



SRRT NEWSLETTER

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Georgia on our Minds



The Most Important Activities at Annual

Please attend these meetings. SRRT needs your input.
Schedule of SRRT AC Activities at the ALA Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 15, 2002

8:00 am 9:30 am SRRT All-Task Force Meeting
Hilton, Ballroom C

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM All-Task Force Meeting consisting of:

Alternatives in Publication Task Force; Coretta Scott King Awards Task Force Task Force on the Environment; Feminist Task Force; Hunger, Homeless, and Poverty Task Force; International Responsibilities Task Force; Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration Task Force

Saturday, June 15, 2002

Hilton, Ballroom C
9:30 - 12:30 SRRT Action Council I

Sunday, June 16, 2002

Westin, International A
Annual Membership and Action Council Executive Meeting

4:30-5:00 SRRT Annual Membership Meeting: ALL SRRT Members

5:00-5:30 SRRT Action Council Executive Meeting: All SRRT Action Council Members out-going and in-coming

Monday, June 17, 2002

Hilton, Monroe
2:00-5:30 SRRT Action Council II

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SRRT Sponsored Programming

Foreign Policy Issues: Librarians Help Inform the Public

Saturday 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Promoting Community Health and Environmental Protection – Can Libraries Help?

What is the role of libraries when the country is faced with events that frighten us? Libraries can be effective partners with governmental and private agencies in offering information and outreach to communities concerned about protecting the health and safety of their citizens. Speakers from government, academia, and a consulting firm will offer a variety of viewpoints and recommendations that educate the public about community health, water conservation, disaster relief and sustainable living resources and practices.

Speakers: Marlena Wald, Research Director/ Emergency Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine; Amy Vickers, President, Amy Vickers and Associates; Mary Hudak, Information Specialist, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Maria Anna Jankowska, Editor Electronic Green Journal, University of Idaho Library; Irwin Weintraub, Life Sciences Specialist, Brooklyn College Library.

Sunday 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM Hilton Atlanta Salon A

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Multicultural Idea Exchange

A panel discussion followed by audience participation in an exchange of ideas and materials about ways libraries celebrated the 2002 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

Speakers: Amy K. Small, Manager of External Relations, Westchester Library System

Saturday 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM Georgia World Congress Center A404

Fear of Fining: How Fines and Fees Affect Library Service to the Poor

A look at how library policies of fines and fees may affect an individual's access to information and other intellectual properties.

Saturday 1:30 to 3:30 PM Georgia World Congress Center A301

Amelia Bloomer Project Meetings

*Saturday, June 15, 2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Summit*

*Monday, June 17, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wyndham Atlanta Zeus*

Coretta Scott King Breakfast

*Tuesday, June 18, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Z Marquis Ballroom*

Censorship Yesterday and Today

The film "Storm Center" starring Bette Davis as a librarian accused of supporting the Red Front faced script resistance, caused a stir when released, and persists as a study of various forms of censorship particularly in libraries. Louise Robbins revisited the movie in her book *The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown*. Robbins will anchor a discussion of the movie segments shown, highlighting the HUAC's attacks on Hollywood, Ruth Brown's story, and censorship today.

Speaker: Louise Robbins, Professor/Director School of LIS, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Sunday 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Also, be on the lookout for this annual, but as yet, unscheduled, event:

Alternative In Publication Task Force's Annual Free Speech Buffet, which takes place on Monday night. It's a great event, usually attended by about a hundred librarians and 30 or so local area alternative publishers showing their wares, everyone networking, eating hors d'oeuvres and having a good time.

TWO CAN'T MISS SPEAKERS:

A Morning With Michael Moore

Monday, 9:00 – 10:00 am

Georgia World Congress Center Auditorium

Michael Moore has been challenging economic and political giants for more than two decades and has emerged as one of America's freshest and funniest political voices. As host and executive producer of the Emmy Award-winning TV Nation, he redefined the newsmagazine for a new generation and created what The Wall Street Journal called "that rarest of species – a television program both funny and important." His hilarious 1989 film debut, *Roger and Me*, introduced America to real life in the post-industrial society. His first book *Downsize This: Random Threats from an Unarmed American* was a national best seller. Hailed by The New York Times as "the rare mainstream American film about real issues," Moore's film *The Big One* documented the *Downsize This* book tour. It is a humorous and often irreverent look inside the world of Corporate America.

Now in his book *Stupid White Men: And Other Excuses for the State of the Nation* Moore looks at 21st century America, where a man no one elected sits in the White House, California can't find enough electricity and it's cheaper to FedEx yourself across town than to drive there. Moore is unafraid to be the contrary voice provoking thought, discussion and debate. At the podium, Moore offers a down-to-earth and refreshingly candid view of the American economic scene and national politics. Bringing his audacious and original perspective to bear on the nation's headlines, he delivers a turbo-charged session of dead-on commentary and riotous insight. Join us for a lively presentation!

