

ALA-SRRT TASK FORCE ON WOMEN
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 no. 2

January 1974

Ed. Lynne Rhoads

ALA MID-WINTER MEETING

SCHEDULED TFW MEETINGS:

Monday, January 21 10-12 Noon Parlor A, Pre-Conference Meeting
Tuesday, January 22 8:30-10:30PM Parlor F
Wednesday January 23 10-12 Parlor A
Wednesday January 23 4:30-6 Parlor A , Pre-Conference Meeting
Thursday January 24 10-12 Noon Crystal Room
Thursday January 24 4:30-6 Crystal Room , Pre-Conference Meeting

Meetings will deal with TFW business, and with 1974 ALA Pre-Conference and Conference TFW plans. If you are going to Mid-Winter, please come.

PRE CONFERENCE PROGRESS REPORT

The Woman Librarian: Her Job Situation - ALA Preconference, July 5-6, 1974

Format & Goals - The preconference - planned by women librarians, for women librarians - will focus on our working situation and the issues which affect it. Resource people from within librarianship will gather information and coordinate small issue-oriented workshops. Saturday's workshop will focus on the concerns of women in librarianship. Sunday's workshop will formulate recommendations for action for the full group. Each participant will be able to attend at least three workshops.

What can you do?

1. Affirmative Action: Joan Marshall, Bklyn College Library
Bklyn, N.Y. 11210
2. Library Education: Elizabeth Futas, Queens College Library
Flushing, N.Y. 11367
3. Older Women in Librarianship: Joyceanne Kent, Seattle Public
Library, Seattle, Washington
4. Administration: Sherrie Bergman Friedman, Roger Williams
College Library, Bristol, Rhode Island
5. Unionization: Sue Critchfield, Bay Area Reference
Center, 72 Ord St., San Francisco, CA.

Progress report cont.

6. Self-Image and Organizing: Pat Schuman, 77 Fulton Street,
New York, New York 10038
7. Regional Action: Kathy Weibel, Chicago Public
Library, Chicago, Ill. 60624

Other topics for which we need volunteers are: Child Care
Women and the Law
Minority Women

Send your suggestions for workshops on any of the specific issues to the coordinators listed above as soon as possible. General suggestions, uncovered areas of concern, names of volunteers to work on and/or coordinate workshops should be sent to Pat Schuman. Each resource person will develop a tentative prospectus based on your input on the issue & circulate it to interested women and workshop participants for their reactions.

Information gathering:

Women gathering information for registration packets also need your help. These are:

- A. Statistical Information & Bibliography:
Margaret Myers (Graduate School of Library Service, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J. 08903) is gathering statistical & bibliographic information.
- B. Anti-Feminist Remarks in the Library Press:
Bonnie Dawson (Albany Public Library, Albany, N.Y.) is in charge of this paper. She has most of it prepared already, up to about 1971. Anyone interested in contributing suggestions should write directly to Bonnie, giving complete bibliographic information on 3x5 cards.
- C. Library Personnel Policies:
It was suggested at the Atlantic City meeting that library personnel policies, especially those that relate to such problems as maternity leave, rehiring policies after maternity leave etc. should be gathered & examined. Nina Ladof will take charge of collecting this information. Gabrielle Basse, Margot Karp, Joan Marshall & Ellen Mary Kierna offered to send their institution's policies. Nina will contact ALA & other sources. Many more are needed. Send their policy statements to: Nina Ladof, Camden County Library, 8 Echelon Mall, Voorhees, N.J. 08043.
- D. Information on Local & Regional Women's Activities Groups:
Kathy Weibel (Chicago Public Library, Special Extension Services, 115 S. Pulaski Rd, Chicago, Ill. 60624) is in charge of this project. Any information which you feel should be included should be addressed to Kathy at the Chicago Public Library.

INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE AT WOMEN'S HISTORY LIBRARY

Why An Internship Program?

Frequently during the past 2 years, the Women's History Library has been asked for assistance in creating local women's resource collections. But we have never had the funding for staff & operating costs to provide such a service (except through our directories) or even to be open to the general public.

