

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALA/SRRT TASK
FORCE ON WOMEN

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Ed. Kay Cassell

TASK FORCE ON WOMEN MEETINGS IN DALLAS

The SRRT Task Force on Women devoted a great deal of time to discussions of issues related to the Equal Rights Amendment. Concerning the Chicago Midwinter 1980 meeting, the Task Force made the following decisions:

- a) The Task Force on Women will not meet at the Chicago Midwinter 1980 conference since Illinois has not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment.
- b) Task Force on Women members are encouraged to boycott the Midwinter meeting and should write the chairs of committees on which they serve explaining why they are not attending.
- c) ALA councilors were requested to attend Midwinter so that they may vote on issues of interest to the Task Force even if they are boycotting non-ERA states.
- d) For those who must attend Midwinter, a list of alternative hotels and restaurants is being prepared by SRRT. The list will be in the November issue of WOMEN IN LIBRARIES.
- e) Buttons saying "Good-by Chicago" are being prepared for those attending the Midwinter meeting.

There has been considerable discussion as to why the Council resolution which recommended exploring alternative locations for ALA headquarters has never been implemented. The Executive Director stated that the resolution's charge was not clear. A letter giving suggestions as to how to implement this resolution has been drafted and will be sent to Mr. Wedgeworth on behalf of the Task Force on Women and the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship.

A preconference on women will be held before the 1980 New York City ALA conference. It will take place in New Brunswick, N.J. The committee planning this conference is being chaired by Betty-Carol Sellen. More detailed information will be carried in WOMEN IN LIBRARIES as it is available.

New members of the Task Force's steering committee were elected in Dallas. The steering committee members for 1979-80 are Suzanne LeBarron (the new Task Force coordinator), Gurley Turner, Betty Turock, Julie Chase, Diane Kadanoff, Sheila Hess, Karen Jackson, Elizabeth Futas, Barbara Winch and Kay Cassell (ex-officio).



REPORT ON ERA ACTIVITIES AT ALA

The Equal Rights Amendment and ALA's role in its ratification was an important issue at ALA in Dallas. A resolution submitted by the students from the Drexel University School of Library Science asked the Association to contribute one dollar per member to ERAmerica. This resolution was passed by ALA membership. In the meantime, the ALA Executive Board voted to set aside \$10,000 for the new ERA Task Force to work with ALA chapters in unratified states. Therefore, when the dollar per member resolution came to the floor of Council, it was amended to provide an opportunity through a checkoff on the ALA membership renewal form for ALA members to contribute money to ERAmerica. There will also be a checkoff on the membership form to enable members to donate money to the ERA Task Force.

TASK FORCE ON WOMEN PROGRAMS

Alix Kate Shulman spoke at the Task Force on Women's Sunday afternoon program. Ms. Shulman teaches women's studies and creative writing at New York University and will be teaching at Yale this fall. She is the author of MEMOIRS OF AN EX-PROM QUEEN and BURNING QUESTIONS as well as numerous articles and children's books. She spoke about the role of the woman artist and discussed recent landmarks of women's writing including Virginia Woolf's A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN, Simone de Beauvoir's THE SECOND SEX, Tillie Olsen's SILENCES and recent works by Adrienne Rich. She also talked about the lack of a visible female literary tradition, the lack of women writers and the tendency of contemporary critics to put down women's novels. Ms. Shulman said that she writes women's novels to document in literary terms the experiences and feelings of women in this particular period of time. Ms. Shulman's speech was well received by the large audience attending.

The Task Force's program, "Are You Paid Your Due?", was an excellent program with a wealth of important, useful information. The program was taped and is available for purchase through the American Library Association.

THE WOMEN'S GROUPS REPORT

The Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship arranged a meeting at which women's groups within and outside ALA could report on their activities. The following is a brief summary of this meeting. The RASD Women's Materials and Women Library Users Discussion Group reported that they had held a program on women's collections. They discussed two proposed projects for the group - a union list of women's serials and indexing women's periodicals. The LAMA Women Administrators Discussion Group indicated that discussions at past meetings have included political strategizing and life long learning career goals. They have also been active in



developing a network of women administrators and promoting job opportunities for women. The LAMA PAS Economic Status, Welfare and Fringe Benefits Committee reported on projects relating to update of certification information, study of comparable wages for comparable work materials, development of guidelines for writing resumes, and collection of information on salary and work benefit surveys. The LAMA PAS Racism and Sexism Awareness Training Committee may be dissolved since the planned workshops have been presented. There was interest expressed, however, in having these workshops replicated in some way.

