fact that the CSK Task Force itself had never directly received an offer by the S.F. Mayor's Office to host the event at City Hall. Opinion in SRRT Action council generally held the ALA headquarters responsible for the Breakfast cancellation and ensuing costs.

### *Resolution #2 on the Responsibility of ALA Headquarters to Meet all Cancellation Costs of CSK Breakfast*

Mark Rosenzweig proposed a resolution calling on ALA Headquarters to be responsible for the entire cost of canceling the event, because they were well aware of the intractable labor

disputes.

Moved by Mark Rosenzweig  
Seconded by Nel Ward  
Passed unanimously  
June 16, 2001

*Resolution #3 SRRT Resolution on Marriott and Labor Dispute*

In the text of the resolution presented by Mark Rosenzweig is a clause that calls for ALA to not have a conference in any right-to-work state. This resolution was tabled to Action council II so that this clause could be reconsidered by the writer.

*Resolution # 4, On Quorum for ALA Membership Meetings*

Moved by Al Kagan  
Seconded by Ann Sparanese  
Pass Unanimously

*Resolution # 5 On ALA Partnerships*

This resolution was withdrawn by the writer in order that the issue be studied more and a more comprehensive approach be formulated. Al suggested that it be discussed with the Progressive Caucus in council.

*Treasurers Report*

Nel would like to discuss next year's budget 2002-2003 at ACII August 15 is the deadline for budget requests

*Newsletter*

Meeting congratulated Jane Ingold on the newsletter. WE still do not know who is on the editorial board for the newsletter, although Mark Rosenzweig and Teresa Tobin seem to be two members, Fred will bring the list of Editorial Board members to ACII.

*Task Force Reports*

AIP, changed its name to "Alternatives in Publication" from "Alternatives in Print." The new task force coordinator is Mary Jones. The AIP Task Force reported on two programs they are sponsoring this conference and passed out flyers for the annual Free Speech Buffet.

Nel Ward announced that the Feminist Task Force has several programs and meetings planned for this conference. One is on "Looksism" (appearance bias) and the annual Women's Night Out. The "Bloomers booklist" is a proposed new list of recommended books for young readers ages birth- 18. The first edition is scheduled to come out in January 2002. Incoming co-chairs are Jennifer McClure Baltes and Sarah A. Dentan. A motion was entertained and passed for the meeting to be extended for 10 minutes.

The Hunger Homeless and Poverty Task Force announced their program, taking place at 2:00pm Saturday, June 16, called "Feeding Hungry Eyes: Creating Ways to Serve Disadvantaged Children and Youth."

The International Responsibilities Task Force announced their program "Cuba: Sovereignty, Development & Intellectual Freedom, Sunday, June 17 at 4:30 pm.

Fred gave the Task Force On the Environment report (since Maria Jankowska, chair, had to leave early.) TFOE is assisting the Libraries build sustainable Communities program by carrying on the theme of sustainable development in its two programs at Annual. It is the TFOE 's desire to continue assisting the LBSC initiative after funding ends in September.

The Progressive Librarians Guild announced their program featuring Nicholas Baker, "Best Copy Available" on Sunday, June 17 at 6:30 pm.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Task Force announced plans for their first program, which involves ideas for library programming, bibliography, diversity Fair participation and a web page.

*State Chapter reports were deferred to ACII.*

Fred announced that there are five vacancies for representatives to liaison committees and volunteers are needed.

*Old Business*

Action on AIS/HIV Information Task Force was deferred to ACII.

*New Business*

A possible resolution for ALA to provide group health insurance for those ALA members that do not have such coverage from their employers was tabled to midwinter.

Action Council I adjourned at 12:38 pm.

OLOS web page has new room to announce news of what round tables are doing, including photos.

On June 19, preliminary programs for 2002 programs are due.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Sparanese  
Secretary

## ACTION COUNCIL II Minutes

SRRT ACTION COUNCIL II  
Monday, June 18, 2001  
Draft Minutes

In attendance: Monika Antonelli, Jenny Baltes, Sue Berlin, Ceci Chapple, Arliado Crossland, Jen Ferro, Jenna Freedman, Scott Goldy, Nan Hyland, Jane Ingold, Al Kagan, Rory Litwin, Dena Marger, Alan Mattlage, Carole McCollough, Peter McDonald, Virginia B. Moore, Eden Peart, Mark Rosenzweig, Michael Santangelo, Ann Sparanese, Fred Stoss, Rebecca Tolley-Stokes, Sam Trosow, Nel Ward.

Meeting was called to Order at 2:15 pm.

Those at the table introduced themselves.

### *Treasurer's Report*

Nel reported that each task force would be given an automatic \$1000 budget in past practice. Since next budget year ends on August 31, 2002, Nel raises the idea instead each task force receives an automatic \$500, except for CSK, which produces revenues.