Closing Speaker Barbara Ehrenreich

Tuesday, 8:30 am – 9:30 am

Georgia World Congress Center Auditorium

Barbara Ehrenreich is the ground-breaking author of *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, an unprecedented piece of immersion journalism, exploring the impossibilities of living on minimum wage. In early 1998 Ehrenreich, arguably our sharpest and most original social critic, posed the following questions to an editor at Harper's Magazine: "How does anyone live on the wages available to the unskilled? And how, in particular, were the 12 million women about to be booted into the labor market by welfare reform going to make it on \$6 or \$7 an hour?" Millions of Americans work full-time, year around, for poverty-level wages.

In 1998, Ehrenreich joined them, leaving her home to work in "unskilled" jobs, where she quickly discovered that no job is truly 'unskilled,' that even the lowliest occupations take an enormous mental and physical toll, and that one job is not enough - not, that is, if you intend to live indoors. "My aim [was] straightforward and objective – just to see whether I could match income to expenses, as the truly poor attempt to do every day." What she discovered was that, in fact, she could not.

Barbara Ehrenreich is the author of *Blood Rites: The Worst Years of Our Lives* (a New York Times bestseller); *Fear of Falling*, which was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award; and eight other books. A frequent contributor to *Time*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The New Republic*, *The Nation*, and *The New York Times Magazine*.

POSSIBLE RESOLUTIONS

On Intellectual freedom & the use of torture in war or peace

Whereas ALA is among the preeminent defenders of intellectual freedom and government openness in the US.

Whereas intellectual freedom, our primary value as librarians, cannot be more seriously violated than by forcing speech through systematic violence by government against detained individuals.

Whereas the US government has announced its readiness to use torture (as well as hooding, shackling, drugging, sleep deprivation, etc.) in the interrogation of suspected terrorists or their suspected accomplices

Whereas the use or possible use of torture and coercive interrogative practices is inhumane, illegal and destructive of the democratic sensibilities of a free society, the cultivation of which we as an Association and as a profession are committed.

Whereas the secrecy which will undoubtedly attend the use of torture will also violate our commitment to open government and the necessity of true and accurate information of our government's actions

and

Whereas the threat of torture or the use of torture and similar practices of coercing testimony, confessions, information is, universally condemned under international law and US law (see addendum)

Be it resolved that the ALA condemns the use or threat of torture by the US government, its police or military as a violation of human rights, intellectual freedom, and the rule of law. The ALA decries the suggestion by the US government that under a 'state of emergency' in this country torture, here or abroad, is an acceptable tool in pursuit of its goals.

submitted by Mark C. Rosenzweig ALA Councilor at large second TBA

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The legal basis for this follows, including some explication of issues raised by these references: ,

*Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, Article 5 states: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

*Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by 153 countries, including the

U.S. in 1992

*Convention against Torture or Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Convention against Torture), ratified by 136 countries, including the U.S. in 1994.

*European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

*American Convention on Human Rights [Signed at the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Human Rights, San Jose, Costa Rica, 22 November 1969].

*The 'Laws of War': the prohibition against torture is also fundamental to international humanitarian law which governs the conduct of parties during armed conflict.

Article 3 to the Geneva Conventions, for example, bans "violence of life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture" as well as "outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment."

Article 31 of the Fourth Geneva Convention: "No physical or moral coercion shall be exercised against protected persons, in particular to obtain information from them or from third parties."

1999 Initial Report of the United States to the U.N. Committee against Torture: in the United States, the use of torture "is Categorically denounced as a matter of policy and as a tool of state authority

No official of the government, federal, state or local, civilian or military, is authorized to commit or to instruct anyone else to commit torture. Nor may any official condone or tolerate torture in any form

Every act of torture [...] is illegal under the [Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, G.A. res. 39/46, [annex, 39 U.N. GAOR Supp. (No. 51) at 197, U.N. Doc. A/39/51 (1984)], entered into force June 26, 1987]. is illegal under existing federal and state law, and any individual who commits such an act is subject to penal sanctions as specified in criminal statutes."

*The US Constitution: Torture violates rights established by the Bill of Rights.

The U.S. courts have located constitutional protections against interrogations under torture in

a) the Fourth Amendment's right to be free of unreasonable search or seizure (which encompasses the right not be abused by the police)

b) the Fifth Amendment's right against self-incrimination (which

encompasses the right to remain silent during interrogations), c) the Fifth and the Fourteenth Amendments' guarantees of due process (ensuring fundamental fairness in criminal justice system), and

d) the Eighth Amendment's right to be free of cruel or unusual punishment.

*In numerous cases, the U.S. Supreme Court has condemned the use of force amounting to torture or other forms of ill treatment during interrogations, including such practices as whipping, slapping, depriving a victim of food, water, or sleep, keeping him naked or in a small cell for prolonged periods, holding a gun to his head, or threatening him with mob violence.

