

AIA-SRRT TASK FORCE ON WOMEN
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 no. 6

JUNE

Editor: Lynne Rhoads

AIA TF MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, July 8	Business Meeting	2:00 - 4:00p.m.	WA - Hilton Room
Monday, July 8	Business Meeting	6:00p.m.	JMRT Child Care Suite
Tuesday, July 9	Program Meeting	2:00 - 4:00p.m.	WA - Ballroom
Wednesday, July 10	Feminist "Rap" Buffet	12:00 - 2:30p.m.	SRRT Suite ²
Wednesday, July 10	SRRT Task Force Fair	8:30 - 10:30p.m.	H - West Ballroom
Thursday, July 11	Business Meeting	10:00a.m. - 12noon	A - Princess Ballro

Business meetings will devote a good deal of time to the determination of TFW status within ALA or as an independent Caucus like the Black Caucus. Another subject requiring considerable planning is the growth of the TFW and creation of some sort of structure to handle the work involved. Something might be established similar to the WIA structure, if this seems desirable.

Needed are: Newsletter editor, Program Coordinator (for San Francisco '75); Research and Information Coordinator, Affirmative Action Coordinator, Child Care Coordinator for AIA 1975 (working with JMRT), Membership and Information Dissemination Coordinator, Coordinator for Evaluation File of Libraries, Library Schools, and Library Administrators and others. Also needed are State Coordinators. All of these and more will be discussed; and we need women who are interested in coordinating these areas.

Barbara Gittings, Coordinator of the TF on Gay Liberation extends an invitation to TFW members to attend their surprise event. She writes:

"As for the Surprise Event, we decided to invite the It's All Right To Be A Woman Theater Group. They have a great reputation particularly for doing improvisations based on ideas/fantasies suggested by the audience. We're keenly hoping the group will accept!

When we decided to ask the women's theater group to take part in our program event, we realized that your SRRT Task Force on Women is having its program at the same time, and we were concerned about seeming to compete with you for audience. So we're going to: a) find out whether we can stay in our room beyond 4 p.m., and b) if so, have the theater group start around 3:30 and go beyond 4:00. We hope that when your program is over, some of your group will stop by for the closing part of our session. Do you see any problem that hasn't occurred to us?

Of course, our plan depends on the It's All Right To Be A Woman Theater Group's accepting our invitation. If they can't, that will be a real problem for us, to come up on short notice with something else as our Surprise Event!"

²SRRT Suite in Sheraton Hotel under name Sam Morrison or Zoia Horn.

Preconference Coordinator, Betty-Carol Sellen, reports full registration for the Pre-conference, with women from all over the country (even one woman from England) planning to attend. The telephone number for Preconference incoming calls is 201-932-9788 if preconference attendees need directions or other help July 5th and 6th.

JMRT and SRRT are jointly sponsoring a child care center in the Americana Hotel which will accommodate up to 30 children per day during conference week. The center will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, charging \$6 to \$8 per day per child with library school students and unemployed librarians receiving a special discount rate. This service is geared to children from three to 1 1/4 years of age.

Anyone wishing to assure registration now should send a \$10 deposit to Susan Vaughn, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, NY 11210 providing name, address, telephone number, the number and ages of children to be accommodated, and the days the center will be needed.

We need volunteers to take minutes of TFW business meetings.

APPEAL FROM WOMEN'S HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

Laura X writes "Dear Friends;

Lots of news: First, we're coming to New York again - and guess what? We need your help - again! But this time, unfortunately, there's no party, to our dismay after weeks of negotiating with the New York Public Library and other attempts.

We're coming to New York, if you can help us raise the money, to try to talk to each and everyone of the 10,000 librarians at the American Library Association Convention, July 7 - 12, in order to:

- 1) gain their support for our search for an institution to house and fund our collections;
- 2) urging them to buy the microfilm of our new women's serials collection and to donate to further updates so that people everywhere can use the fabulous material that has been donated to us;
- 3) to buy our incredible, new 157-page edition of our Female Artists: Past and Present - \$6 to them, \$5 special discount to You!
- 4) to urge them to come and volunteer at the Library especially in August and September to put on microfilm as many of the 2000 subject files as possible before all our funding runs out September; Then, when the collections go into storage or another institution, people can still have the microfilm in their local libraries nationally; (The Health files are already filmed. We want to do Law, Black Women, and Women's Movement material next.)

Here's how you can help:

- 1) Send anything you can moneywise towards our plane fares (\$700 for two), the printing costs of the leaflets, or to the microfilm project itself. For that, we also need tons of office supplies. Everything is tax deductible.

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- 2) Gather up you and your friends to come and help leaflet the AIA Convention. We will operate out of the Ball & Howell booth at the convention center - we can be reached either through our friend Chuck at OR 4-5919, or the Bell & Howell representative at the Hilton, Doug Roesemann. But it's infinitely better if you write me first, before we plan to leave July 1st for the pre-conference, so we can plan each shift, morning, noon and night! The actual convention is July 7th through July 12th.

We've just moved to an enormous workspace in Oakland, and are having a rent party this Monday - wish you could come! Hope you'll help us throughout the summer - even if we miss you in New York."

Laura X, President; Linda Schuck, Intern Program Director, WOMEN'S HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER, INC. 2325 Oak Street, Berkeley, California 94708 (415) 836-1531.

TFW members who wish to help leaflet, please let Laura X know.