The RTSD CCS SAC Racism/Sexism in Subject Analysis Subcommittee reported that the LC subject terminology is showing some changes and is not as sexist as it used to be. The SRRT Task Force on Women reported on discussions regarding whether or not to attend the 1980 Midwinter meeting in Chicago. The YASD Sexism in Adolescent Materials Committee indicated it had tried to get permission from advertising companies to make slides of ads which the committee considered sexist but permission had been denied. The Association of American Library Schools Women's Interest Group reported it was relatively new and had held sessions at AALS meetings on teaching relating to women's materials, women in management, etc., but there was still much to be done.

The Coalition was formed on an ad hoc basis to generate ALA membership votes to move out of Chicago for the 1980 Midwinter meeting. A large mailing list has been generated which might be used for other lobbying efforts on behalf of other ALA issues. The Indiana Library Association Task Force on Women has an annual report packet for \$1.00 which outlines its work at the state level. Packets are available from Sally Hunt at the Bloomington Public Library. The New York Library Association Round Table on the Concerns of Women will have a booth at the NYLA fall conference on materials and issues relating to women's concerns. The Women Library Workers reported on the new SHARE directory which is being compiled. The Bay Area WLW is planning to set up a national information center.

CONFERENCES

"How Does a Woman Professional Function Differently" will be the topic of a weekend conference for professional women to be held near Boston at Wentworth-by-the-Sea on October 12-14, 1979. The conference will feature psychoanalyst, Jean Baker Miller, and will include seven women professionals talking about their own experiences. For complete information, contact Elizabeth Dodson Gray, Roundtable Conferences, 4 Linden Square, Wellesley, Mass. 02181.

The National Women's Studies Association will hold its annual convention at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, from May 16-20, 1980. The planned program will include panels, seminars and papers in feminist education and presentations in the arts. For further



information, contact Elaine Reuben, Coordinator, NWSA, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

NEW EDITION OF SHARE BEING PUBLISHED

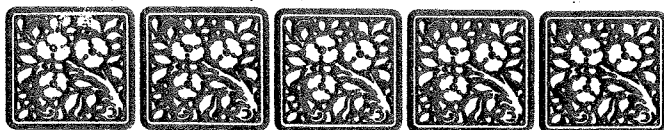
The fourth edition of SHARE which stands for Sisters Have Resources Everywhere will be published in January 1980. If you wish to be listed in this directory of feminist library workers, send the following information to WLW/SHARE, PO Box 9052, Berkeley, CA 94709: name, work address, home address, phone numbers for home and work, type of work, skills, interests, memberships/affiliations and other things to share. Send this information and a \$3 donation by October.

NEW BOOKS

SPEAKING UP: A BOOK FOR EVERY WOMAN WHO WANTS TO SPEAK EFFECTIVELY by Janet Stone and Jane Bachner. McGraw-Hill, 1977. Dissatisfied with existing male-oriented public speaking manuals, Stone and Bachner compiled insights gained from teaching public speaking skills to women in government, colleges and women's groups into a book that is comprehensive and practical. Even women who don't find public speaking difficult will pick up tips for writing speeches, testing microphones, etc.

NEW FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP; A GUIDE TO BIBLIOGRAPHIES by Jane Williamson. Feminist Press, 1979. Ms. Williamson has produced a work of great value to all librarians with an interest in women's studies. In her introduction she discusses the history of women's studies and the history of bibliographies in this field. This work is arranged in 28 subject areas from anthropology and sociology to work. Comments on each area are at the beginning of the section. Complete bibliographic citations and detailed annotations are given for each item. There are author and title indexes and a list of publishers and their addresses. A most useful reference tool. \$15.