*"Miranda v Arizona: The U.S. Supreme Court in 1966 also established a rule requiring the police who seek to question detainees to inform them of their "Miranda" rights to remain silent and to have an attorney present during the questioning [Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436 (1966)].

In explaining the need for this rule, the Court noted the continuing police practice of using physical force to extract confessions, citing, as an example, a case in which police beat, kicked and burned with lighted cigarette butts a potential witness under interrogation.

*Torture would also violate state constitutions, whose provisions generally parallel the protections set forth in the federal Bill of Rights. Article 4 of the Convention against Torture obligates state parties to ensure that all acts of torture are criminal offenses under domestic legislation.

*The principal federal law that would apply to torture against detainees is 18 U.S.C. 242, which makes it a criminal offense for any public official to willfully to deprive a person of any right protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

*Neither international nor domestic law conditions the right not to be subjected to torture on citizenship or nationality. No detainee held by U.S. authorities - regardless of nationality, regardless of whether held in the U.S. or in another country, and regardless of whether the person is deemed a combatant or civilian - may be tortured. All applicable international law applies to U.S. officials operating abroad, including the Convention against Torture and the Geneva Conventions.

Some explication relevant to the particular questions raised by the government's consideration of the use of torture in its "War Against Terrorism"

1) The prohibition against torture is universal and covers all countries both regarding U.S. citizens and persons of other nationalities.

2) The Convention against Torture provides that any statement that has been made as a result of torture shall not be invoked as

evidence in any proceedings, except against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made.

3) Under customary international law as well as under international human rights treaties, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment is prohibited at all times and in all circumstances. It is a non-derogable right, one of those core rights that may never be suspended, even during times of war, when national security is threatened, or during other public emergencies.

4) According to the U.S. government, " U.S. law contains no provision permitting otherwise prohibited acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to be employed on grounds of exigent circumstances (for example, during a "state of public emergency") or on orders from a superior officer or public authority."

5) The European Court of Human Rights has applied the prohibition against torture contained in European Convention on Human Rights in several cases involving alleged terrorists. As it noted in one case, "The Court is well aware of the immense difficulties faced by States in modern times in protecting their communities from terrorist violence. However, even in these circumstances, the Convention prohibits in absolute terms torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, irrespective of the victim's conduct." (Chahal v. United Kingdom, Nov. 15, 1996)

6) The Committee against Torture, reviewing Israel's use of torture as a method of interrogation against suspected Palestinian terrorists, stated, "The Committee acknowledges the terrible dilemma that Israel confronts in dealing with terrorist threats to its security, but as a State party to the Convention Israel is precluded from raising before this Committee exceptional circumstances as justification for [prohibited] acts" [United Nations Committee against Torture. "Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture" (1997), A/52/44, paras.253-260. (15 Nov. 2001).]

Some people argue that the goal of saving innocent lives must override a person's right not to be tortured. Although such an exception might appear to be highly limited, experience shows that the exception readily becomes the standard practice. For example, how imminent must the attack be to trigger the exception and justify torture - an hour, a week, a year? How certain must the government be that the detainee actually has the necessary information?

The international community, however, rejected the use of torture even in this type of case. International human rights law - as well as U.S. law—do not contain any exceptions to the prohibition against torture.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Rosenzweig
ALA Councilor at large

Health Coverage Resolution

WHEREAS there are significant numbers of U.S. librarians and other library workers who lack health insurance coverage, either because they are working multiple part-time positions or because their full-time employers do not provide them with health insurance benefits, and

WHEREAS other professional organizations, such as the National Writers Union and the American Nurses Association, offer group health insurance plans for their members who are not covered by their employers, and

WHEREAS the ALA Code of Ethics states that we "advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions",

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Library Association should provide an affordable group health insurance plan for members of the Association who lack health insurance coverage in their current settings.

submitted by Mark Rosenzweig

ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Here are the results of the election of the SRRT Action Council Members-at-large for the term 2002-2005. A total of 298 Ballots were cast from the SRRT Membership: The results of the election of three (3) Members-at-Large for the SRRT Action Council:

Jennifer Baltes 185
Frederick W. Stoss 175
Terren Ilana Wein 135
Mark Hudson 122
Laura Koltutsky 82
Peter McDonald 57

If Jennifer, Fred, Terren, or any other AC Member-at-large cannot complete their respective term of office, according to the SRRT By-laws, "Positions that become available on Action Council shall be filled by the next runner-up in the most recent election, or by appointment from the Action Council."

The next order of business is for Action Council to select a new Coordinator. According to the SRRT By-laws, "At the final Action Council meeting of the Annual Conference, the incoming Action Council will meet under the auspices of the outgoing Council to

select a coordinator, treasurer, recording secretary, exhibits coordinator, and a membership/recruitment chair. These officers will preferably be elected from the at-large members of Action Council, but may be selected from the Task Force representatives or the affiliate representatives. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no single person shall serve Action Council in more than one of the six designated offices."

