



Women in Libraries

Volume 19, Number 5

June 1990



Annual Meeting Schedule Chicago, June 1990

Feminist Task Force Meetings

Meetings of the Feminist Task Force are listed here along with meetings and programs of other groups involved in minority and women's issues. Check later schedules to

confirm times and to find room numbers and for more details on programs and receptions.

ACRL: Association of College and Research Libraries
SRRT: Social Responsibilities Round Table
WSS: Women's Studies Section, ACRL

June 22, 1990. Friday

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. WSS Social Hour.

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Gerber Heart Midwest gay and lesbian resource library tour.

June 23, 1990. Saturday

- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Intracultural Diversity: Management's Challenge. Program.
- 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Introduction to Women's Groups in ALA. Program.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Feminist Task Force meeting.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Minority Retention: the Second Step for Successful Affirmative Action. Program.
- 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Forum on Israeli Censorship. Reception at 6, program at 7.
- 9:15 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Progressive Librarians Guild meeting and social event.

June 24, 1990. Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Access or Impasse? Meeting the Research Needs of Women's Studies. Program.
- 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Cultural Diversity: Strategies for Overcoming Institutional Barriers. Program.
- 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Profiles of the City: Using Ethnic Collections and Archives for Social Science Research. Program.
- 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Reaching the World: Encouraging Library School Students to Become Internationalists. Program.
- 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Towards Multilingualism: Building on a Multicultural America. Program.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. New Faces in the Library: Outreach Services to the Multicultural Community. Program.
- 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Read Aloud.
- 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. South Africa "Book Boycott" hearings.
- 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Black Caucus 20th Anniversary Gala Celebration.
- 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Chinese American Resources. Program.
- 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. The Feminist Librarian. Program.
- 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. SRRT 21st Anniversary Party and Membership Meeting.

June 25, 1990. Monday

- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Feminist Task Force meeting.
- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Through the Looking Glass: Perceptions of Women Managers. Program.
- 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Pay Equity Issues for Library Workers: Current Concerns. Program.
- 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Trials and Triumphs: Speaking out on Publishing Ethnic Materials for Youths and Adults. Program.
- 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. To Plead our Own Cause: Black Publishing in American History and Library Programs. Program.
- 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Publishing Ethnic Materials. Program.
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Building a Women's Collection. Program.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Access to Libraries and Information Services: Empowering the Disenfranchised. Program.
- 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. AIDS Education: Meeting the Challenge.
- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Assimilation and Identity: an Asian American Dilemma. Program.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Gender Equity in Librarianship. Program.
- 2:00 - 5:30 p.m. How Well are we Remembering the Past? The Case of Holocaust Denial Materials. Program.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. International Relations Committee program: Dennis Brutus, South African poet.
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Native American Presses: Alternatives for Library Collections. Program.
- 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Second Annual Get to Know Intellectual Freedom Reception.
- 10:00 p.m. Women's Night Out. Social event.

June 26, 1990. Tuesday.

- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Feminist Task Force meeting.
- 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Politics, Money and Books. Program and reception.



A Lesbian Herstory Archives Call for Support

The Lesbian Herstory Archives, staffed by a small group of volunteers, has become a valued research facility with a sizable collection of primary sources. Now, to continue to meet a growing need, the Archives is trying to build funds to move to a larger space. The following paragraphs tell the story.

For more than 16 years, the Lesbian Herstory Archives has grown within the loving confines of Joan Nestle's Manhattan apartment. The collection is the largest and oldest lesbian archive in the world, with more than 200 special collections and thousands of biographical files from lesbians who have sent or willed their letters, writing, photographs and diaries. The collection includes thirty packed drawers of subject files (ranging from activism to butch/fem to lesbians in Yugoslavia), seven drawers of organizational files, thousands of books, periodicals, posters, photographs, and an astounding variety of lesbian artifacts. Because of space limitations, only about a quarter of the collection is readily accessible to researchers. Other material must be fetched from off-site storage when requested.

Though the Archives is open only two nights a week and by appointment, the Archives managed to serve more than 1,200 researchers and visitors last year. In addition to keeping up with the sorting, filing, and fund-raising tasks, Archives volunteers fielded more than 3,000 telephone reference questions in 1990. The Lesbian Herstory Archives has touched countless lives not only as a resource, but also as a tremendous symbol of strength and community. We are honored this year to be grand marshals of the New York City Lesbian and Gay Pride Day Parade.