We are pleased that our Internship & Consultation Program has been partially funded by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Educ. (H.E.W.) because at last we will be able to bring the Library resources to many more of the people who need it. Students, teachers, librarians & women's center organizers will serve as interns to learn our methods. They will also join the task force whose challenging goal it is to prepare all collections for national distribution through microfilm copies in local libraries.

Areas of concentration are:

1. Women's Periodicals-acquisition techniques for donated material.
2. Women's Studies-acquisition of course outlines, bibliographies.
3. Vertical File System & Acquisitions-topical classification system files, etc.
4. General & Specific Reference-retrieving info. from Library for special member requests.

Our program staff will work with prospective interns & their advisors to arrange academic credit or sabbaticals through their institutions. Several colleges have already provided academic credit for field-study students working here, including: Oberlin College; U of Calif. at Santa Cruz; Calif. State U at San Jose; U of Calif. at Berkeley.

The program staff will give preference to those applicants who (1) have a demonstrated desire to develop a local women's resource collection; (2) are librarians, teachers, students, or women's center organizers; (3) can obtain academic credit or sabbatical leave; & (4) can stay at least 3 months. The library is an affirmative action organization.

For application & additional information, write: Ms. Connie Maske, Women's History Library, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708.

The deadline for filing intern applications for the spring session is January 31, 1974

HERSTORY INDEXING: Two librarians at CSULA in Los Angeles are setting-up a volunteer Task Force to index HERSTORY, the microfilm collection of women's periodicals published by the Women's History Research Center in Berkeley, Calif. As you may know, the Women's History Research Center is a non-profit organization which incorporates the Women's History Library and the International Woman's History Archives.

HERSTORY is a one-of-a-kind collection. In order for it to be better utilized now & in the future & because of its immense historical value, it must be subject-indexed. Librarians are needed to devote 3 to 5 hours weekly for a period of 3 months to index 1 reel of the 23-reel microfilm collection. Any interested librarian should write directly to Jean Barnett, Calif. State College, Los Angeles 90032 or Ann Pettingill at the same address.

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WISCONSIN FEMINIST FACULTY

Feminist faculty members in the University of Wisconsin system (4th largest in the country) are organized in the Wisconsin Coordinating Council of Women in Higher Education, a strictly unofficial but increasingly influential body concerned with all aspects of affirmative action on behalf of university employees and students.

This year several librarians who are WCCWHE members are seeking volunteers on the different UW system campuses to compile a Wisconsin union list of feminist serials which we would then print and distribute more widely. A Wisconsin Women's Studies Newsletter, containing news items & bibliographic notes on new feminist publications, is circulated to WCCWHE members several times a year.

More information can be obtained from Edi Bjorklund, Acquisitions Librarian, UMW Library, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TASK FORCE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Following a speech by Sherrill Cheda at the 1973 Annual Conference of the Canadian Library Association a motion was passed to fund & commission a task force to investigate the status of women in Canadian libraries.

The CLA Task Force on the Status of Women has been given considerable support. Sherrill writes: "CLA Council has funded a pre-conference workshop on women as well as several smaller proposals (bibliography & directory). The general mood was supportive - Council was impressed with the quantity & quality of work we had done."

A proposal to fund a national inquiry surveying salary & promotion discrepancies by sex & attitudes related to these topics (cost approximately \$15,000) is under consideration at this time. CLA plans were to approach the Canada Council for research funding for this project.

The Task Force is issuing a publication: Emergency Librarian, each issue of which, so far has contained a useful bibliography. Issue # 1: Sex-Role Stereotyping in Children's Books - Sources; Issue #2 Women Studies Resource List, both compiled by Sherrill Cheda, Seneca College 1750 Finch Ave. East, Willowdale, 428 Ontario.

Cost of a year's subscription to Emergency Librarian is \$2.00, urgently needed to keep this underground newsletter going. Send money to Barbara Clubb, 32-351 River Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3L 0B5.

CLA support of the Task Force on the Status of Women is an encouragement to us in ALA to keep trying for similar support for the TFW. Best wishes to our Canadian Sisters.