The slate of SRRT Action Council now is:
SRRT Action Council Members-at-Large
1999-2002 (Outgoing)

Fred Stoss
Peter McDonald
Elizabeth Morrissett

2000-2003
Nel Ward
Carol Barta
Peter Money
Lynn Anderses

2001-2004
Mark Rosenzweig
Carole McCollough
Rory Litwin

2002-2005
Jennifer Baltes
Fred Stoss
Terren Ilana Wein

Also, the following SRRT members were elected as Councilor-at-Large for 2002-2005:

Mary Biblo
Diedre Conkling
Jenna Freedman
Carolyn L. Garnes
Elaine M. Harger
Peter McDonald

PLAN AHEAD TO RUN NEXT YEAR

The ALA 2003 Nominating Committee is soliciting nominees to run on the 2003 spring ballot for the offices of ALA president-elect and Councilor at large. The Nominating Committee will select two candidates to run for President-elect and no fewer than 66 candidates for the 33 at large Council seats to be filled in the 2003 spring election. The president-elect will serve a three-year term: as president-elect in 2003-2004, as president in 2004-2005, and as immediate past president in 2005-2006. Councilors at large will serve for three-year terms, beginning after the 2003 ALA Annual Conference and ending at the adjournment of the 2006 Annual Conference.

Members who wish to make nominations should submit the following information: nominee name; present position; institution; address; telephone; fax; and e-mail address. Self-nominations are encouraged. Nominees should complete the Potential Candidate Biographical Form available at <https://cs.ala.org/potentialcandidates/index.cfm>. Nominations and forms are requested by June 10, 2002 but will be accepted until August 1, 2002.

Nominations may be sent to any member of the 2003 Nominating Committee. Committee members are:

Ann C. Sparanese, Chair, Head of Adult & Young Adult Services, Englewood Public Library, c/o 146 St Nicholas Ave., Englewood, NJ 07631-1639, Email: sparanese@yahoo.com;

Rolly J. Lee, Jr., Director, Mount Vernon Public Library, c/o 81 Saint James Place, Brooklyn, NY 11238-1210, Email: rodnejlee@earthlink.net;

Jeanne Franco Martinez, Component Director, Education Service Center, Region 20, 1314 Hines Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78208-1899, Email: jeanne.martinez@esc20.net;

Stephen Prine, Library of Congress, c/o 148 Duddington Place SE, Washington, DC 20003-2609, Email: spri@loc.gov;

Robert B. Marks Ridinger, Northern Illinois University, Founders Memorial Library, 15 E Founders Memorial Library, Dekalb, IL 60115-2868, Email: rridinger@niu.edu;

Katia Roberto, Special Collections Cataloger, Southern Illinois University, Library Affairs, Mail Code 6632, Carbondale, IL 62901-6632, Email: kroberto@lib.siu.edu;

Stephanie C. Schmitt, Manager of Serials Services, Yale Law Library, P.O. Box 207098, New Haven, CT 06520-7098, Email: stephanie.schmitt@yale.edu;

Theresa A. Tobin, Head Librarian, MIT Humanities Library, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139-4307, Email: tat@mit.edu;

Harriet C. Ying, Branch Manager, Prince George's County Memorial Lib, Surratts-Clinton Branch, 9400 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735-363, Email: hy0078@mail.pratt.lib.md.us.

To encourage diversity and leadership development, the Committee will refrain from nominating any current Councilors for election to another term. However, the Committee encourages all Councilors who wish to continue their service to the Association to file as petition candidates. Petitions will be available from Lois Ann Gregory-Wood, Council Secretariat, ALA, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611, email lgregory@ala.org, or during the 2002 Annual Conference or 2003 Midwinter Meeting. Petitions require 25 signatures for names to be included on the 2003 ballot.



English as a Foreign Language Project Cuba 2002

In the next year Cuba will be sending more doctors and nurses to English-speaking countries in the Caribbean and Africa. Help Cuba Solidarity Campaign to train their Cuban English language teachers in Havana by donating books on ELT methodology, English grammar, English medical dictionaries, medical and nursing journals, materials for assessment and evaluation.

Needed:

one portable photocopier plus supply of paper and spare toner cartridges

3 professional tape recorders

6 pre-prepared cassettes

Contact 020 7263 6452 for details.

Support Books for Cuba Fund

Pathfinder Books donates books and pamphlets published by Pathfinder to libraries, institutions, unions and farmer organizations, factory bookshelves, and universities across Cuba. The latest donation was to the Foreign Language School of the Teachers Training Institute in Havana.

It is impossible for these libraries and institutions to get these invaluable works without the Books for Cuba Fund. This is because of the financial constraints in Cuba flowing from the US government's blockade, and the economic problems persisting from the sharp reduction in trade on favorable terms with the former Soviet Union.