And we need your support. First of all, make every effort to preserve the records of your lives and donate them to the Archives. The Archives gathers material from all lesbians, not just the famous or the published. And especially now,

It is vital that you lend the Archives your financial support. The collection must move to a new home if it is to continue to grow.

In addition to making individual donations, consider sponsoring a fund raising party for the Archives. The Archives will gladly send you a fund-raising packet which includes a short videotape and lots of printed material about the collection. For more information, write: Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, PO Box 1258, New York, NY 10116, or call 212-874-7232.



Women in Libraries

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Confronting Racism

The Feminist Task Force will discuss racism and its pervasive effects at our meeting on June 26, 9 to 11 a.m. At the meeting, we hope to touch on means within our power of confronting and dealing with problems caused by racist attitudes. The May 1990 issue of *Women in Libraries* will be available for distribution. That issue includes two

articles on dealing with racism and a bibliography of materials describing women's experiences with racism worldwide. The discussion is intended to be an open forum for sharing ideas, thoughts, experiences and concepts, to help us raise our own awareness and deal with prejudice in our personal and public lives. Please join us.



FTF Officers

Several positions in the Feminist Task Force will be open. Sherre Dryden, who has served for one year as coordinator, will step down. Madeleine Tainton, *Women in Libraries* editor, is also leaving office. If you are interested in these or other positions, please be sure to attend FTF meetings.

June 23, 25, and 26, as noted on page 1. Membership in the Feminist Task Force is based on interest, not election or appointment, and meetings are open to all. Being involved in FTF may serve as an introduction into other ALA committees and organizations.



Conference Highlights

Anniversaries

The Feminist Task Force commemorates 20 years of activism with its program, "The Feminist Librarian," 8 to 10 p.m., Sunday, June 24. Ginny Daley, of Duke University, will moderate a panel discussion in which speakers will address different aspects of feminism in library work, including how women have integrated their feminism into other activist roles in ALA and how a feminist self-definition has affected daily library work. Panelists include Betty-Carol Sellen, retired, Janet Freedman, Dean of Library Services at Southeastern Massachusetts University, and Ann Allen Shockley, of Fisk University. FTF members, past and present, will also talk informally about the founding of FTF and its effect on their lives as feminists and librarians. The program will adjourn early so participants may join the SRRT party, described below.

SRRT's anniversary gala is set for Sunday, June 24, 8 p.m. to midnight. The Armstrong Sisters will sing union and folk songs, and John Held, performance artist and librarian, will also entertain. Join the crowd at Sauer's, 311 E. 23rd Street. Meet at McCormick Center at 8 and share a cab.

The Black Caucus celebrates its 20th anniversary Saturday, June 23, 8 p.m. to midnight, at the Chicago Public Library's Cultural Center. There is a charge of \$20, and the event is semi-formal, black tie optional.

Social Networking

The Women's Studies Section of ACRL will host its annual social hour to welcome members and anyone interested in women's activities in ALA. Open to all, the gathering will be from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 22, at the Lakeside Green lounge on the first floor of the Chicago Hilton (the one on Michigan avenue near the Palmer House, NOT the Hyde

Park Hilton near McCormick Place). The social hour has quickly become a popular tradition, so come, bring along your friends, and hang out a while before the work begins.

Women's Night Out, an annual FTF event, takes place Monday night following the general membership meeting, about 10 p.m. The place is Paris Dance, 1122 W. Montrose. The Luna Park Cafe inside the bar has sandwiches and light supper items. The neighborhood is safe, but it is recommended that you take a taxi, as public transportation is said to be unsafe after 6 p.m.

New Political Group

The Progressive Librarians Guild (PLG) meets at 9:15 p.m. Saturday, June 23, at the Exchequer Pub. The pub is just around the corner from DePaul University at 226 South Wabash. The group will meet in the back dining room. PLG is a new group formed to encourage political activism in librarianship, and welcomes any who are interested in finding out more about their activities and sharing ideas.

SRRT Program

SRRT's Alternatives in Print Task Force is sponsoring a program called "Native American Presses: Alternatives for Library Collections," Monday, June 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. Paul DeMain, President of Indian Country Communications, and Joseph Bruchac of the Native American Authors Distribution Project are among the speakers.

For information about this and other SRRT events, check Booth 659 in the Exhibit Hall. Publicity materials for many events sponsored or cosponsored by SRRT committees will be available there.

Women in Libraries
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Office for Library Outreach Services
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