GOVERNOR REQUESTS NON-DISCRIMINATION FOR WASHINGTON STATE EMPLOYEES

In 1969 the Washington State Legislature created a Higher Education Personnel Board to draw up a uniform classification system for all non-academic personnel in the 32 Washington State institutions of higher education. Library employees were deeply involved in re-classification planning; one aspect of which was the WLA ad hoc Women's Rights Committee (now the WLA Women's Caucus) questioning of the legislative mandate which based salaries on prevailing community rates, since this

salary basis perpetuates existing societal discrimination against occupations traditionally held by women & minorities.

As a result of this original questioning & subsequent Women's Caucus cooperation with NOW & with the Washington Federation of State Employees, together with complaints of discrimination by the University of Washington Staff, Governor Evans has issued a directive to both State personnel boards requiring them to "identify those job classifications predominantly & traditionally held by women where salaries fall below job classifications typically held by men having a comparable level of skill requirements & job responsibilities...to identify the classifications where salary changes are necessary, the amount of salary adjustment required, the number of employees, & the total cost of such a plan" to be submitted to the Legislature for action in the coming session.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON OUT OF COMPLIANCE. HEW SUSPENDS CONTRACTS

Class action complaints filed in late 1970 charging discrimination against women by the University of Washington resulted in two investigations of the University by the Department of Health, Education & Welfare. These investigations culminated in HEW suspension of UW contracts under findings that the UW was out of compliance with Federal regulations prohibiting discrimination against women. The University has been given until January 25, 1974 to bring itself into compliance and avoid cancellation of government contracts.

For more information write Lynne Rhoads, 4004 Whitman Ave. North, Seattle, WA. 98103.

HELP WITH OBTAINING RESEARCH GRANTS

In Cambridge Mass., Research for Social Change, a non-profit research corporation has been organized for women who have no affiliation with a university or college, women affiliated with universities whose grants administration policies they don't like, or women in community colleges or junior colleges that cannot administer grants (or who discourage their faculty from getting grants). Research for Social Change can provide bookkeeping, audit, purchasing and other such services. RSC, also helps women to clarify research ideas, prepare proposals and to apply to the most appropriate funding sources.

For further information, contact Lynn M. Slavitt, Research for Social Change, Inc., 44 Coolidge Ave., Cambridge, Mass., 02138

WOMANHOOD MEDIA UPDATE

Helen Wheeler is now compiling a supplement to her Womanhood media (Scarecrow, 1972). Any kind of relevant information will be most useful to her; e.g., updates of material now included in the book, new or omitted titles (AV especially), and data on non-media resources: organizations, media producers-distributors, placement rosters, women's centers and groups (and their publications), affirmative action personnel, projects, health services, caucuses and task forces, speakers, resource collections, etc., etc. Helen would also appreciate suggestions and critiques; e.g., how about inclusion of other sexist-but-

standard reference tools in Part II? Deadline for submission of materials, leads, addresses, etc. is August 1, 1974. Please mail to Helen Wheeler, 7940 Jefferson Highway (Apt.215), Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

The TFW Newsletter would like information about what is going on in women's groups around the country - library & otherwise. If you are involved in, or know about such activity, please send the information along so we can make it available to others. Comments, suggestions, questions are also welcome. We plan to publish a list of projects which can be done by TFW members and need your ideas.

Our budget request included a small sum to be used for studies, reports, etc. So far we have heard nothing about the budget allocations, but hope to have money for materials & postage at least.

The CLA TFW prepared well planned proposals in their requests for funding. Perhaps, in line with our TFW decision in Las Vegas to petition for Roundtable Status in ALA, we should also be thinking of future presentation of these kinds of proposals.

It is also possible for the TFW to ask for grants to fund studies, etc. If you have any ideas about this, please write me. Lynne Rhoads, TFW Coordinator.

SRRT does not fund TF newsletters. It is up to us, if we want a newsletter, to send in money to keep it going. Contributions are welcome, but \$1.00 will put you on our mailing list for a year. Requests & money for the newsletter should be sent to Lynne Rhoads. 4004 Whitman Ave. North, Seattle, WA 98103.

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