Contact 0207 928 7993

Submitted by

John Pateman

Cuban Libraries Support Group

phone 0208 545 3770

fax 0208 545 3237

<http://libr.org/CLSG/>

Looking for concrete actions to take in regards to the Middle East? Have a look at Library on Wheels for Non-Violence and Peace:



<http://www.towardshumanity.org/towards/library.html>

SRRT Newsletter will need correspondents to write about their experiences of and reactions to the programs they attend at annual.

Let me know if you want to contribute.

Thanks, Jane

OLOS PROGRAMS AT ANNUAL

Resource Sharing: Changing the Face of Rural Libraries

The use of technology and mentoring is maximizing rural libraries' abilities to enhance service delivery despite economic restraints.

Saturday, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

To Bookmobile or Not: A Management & Community Decision

The need and continuous maintenance complexities often a library's budget. Learn how some libraries have been successful in addressing this issue.

Saturday 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Easier Said Than Done: A Lesson in Remote Connectivity

We will explore the challenges facing high-speed connectivity to both remote areas via traditional hard-wire infrastructure and to mobile libraries via wireless options. Libraries everywhere are facing an increasing demand from the public to provide high-quality technology and internet access. This is especially the case in rural areas where libraries often play unique roles as information hubs in communities with few alternative points of access.

Speakers: Amanda McKeraghan, Extension Services Librarian, Corvallis-Benton County Library; Teresa Landers, Deputy Library Director, Corvallis-Benton County Library.

Sunday 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Reading Starts with Us: How to Build on Family Literacy

Do you want to give parents tools to develop reading relationships with their children? The library is a great place to promote family literacy. This session will present Reading Starts with Us, a program that introduces parents to a range of quality children's literature and to ways to share these books with their children so the experience is enjoyable and beneficial. Learn about how to present a workshop series in your library.

Speakers: Ellen Goldsmith, Director, Center for Intergenerational Reading, NYC City Technical College

Sunday, 8:30 – 10:00 AM

Buildliteracy.org: Using Technology to Build Adult Literacy @ your library

Buildliteracy.org is an interactive how-to website for building a sustaining literacy coalitions. Buildliteracy.org answers Frequently Asked Questions about adult literacy libraries and coalitions. It also includes sections on building literacy @ your library, coalition building, profiles of existing literacy coalitions and a menu of activities. The project team will demonstrate the web site's unique features facilitate a dialogue with participants to determine what's needed @ your library and in your community.

Sunday, 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Third Annual Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture

The Third Annual Library Outreach Lecture is a tribute to the efforts of Jean E. Coleman. She worked to ensure all citizens, particularly adult learners, have access to quality library services. The lecture will support and the promote the work of the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services in literacy and outreach.

Speaker: Lotsee Patterson, Professor of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma

Monday, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

I Did It for Myself: Library Literacy Programs Persist in Helping Adult Learners I and II

Library literacy programs are deeply invested in helping adult learners serve as models and mentors for libraries starting or sponsoring direct adult literacy programs. In this presentation, findings from a longitudinal study of adult learner persistence in library literacy programs will be used to provide new and established programs with practical information on a wide range of topics including developing databases and training tutors.

Monday 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Tuesday, 8:30 AM– 12:00 PM

Making Your Library Literacy Ready

It takes more than a library, librarians and books, to move from being literacy-ready to offering programs and services for adult learners. What does adult literacy look like at your library? Share ideas

with colleagues and adult literacy providers. Listen and learn from adult learners from the Jacksonville, FL Public Library Literacy Program. Brainstorm with the facilitators and participants to identify stages of service program development and a corresponding list of literacy activities.

Speakers: Dale Lipschultz, Literacy Officer, ALA OLOS;; Suzanne Knell, Illinois Literacy Resource Development Center, Jacksonville Public Library

Monday 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Value & Accessibility: Outreach Conferences State by State

More and more states are sponsoring conferences that specifically address the service delivery concerns in small and rural libraries, often including bookmobiles. State participants and planners share their rationale & experiences with this decentralized focus.

Sunday 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

People & Stories – Gente y Cuentos: Reading Stories, Enhancing Lives

Experience the power of stories to promote understanding of self and others, enhance literacy and foster intellectual self-confidence.

Speakers: Patricia Andres, People and Stories, Gente y Cuentos

Sunday 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Successful Community Outreach to Maximize Neighborhood Services

Libraries' Outreach to traditionally underserved neighborhoods is successful due to strong commitment to include citizens in planning and services.

Monday 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

A Different Kind of Smart

View and receive the video A Different Kind of Smart, a production done by an adult learner's theater troupe whose purpose is to give the audience a glimpse of how print-challenged adults function in a literate society. Participants will receive a manual whose purpose is two-fold: 1)

invite learners into honest discussion about the challenges that make studying difficult 2) to offer suggestions on how to develop a theater troupe @ your library.