Resolved that:

Each Task Force, except CSK, be tentatively allocated \$500 for fiscal year 2002-2003, a figure which can be changed with the state of SRRT finances.

Moved by Nel Ward

Seconded by Mark Rosenzweig

Carries Unanimously (only SRRT AC-At-Large members may vote on budgetary item.)

### *Denial of Marta Terry's Visa for IRTF Program*

Cuban Librarian Marta Terry did not arrive for IRTF program because her visa was either delayed or denied.

Resolved that: A letter be sent to George W. Bush protesting the denial of the visa.

Moved by Nel Ward

Seconded by Peter McDonald

Discussion:

The letter will be copied to IRC, and ALA Executive Board with suggestions that they might want to write their own letters.

Question was raised on how this relates to one-voice policy. It was raised that when this was originally raised, SRRT decided that we would not change our past policy and

practice.

Motion is carried unanimously.

### *SRRT Newsletter Report*

Jane was congratulated on a fine issue of the newsletter.

It was requested that we be informed of deadlines in advance so that everyone may observe them.

There is still a question of who is on the Editorial Board. Fred will check, although we know that Mark Rosenzweig is a member, as is, Fred believes, Teresa Tobin. Rebecca Tolley-Stokes will be the new book review editor.

### *Round Table Coordinating Committee (RTCC) Report Fred Stoss*

Contact Fred who is on 2003 Conference Services Committee about the new conference track system. In Toronto in 2003, the ALA and the CLA (Canadian Library Association) will be holding their first joint conference. Anyone with a conference idea will not be denied the opportunity to do a program and any task force knowing in advance what he or she would like to do should fill out a preliminary form ASAP.

Satia Orange is hoping to initiate an all-OLOS training event.

Nel Ward mentions that if you say you are going to attend the OLOS Breakfast you must follow-through and attend!

### *AC Elections*

By February 2, 2002, we have to have a list of persons whose names will be considered for Action Council. Candidates are solicited.

New Action Council Members are:

Lynne Anderson

Rory Litwin

Carole McCullough

### *ALA Council Report from Al Kagan, SRRT Councilor*

- 1) There were several issues of specific interest to SRRT at Council. One is the quorum for membership meetings. Although SRRT put forth a resolution, there was another one submitted first; also having to do with membership meetings and Council cannot have two resolutions on the same question on the floor. Al will move to amend by substitution, but this will probably not be success-

ful.

SRRT should have a voice in any committee formed on Membership Meetings. Perhaps Satia Orange and Mary Ghikas can be enlisted to help make changes. Though Council had changed membership meeting from a no-conflict time, they are back to a conflict time. Ginny pointed out that there is a policy on how committees are formed.

- 2) There is a proposal to be considered about shortening midwinter meetings by one day. Action Council had discussion on this, with members speaking for and against.

Resolved that:  
SRRT opposes shortening the Midwinter Meeting by one day.

Moved by  
Seconded by  
For: 5  
Against: 1  
Abstentions: 5  
Motion carries.

- 3) There is discussion going on in Council about an External Accreditations Model, which involves ALA and other organizations creating a new accrediting body for library schools. It appears that Mitch Freedman has gotten action to be delayed pending further study. Youth librarians and school librarians are very concerned about this issue, which engendered a lot of discussion. Al will follow the issue and keep SRRT informed on any progress.

*Old Business*

- 1) Status of AIDS-HIV Information Task Force. Kristin may not be able to attend future conferences because of a new job. Fred proposed extending provisional status until midwinter, but that there was a likelihood that no chair or members existed for this task force at this time. Discussion followed.

Resolved that:  
Funding for the provisional AIDS-HIV Task Force be rescinded.

Moved by Ann Sparanese  
Seconded by Jenny Baltes  
  
Motion carries Unanimously???

- 2) SRRT Ribbons  
The question of acquiring ribbons was voted up at our last meeting. Sue Berlin volunteered to be the ribbon coordinator, to investigate prices and possibilities for

presentation at Annual.

(Mark Rosenzweig moved that meeting be extended by 15 minutes, Al Kagan seconds, Motion carries)

- 3) Marriott Resolution  
Mark introduces a SRRT Resolution on the Marriott situation, not to be confused with the SRRT resolution TO Council on this question. It is clear from the resolution that SRRT is speaking for itself, not for ALA. (resolution attached)

*New Business*

- 1) SRRT needs members to volunteer for committees, especially the Public Relations & Membership Committee. Many offices will be empty, including the SRRT Action Council Coordinator and Secretary. Ann Sparanese mentions that the office of secretary is vacant immediately since she is no longer on Action Council and has a possible conflict for ACI at Annual. Fred did not think that the Secretary position had to be fill by an AC member. No nominations were made for either one of these offices, so current personnel were continued.
- 2) Fred announced that SRRT will create an "Announcements List—Read Only" for SRRT members and others who want to subscribe. Those who can post will be OLOS Liaison, SRRT Coordinator, SRRT Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor.
- 3) Ceci Chapple raised that no postcard was sent to SRRT members during last Council election informing them of SRRT endorsements.