WOMEN'S STUDIES: A RECOMMENDED CORE BIBLIOGRAPHY by Esther Stineman identifies an annotated core collection of 1,763 woman-related books and periodicals that will support a women's studies program comprising courses with predominantly undergraduate enrollment. The books are grouped into 21 subject areas, including business, fine arts, literature, religion and sports. A separate reference section concentrates on 156 major reference books and bibliographies considered essential for such a core collection. Periodicals are covered in a separate section. The lengthy annotations have been written to give full bibliographic information and a firm idea of what can be expected from the books in terms of content. A much needed volume. Libraries Unlimited. \$27.50.



Alicejamesbooks has published two new volumes of poetry. OPENERS and TEMPER is a volume of poetry by Nina Nyhart and Margo Lockwood. Ms. Nyhart's poetry includes a variety of styles and themes which are a delight to the reader while Lockwood's work is sensuous and personal with beautiful imagery. BOX POEMS and OLD SHEETS is by Willa Schneberg and Larkin Warren. Schneberg's poems tell stories of people she has known in her writing workshops, and Larkin Warren writes about familiar things and incidents from her life. Both volumes are true to usual quality work of Alicejamesbooks. \$3.95 each. 138 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

The first National Women's Studies Association Convention was held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence May 30 - June 2. It was a well attended convention bringing together women from diverse backgrounds. The program was packed with interesting papers and panels. The disciplines represented included literature, political science, sociology, the creative arts, psychology and many others. I went to programs on the Images of Spinsters and Mothers in Fiction, Feminist Theory, Women and Work in 19th and 20th Century Fiction, Images of Women in Magazine Fiction During World War II, Sibling Mysteries and Women's Culture. It was exciting to hear several women authors read and discuss their works - Alice Walker, Judy Grahn, Kate Stimpson, E.M. Broner and Meridel LeSueur. I recommend this Association as one for librarians with an interest in women's studies. It's a well planned, information packed convention. --Kay Cassell

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR LIBRARIANS

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan, has awarded a three-year grant of \$315,316 to the University of Washington to develop a model Career Development and Assessment Center for librarians. The Center will be designed to help librarians and women librarians in particular, eliminate barriers which prevent or inhibit them from attaining managerial positions. If successful, the project has important implications for other "feminized" professions such as nursing and social work. Within librarianship, expected by-products include a decided impact upon the content and direction of the continuing education of librarians, upon pre-service and in-service training programs, and upon librarian certification procedures. For further information, contact Dr. Peter Hiatt, School of Librarianship, University of Washington.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY DOLLAR

Packets of information on the Susan B. Anthony dollar are available from the Bureau of the Mint, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C. 20220.



PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

The new "two-tier" Women's Educational Equity Act, designed and recommended by the National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs, will provide the first direct Federal funding to help schools attempting to meet Title IX requirements. For more information on Title IX and the new WEAA, write for a copy of the Council's report, "Educational Equity: The Continuing Challenge", available free from the National Advisory Council, 1832 M St., NW, Suite 821, Washington, DC 20036.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has produced two volumes on their first consultation on discrimination against minorities and women by the insurance industry. Copies of this report are available from the Commission's Publication Unit, 1121 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20425.

The third edition of the DIRECTORY FOR REACHING MINORITY AND WOMEN'S GROUPS has been published by the U.S. Department of Labor. The directory includes 5000 names, addresses and phone numbers of all types of organizations and institutions that may be helpful to persons, firms and agencies working for the improvement of the economic, social or educational status of minority groups or women. Copies are \$4.50 from the Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Stock no. 029-000-00357-2.

COMMENT is a periodical published three times a year by the Office of Women in Higher Education. It contains a good deal of material on current research on women. Subscriptions are \$10/year. COMMENT, Office of Women in Higher Education, ACE, Washington, DC 20036.

The National Commission on Working Women's National Survey of Working Women is available for \$2.00 from NCWW, 1211 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036.

New England Free Press has a new 1979 summer catalogue which includes many women's publications. Write them at 60 Union Square, Somerville, Mass. 02143.

WORKING WOMENROOTS: AN ORAL HISTORY PRIMER has been compiled to assist and encourage women workers and trade unionists to record their history and their contributions to the labor movement. It is an outgrowth of the three-year oral history project, "The Twentieth Century Trade Union Woman: Vehicle for Social Change" initiated and conducted by the Program on Women and Work of the University of Michigan's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. This primer is a manual that explains the steps involved in gathering oral history and processing it. The manual is available for \$2.50 from the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, Oral History Project, 108 Museums Annex Building, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109. Orders must be prepaid.