Monday, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

GLBTRT Programs

In Denial: HIV/AIDS Prevention Information Issues in Libraries

Moderator – Khafre K. Abif, Director, Langston Hughes Library, Children’s Defense Fund/ Alex Haley Farm (Co-sponsored with BCALA)

Panelists include:

Dr. George Roberts, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV Office (groberts@cdc.gov) will provide the current context of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, discuss barriers to prevention, i.e. not having community ownership, societal attitudes towards women, youth and homosexuality. Dr. Roberts will also discuss reaching under-served populations.

Dr. W. B. Lukenbill, Graduate School of Library & Information Science, University of Texas (luke@gslis.utexas.edu) and author of “AIDS and HIV Programs and Services for Libraries” (Libraries Unlimited, 1994), will speak about the roles and models that libraries have traditionally played in providing HIV/AIDS information to the general public as well as to special groups such as community based HIV/AIDS organizations. The models discussed will describe services, expectations of various client groups, limitations and boundaries of services, public expectations of the library as a provider of HIV/AIDS information and the impact of the Internet on providing the information through library-based avenues.

Rose Marie Smith, Consultant to the National Library of Medicine, will provide a PowerPoint demonstration of the National Library of Medicine database, which provides HIV/AIDS information. NLM and NIH recognize that is critical to establish relationships with organizations that encourage and foster communication and information access. In June 1993 NLM and the NIH Office of AIDS Research cosponsored a conference that brought together users of NIH information resources, including health care providers, scientists, information specialists, journalists, and members of the community affected by HIV/AIDS. The conference recommended that major outreach efforts are needed to community-based AIDS organizations and patient advocacy groups reflecting the diversity of the affected community to ensure their ability to use the spectrum of information resources currently available. Patients and the affected community want access to the latest information and they want that information to be accurate. On May 9, 1994, the National Library of Medicine issued a Request for Quotations (RFQ) for AIDS Outreach to improve access to HIV/AIDS-related information by patients, the affected community, and their care givers.

Linda Alec Draper, Coordinator, Detroit Community AIDS Library (DCAL) and Reference Librarian, Shiffman Medical Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI (ldraper@wayne.edu) will discuss lessons learned from the real-life scenario of how academic, hospital and public libraries with community based organizations (CBO) addressed the issues of awareness and access to HIV/AIDS information in an urban environment. Established in 1995 with federal funding, strong community involvement and the emergence of the Internet, the concept of an HIV/AIDS information network to meet the needs of the underserved, evolved into a model of community/public health information for all users. DCAL continues to serve local community needs with specialized research and reference, Internet training, and web-based electronic publishing of resources. DCAL Website: www.lib.wayne.edu/dcal Georgia World Conference Center, Room B306
Monday, June 17, 2002, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

ALSO:

Read Out in the South

Jim Grimsley, Atlanta author and winner of the 1995 ALA GLBT Round Table Book Award headlines the Southern Authors, Poets, and Librarians that will read aloud from GLBT-themed literature.

Monday 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

OTHER PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

ALA/AFL-CIO Joint Committee a Library Services to Labor: A Unique Relationship

In conjunction with the publication of special issue of *Library Trends*, this panel discussion consisting of contributors to the journal will examine the working relationship between labor and libraries. Programs designed for labor groups including web design technology training public library services and more will be discussed. In addition, labor educators will discuss their training needs and the ways in which libraries are assisting in this endeavor.

Speakers: Deborah Schmidle, Reference Librarian, University at Albany; Dan Golodner, Archivist/WebDeveloper, Wayne State University; Bette Ann Hubbard (tentative), American Federation of Teachers; Margaret Chaplan (tentative), Librarian, University of Illinois.

Monday 10:30AM to 12:30 PM (RUSA)

Going Green without Going Broke

Nearly everyone agrees that sustainable design is a good idea, but is it affordable for your library and how can it be implemented? A group of experts in the fields of energy conservation, indoor environmental quality, sustainable materials, recycling, and landscape design discuss practical ideas for making libraries environmentally friendly. The session describes LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification and its application to library building projects.

Sunday, 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM (LAMA BES)

Addressing the Digital Divide in Your Community

Libraries have made great strides designing online customer services. How do we make sure that these services are easily accessible to all potential library users and the we offer the web content patron, patron training, and access necessary for our communities to take advantage of them? Join David Bolt of the Disability Divide series for PBS, and a panel of librarians and other professionals who are successfully closing the Digital Divide.

Speakers: David Bolt, Producer, Studio Miramar; Greg Kallenbach, Community Information Librarian,

New York Public Library; Frances Roehm, SkokieNet Librarian, Skokie Public Library; Trish Skaptason, Office of Library Services; Mary Stansburg, Assistant professor, Kent State University/LIS; Kate Todd, Digital Divide Coordinator, New York Public Library.