Resolved that:  
For the next ALA Council election, SRRT will send a postcard to SRRT members with names of endorsed candidates.

Moved by Ann Sparanese  
Seconded by Rory Litwin  
Passed unanimously

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

**For Text of Resolutions,  
Please See Page 2.**

# LOOKING AHEAD TO ALA NEW ORLEANS AND ALA ATLANTA

## 2002 Conference Planning

Task Force Chairs will be receiving their packets of information concerning the upcoming ALA Midwinter and Annual Conference for 2002. Please pay close attention to the deadlines and especially your designation of the tracks into which you would like to have your events placed. If individual members of SRRT have any suggestions for Annual Conference activities please contact me directly. If you idea for a program is for a task force consideration, contact the appropriate chair of that task force. Should you have any problems with your conference planning, you can always contact SRRT's ALA Liaison, Satia Orange, Director of the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services [sorange@ala.org](mailto:sorange@ala.org) or ALA's Office for Conference Services (800) 545-2433 or (312) 280-3224.

## A Note from Satia Orange

We have completed a successful ALA annual conference in San Francisco, our largest ever with 26,000+ attendees, and we are already looking toward Atlanta in June 2002.

Since Atlanta falls within reach of many on this list, I would like to offer the opportunity to contribute topics for that conference. Our 2001 pre-conferences and following sessions on adult literacy and outreach management were truly successful, but they were just beginnings.

Please send me your concerns, frustrations, needs and ideas for discussion at the 2002 conference. We are considering preconferences with follow-up sessions during the conference itself. There will also be opportunities for you to participate in a Diversity Fair, where exhibits from your libraries are welcome.

In other words, for those of you who can attend, this will be an unique opportunity for staff development targeted to your needs in general and specific perspectives. But we need to know them.

## IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR 2002 PROGRAMS

All SRRT and SRRT Task Force Program planners should note that the following program time slots for the 2002 Annual Conference in Atlanta are:

8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  
4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

This change in time slots will affect slightly some standard SRRT programs. These will be discussed at the ALA Midwinter meeting at SRRT ACI or AC II Meetings.

For programs that will be longer than 1-1/2 hour, the program will be slotted into two time blocks (e.g. 8:30-10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-noon). The ALA Conference Program Coordinating Team (CPCT) recommends all programs adhere to these standard start times.

The ALA Annual Conference Program Proposal form has been updated to reflect the time change. Remember, president's programs and special events (e.g. breakfasts, receptions, etc.) will not be tracked. However, a "see also" reference can be listed in a track(s) referencing non-track events and/or discussion groups.

## Badge of Distinction

Look for some nice emblematic ribbons to adorn your ALA Badges at the next ALA Meetings. Sue Berlin [sberl@hawken.edu](mailto:sberl@hawken.edu) will be designing and ordering ribbons to attach to name tags (for SRRT) for ALA Conferences. So look for the SRRT stick-on at Midwinter. The badges will be available at the SRRT All-Task Force Meeting on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. and the subsequent SRRT ACI Meeting. They will also be at the OLOS table in the ALA Office.

These ALA sessions will bring your issues to the ALA membership for consideration of policies and service delivery.

You may send them to me directly at [sorange@ala.org](mailto:sorange@ala.org) or to the SRRT list. I am also interested in those who might want to present or who have resources they would like to share.

Many of you have already contacted me, so this is your chance to further the discussion and to become involved.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

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Views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of ALA/SRRT. The editors reserve the right to edit submitted material as necessary or as whimsy strikes.  
Next deadline: 10/31/01

**SRRTAC-L**

The SRRT discussion group SRRTAC-L is open to all SRRT members and is a relatively low-traffic [less than five messages a day unless there's a hot topic brewing] way of keeping up with SRRT's issues and discussions in-between conferences. Help decide SRRT's future directions and join in some lively debates. If you would like to join the SRRT discussion group, send the following message to [listproc@ala.org](mailto:listproc@ala.org):  
*subscribe SRRTAC-L [your first name] [your last name]*

*You've got mail!  
Well, you will if you join  
the scintillating discussions  
on SRRTAC-L*



**SRRT'S WEB SITE**

Want more information on SRRT? Want to find contact information for the many SRRT Task Forces? Turn your browser toward the official SRRT web site:  
<http://www.libr.org/SRRT>

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