FRONTIERS is an interdisciplinary journal on women's studies. Recent issues have been on oral history, women's athletics, mothers and daughters, and alcoholism and drugs. FRONTIERS publishes three issues a year. FRONTIERS, Women Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.

WORK AND FAMILY ISSUES: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ECONOMIC AND RELATED SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH by Hilda Kahne and Judith Hybels is a bibliography of nearly 300 items on women's economic roles. The listing includes published articles and books, conference papers, and many unpublished materials. The bibliography focuses on work by economists; however, it is cross-disciplinary, in that it includes related work from other social sciences. It covers materials written or published from mid-1975 through 1976. The purpose of the bibliography is to highlight the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of the issues relating to women's work and family roles. Available for \$1.50 from Wellesley College Center for Research on Women, Wellesley, MA 02181.

THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN WOMEN is a statement recently submitted to the Senate Committee on Human Resources by Task Force Chair, Sarah Weddington. The statement discusses issues affecting employed women, displaced homemakers, and adjustment of our social and economic institutions to meet the changing needs and roles of American women. Copies are available from the Interdepartmental Task Force on Women, Room 3050, Vanguard Building, 1111 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare recently issued its important report on SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE CHANGING ROLES OF MEN AND WOMEN. The report presents two comprehensive options for eliminating dependency as a factor in determining entitlement to a spouse's Social Security benefits. Copies are available from Social Security Admin., Room 446, Altmeyer Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, Md. 21235.

WOMEN IN DISTRIBUTION NO LONGER IN BUSINESS

Women in Distribution which distributed a large number of feminist presses has declared bankruptcy. The Feminist Bookstores' Newsletter has compiled a list of those presses which WIND distributed in the hopes that libraries will continue to buy from these presses on an individual basis. They have agreed to let WOMEN IN LIBRARIES reproduce this list. The list will be sent to all subscribers shortly.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH NETWORK

The National Women's Health Network is a nonprofit organization representing more than 1,000 local women's health groups, projects, health centers and clinics, health professionals and consumers. Membership is \$25 regular, \$35 women's, health or consumer group and \$50 business or institution. They publish NETWORK NEWS bimonthly, publish NEWSALERTS on pending hearings, health actions, legislation, etc. and maintain a network clearinghouse. They have recently produced a series of health resource guides on the following topics: menopause, hysterectomy, breast cancer, childbirth, DES, self-help, birth control, abortion and sterilization. Each book is \$2.00 for members and \$3.00 for non-members. National Women's Health Network, 2025 I St., NW, Suite 105, Washington, DC 20006.

AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

THE OLDER WOMAN: ISSUES is a slide/tape production geared to a discussion of issues and attitudes relating to aging and older women. \$35 from Gerontology Publications, Institute of Gerontology, 520 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or \$15 rental from University of Michigan Media Resources Center, 416 Fourth St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

LAST SUMMER is a hilarious but nevertheless sensitive film depicting the daily traumas of three pregnant women, who spend a summer day together. The film's message is loud and clear. All three women, all through the film, want to be treated as individual persons who "happen to be pregnant at the time" or who later "happen to be Mothers". They believe that they can be very good mothers and still remain strong individual personalities. LAST SUMMER is available for purchase in 16mm, super 8mm sound, and 3/4" video-cassette formats. The purchase price is \$225 and the three day rental is \$22.50. Perennial Education, 477 Roger Williams, PO Box 855 Ravinia, Highland Park, IL 60035.

GREAT GRAND MOTHER is a history and celebration of prairie women by Anne Wheeler and Lorna Rasmussen. It is a moving presentation of women's struggle to settle and survive in difficult conditions and with little psychological support from their environment. New Day Films, P.O. Box 315, Franklin Lakes, N.J. 07417. \$375 sale and \$35 rental. 29 minutes color.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - November 1, 1979.

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES is published 5 times a year from September to June. Subscriptions are \$4 for individuals and \$6 for institutions. Make checks payable to ALA/SRRT Task Force on Women and send to Kay Cassell, 44 Nathaniel Blvd., Delmar, NY 12054.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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