Sunday, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM (PLA)

Holocaust Denial on Trial

Holocaust denier David Irving sued Emory University Professor Deborah Lipstadt and her British publisher Penguin Books for libel in a headline 2000 London trial. Despite England's Draconian libel laws, defendants not only won but also exposed the inner workings of the deniers who distort 20th Century history in order to promote anti-Semitism and white supremacy. Lipstadt shares the defense's groundbreaking research, riveting testimony, and the judge's historic opinion. In cooperation with Wiesenthal Center/Museum of Tolerance

Speakers: Deborah Lipstadt, Professor, Emory University

Sunday, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM (ALA EMIERT)

Racial and Ethnic Diversity Outreach in the Academic Library

Learn about program's in academic libraries developed to create a bridge between university libraries, community colleges and the K-12 community. Learn about the need to reach out in campus communities and communities-at-large and how to create a seamless education to bridge students and libraries. Discover how to provide the personal and academic support necessary in the student's quest to succeed in an academic environment. Job Shadow Day will be one program highlighted.

Sunday 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM (ACRL)

ALA HONORARY MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Purpose:

Honorary membership may be conferred on a living citizen of any country whose contribution to librarianship or a closely related field is so outstanding that it is of lasting importance to the advancement of the whole field of library service. It is intended to reflect honor upon the ALA as well as upon the individual.

Criteria for selection:

1. To be eligible for honorary membership, a person should be so outstanding that there can be no question about his/her suitability.
2. The designation should recognize the contribution of an individual per se, rather than that of an individual representing the accomplishments of many.
3. The person elected to honorary membership should be of such caliber as to reflect honor upon ALA by this designation.
4. Honorary membership should be conferred because of a contribution of more than passing interest and of more than local or regional achievement. The contribution may be to librarianship or to a closely related field.
5. The recipient may be a librarian or a person in a related field.

Criteria were developed by the ALA Executive Board Committee on Honorary Members, Special Nominations and Assignments (Kathleen Molz, Norman Horrocks, and Eric Moon, Chair) and approved by the ALA Executive Board, June, 1979.

Nominations procedure:

Any ALA member (except current members of the ALA Executive Board) may nominate an individual for Honorary Membership. Nominations must be received by September 1. Late nominations will not be considered.

The nominations packet must contain:

- Nominee name and present position, including title, institution name, address, telephone, fax and e-mail address;
- A statement of why the person is being nominated, including the ways in which the nominee meets the criteria for selection listed above;
- At least three letters of recommendation;
- A resume and/or biographical statement;
- Other documentation as available and appropriate may be submitted.

Posthumous nominations are not eligible for consideration.

Submit nomination packets to: Honorary Membership, c/o David Davis, Executive Board Secretariat, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

Timeline:

September 1: Deadline for submission of nominations
October: ALA Executive Board reviews applications at its Fall meeting
ALA Midwinter: ALA Executive Board forwards recommendations to ALA Council; Council elects Honorary Members
ALA Annual: Newly elected Honorary Members receive award plaques at the conference Opening General Session



FAREWELL FRED

Editor's Note: In honor of Fred Stoss's final days as SRRT Coordinator, I interviewed him via e-mail about his experiences as an activist and SRRT member.

Can you tell us a little about your history with SRRT?

I got actively involved with SRRT after the creation of the Task Force on the Environment, when Terry Link, took me to a SRRT Action Council Meeting in Atlanta. It was the only ALA group where I found enthusiasm, vibrancy, and people chopping at the bit to DO SOMETHING. When serving as Chair of TFOE, I got more involved in the process of SRRT and its role in helping to shape policy for ALA. The rest is a story of evolving from helping out in small ways through the newsletter, helping at the Annual Meeting exhibit booth, and just hanging out and getting to know SRRT Members.

Is there one Task Force you identify with more than others? Why?

Before becoming a librarian, I worked as an environmental toxicologist in academic and private research. It was while doing some laboratory work and lots of technical writing (EPA and NIOSH criteria documents, health assessments, environmental health profiles, etc.) at the Syracuse Research Corporation, that I got interested in the information and data side of our environmental research. The Syracuse Research Corporation paid for me to go to library school at Syracuse. So my academic and professional routes are deeply planted in the environmental sciences. It was a natural for me to be there at the beginning of the creation of the Task Force on the Environment. I had the opportunity to serve as its Chair and go a much better idea as to the mechanisms and processes by which SRRT functions.

Do you remember the issue that lit your fire for activism? Your first protest?

Civil rights. I grew up in an environment in very rural Upstate New York, where political conservatism had little room for persons of color in their lives. I have vivid memories of watching the civil rights movement unfold before us every night on TV and was puzzled by the reaction of too many of the adults around me. What puzzled me most was that some of the brightest adults around me were saying some of the meanest and dumbest things I had ever heard. It angered me and frustrated me. More important, it stimulated me to read and absorb knowledge. My first protest was over eating lima beans or beets. My first social protest was in high school over the escalating conflict in Viet Nam. For those of us in high schools and colleges in the mid-60s to the early 70s, this issue was on everyone's plate.

Which books most influenced your stance on social responsibilities?

