

Memorial Resolution - Zoia Horn (1918-2014)

Whereas Zoia Markovna Polisar, daughter of Marcus and Dina, was born in Odessa on the Black Sea on 14 March 1918;

Whereas Zoia Polisar, secular Jewish immigrant sailed from the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics to Canada, and clandestinely crossed the border into the United States with her mother, father, and brother in 1926, becoming a U.S. citizen in 1943 with all the rights and responsibilities thereof;

Whereas Zoia (aka Zlatka and Laura) was schooled in Brooklyn, New York, at P.S. 101, Seth Low Junior High School, Abraham Lincoln High School, Brooklyn College, and the Pratt Institute Library School in the years between 1926 and 1942;

Whereas Zoia Horn, librarian, graced the reference desk and lives of colleagues and patrons at the Jackson Square Branch of New York Public Library; Rutgers University Library; Montclair Public Library; Summit Public Library; Watchung Hills Regional High School; UCLA Undergraduate Library; Ellen Clarke Bertrand Library of Bucknell University; Stanislaus County Library; the Center for Investigative Reporting; Diablo Valley College Library; the DataCenter; as an early member of the Social Responsibilities Round Table, and as Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee from 1977 to 1978;

Whereas Zoia was charged with contempt of court for refusing on principle to testify at the Berrigan brothers grand jury, was jailed for her action in 1972, and whose jailing led to a Council resolution against government intimidation which recognized the danger to intellectual freedom by the presence of spies in libraries, the use of grand juries to intimidate anti-Vietnam War activists, and the use of conspiracy trials against activists;

Whereas the California Library Association annually awards the *Zoia Horn Intellectual Freedom Award* in recognition of how our colleague exercised her rights and responsibilities as both a citizen and professional librarian in her roles as battler for the people's right to know, freedom of thought, freedom of association, and freedom of speech; and

Whereas Zoia, mother of Patricia and Catherine, and friend and mentor to countless, departed life on 12 July 2014, followed by her friend and husband Dean Galloway on 6 August 2014; therefore be it

Resolved, that when we raise our eyes to the sky and stars, we give thanks for our friend and colleague, Zoia Horn, with whom we walked and talked, dreamed and denounced in the dance of life, putting principles into action, taking one step at a time toward a world of justice, equality, knowledge, and human solidarity.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, June 30, 2015, in San Francisco, California



Keith Michael Fiels, Executive and Secretary of the ALA Council