The Bible, and the New Testament in particular. I went to a Lutheran school, Hartwick College. There were some pretty progressive faculty members in the Religion and Philosophy Department. I was a biology major, but took a fair share of religion classes because of the content. Jesus was truly a progressive. The social structure of the early church was one of social responsibilities based on one's faith. It is still radical. I am, however, disheartened by the gross distortions of far too many fundamentalists, who have decided a political agenda is better than an agenda of faith. Paul writes of a groaning creation in Romans, and I think I know why creation groans.

(Continued on page 14)

What is your best advice for librarians, especially new ones, who want to make a difference?

Get out from behind your desks, get off your behinds and DO SOMETHING for the profession. I think the best advice I can give is to take your profession as serious as you take your job. From the local to national levels our library organizations need people to work and advocate for librarians. ALA needs librarian activists. Get out and talk to the students in our library schools. Volunteer to speak at their ALA and other student association meetings. We live in communities where there are dozens of civic organizations where we librarians can and should be talking more about the issues. Put your name on a list of community speakers and talk about the role of intellectual freedom, diversity, censorship, equity, and other issues reflected by SRRT and the task forces comprising SRRT. It is NOT difficult to get out there and DO SOMETHING FOR THE PROFESSION. Last year, the Student ALA Chapter here at UB received the Outstanding Chapter Award from ALA. E.J. Josey was one speaker that was invited to Buffalo to talk about the roles librarians play with issues of equity (over the year three other persons talked about other issues and the roles waiting for librarians to play). I was impressed by E.J.'s presentation, because he reflected on some of the things that librarians DID to help foster more equity in and by our libraries. What was more impressive was the number of people who came from as far away as Cleveland, Ohio to hear that presentation and have the opportunity to say hello to a friend, a colleague, and a peer who's biggest contribution to our profession was that he DID SOMETHING FOR THE PROFESSION.

When did you first know you wanted to be a librarian?

In 1980 after having taken my first library course, Scientific and Technical Information and then being introduced to Professor Marta Dosa at Syracuse. Marta convinced me to become a librarian. I did, and we remain good friends and colleagues. She, too, pushed a socially responsible agenda.

Is there anything you regret doing or not doing in your career?

That is a great question. I regret not going on to get my Ph.D. However, I also realize that it is not too late to start a degree in communications with a cognate in library science, which is available right here at the University at Buffalo.

What are your main concerns about libraries following the September 11 attacks?

That librarians will not fight for rights and freedoms to keep our flow of information as free and unbridled as it was on September 10. I see too few librarians willing to stand up and fight for rights to be informed and to challenge those seeking to eliminate or curtail those rights. I see too few librarians who will actively point out the root cause of situations and take the time to reveal the hidden agendas. I see too many libraries willing to give up so much without any degree of challenge to the giving up.

What are your proudest accomplishments as SRRT Coordinator?

I tried to be a peace maker and a builder of relationships between SRRT and others (groups and individuals).

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What are your wishes for SRRT's future?

I would like to see SRRT become more greatly respected as a whole, as some members are greatly respected as individuals. SRRT has a long, VERY long history, of directing social policies for the association and the profession. There is a beautiful history that SRRT can write about its legacy for ALA and beyond ALA. These accomplishments took place over time. MANY times in the past three years I heard compliments about SRRT's programs, ideas, actions, etc. I would like to see more ALA members recognize that SRRT is a group of tremendously diverse and extremely talented and gifted persons whose efforts, expertise, and passions should be taken more seriously. SRRT is a barometer and an early warning system for many issues and concerns. SRRT treads on thin ice on many of these issues and is not afraid of falling into the cold waters, when necessary.

I heard far too often comments uttered privately about how courageous SRRT was, or how great it is that SRRT is taking the lead on this, or how lucky ALA is to have SRRT. I tell them to make those very same statements in a public forum. Last January we made some steps in that direction. I am delighted to see that there are other groups that want to exchange liaisons with SRRT and open up new channels for communication.

Ask yourself the one question you wish I'd thought to ask.

What are your plans for future involvement with SRRT?

That puts me on a hot spot! After three years of serving as SRRT Coordinator, which was too long, there is a part of me that would like to take a big breath of fresh air and do nothing. But I can't and I won't. I was elected to serve a second term as a Member-at-Large to SRRT Action Council. My next role will be that of a do-er. The next SRRT Coordinator is going to need help. I will be there to be a helper. I have some ideas what I would like to do, but the new Coordinator may have a different role for me, that will be the new Coordinator's decision. There's a quote about personal responsibilities from that book I mentioned above, "Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves, without comparing themselves to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load." Gal 6:4-5 I don't know if I was successful in doing this, but I look back with a lot of pride for the courage I have seen in SRRT, and I am humbled to have been a part, even if a small one, of it.

Thank you, Jane, for the opportunity here. Fred



Who will be the new SRRT Coordinator?



Stay tuned...

Correspondence and manuscripts may be sent to the editor at:

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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: 07/15/02

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:
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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