FINANCIAL NOTE

Liz Dickinson, Job Roster Coordinator who will issue the "Bulletin Board", described in our last issue, states that the cost of receiving 12 issues of the "Bulletin Board" will be slightly higher than estimated - between \$3.50 and \$4.00. Interested women may write Liz at: Hennepin County Library/7001 York Ave. So./Minneapolis, Minn. 55435.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON NURSING FACULTY FILE SEX DISCRIMINATION SUIT

On February 21, 1974, the Women's Salary Inequity Committee filed suit in Federal Court against the University of Washington charging discrimination based on sex. The class action suit lists as plaintiffs approximately 75 faculty members currently and formerly employed in the School of Nursing. The lawsuit is being filed against the University of Washington for their alleged violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other Civil Rights Laws prohibiting discrimination in employment.

This discrimination the plaintiffs allege is reflected in unequal pay for women faculty in the School of Nursing as compared with male faculty of equal rank, experience, etc. in other Schools at the University. The plaintiffs also charge discrimination in relation to salary appointments, promotions, and work loads.

The impact of such discriminatory practice against the women of the School of Nursing seen in lower status as well as lower salaries.

The Committee's decision to file a lawsuit against the University came only after many months of exploring all other channels in hopes of correcting the existing inequities. The original Complaint was filed on December 5, 1972, with four State and Federal agencies.

The Women's Salary Inequity Committee's Complaint has not been resolved, either through University channels or State and Federal agencies. Lack of resolution of the Complaint has prompted the Committee to pursue court action.

For further information write: Rosemary Pittman or Susan Poulsen, Co-Chairwomen, Women's Salary Inequity Committee/ School of Nursing, University of Washington, Seattle WA 98195.

HEW has given the University of Washington until September, 1974, to come up with an

acceptable affirmative action plan. In response to criticism from feminist groups that "HEW's attitude toward enforcement, is, at best, lukewarm", HEW officials state that the HEW findings and actions with respect to the UW are the "strongest yet"

PUBLICATIONS

The following is a list of publications received by the TFW Coordinator during the year and not mentioned in this year's previous TFW Newsletters:

Guidelines for Improving the Image of Women in Textbooks, Scott, Foresman & Company. 1975
A nine page pamphlet prepared by the Sexism in Textbooks Committee of Women at Scott Foresman. It starts out:

"Sexism refers to all those attitudes and actions which relegate women to a secondary and inferior status in society. Textbooks are sexist if they omit the actions and achievements of women, if they demean women by using patronizing language, or if they show women only in stereotyped roles with less than the full range of human interests, traits, and capabilities.

Textbooks should treat women as the equals of men. Although in the past women were regarded as inferior, they were not and are not inferior people. The sexist attitudes of the past should not be reflected in current publications."

and proceeds to comprehensive guidelines and recommendations, ending:

"If, after careful consideration, an editor finds it desirable to use selections that contain sexist attitudes, these attitudes should be discussed in accompanying descriptive material or discussion questions. Otherwise the text will convey to the reader the impression that sexism is socially acceptable, rather than a form of prejudice or a lack of sensitivity."

Media Report to Women. Editor, Donna Allen, 3306 Ross Place, N.W./Washington D.C. 20007
A feminist periodical publication which emphasizes media, among which it includes libraries, well worth the time and money. Price \$10.00, one year subscription for women. (Men and other institutions \$15.00).

One item of interest:

Eleven publications, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, in November, organized the FEMINIST NEWS EXCHANGE to fill the immediate need for timely national news "until a more solid national feminist news service can be formed."

To avoid high dues and central staffing, the 11 publications devised "a system" of paying 50 cents per story used and \$1.00 per photo used to any member sending us material as soon as it is written.... Members would exchange subscriptions with other members as individual budgets permit, and freely permit the reprinting of already-published material without charge, as many of us are already doing".

Membership is open to all feminist newsletters, newspapers, journals and magazines, and to feminist sections and caucuses on alternative publications. The \$5 fee covers a year's worth of mailings. For further information, write Nancy Borman, Interim Co-ordinator, FNE, Box 431 Planetarium Station, New York, NY 10024.

Johnson County Council on the Status of Women Newsletter. 108 Potomac Dr., Iowa City, Iowa. 52240.

JCCSW is an affiliate of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women and some newsletters are published jointly with the Johnson County Women's Political Caucus. A newsletter of a very active-sounding group, with local and state-wide interests.

Twin Cities Women's Union Newsletter, 2953 Bloomington Ave. So; Minneapolis, Minn.

"The TCWU is an independent Women's Liberation organization founded in November, 1971. While there were many individual ongoing groups and activities at the time a need was felt for real links with each other.

As a union, we are working to help in the communication network for women, to educate ourselves, and to celebrate together--most important we are working collectively to develop common strategies and programs to become a strong and visible political force for women in the cities." Newsletter subscription for 6 months is \$1.00.

Off Our Backs, 1724 20th St. N.W., Washington DC, 20009. 12 issues/\$6.00 per year (individuals).

A feminist news journal, with news, letters to the editor, ads and in the issue I received, the first official catalog of titles supplied by First Things First, a Free Mail Order House of feminist books for women, and non-sexist books for children. Their address: 23-Seventh Street S.E., Washington DC 20003.

Graphic Communications Herald, Graphic Communications, 1126 HiPoint Street, Los Angeles CA 90035.

Offers feminist tapes, jewelry and posters.

SHER Newsletter (Self Help for Equal Rights).

Seems to be an "in-house" publication and deals with sex discrimination against government employees generally and specifically with employees in the National Institute of Health and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

On November 1, 1973, a class action suit charging NIH and HEW with sex discrimination was filed, on behalf of all women at NIH, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Named plaintiff was Rosalind Marimont, Chairperson of SHER. SHER's comment on harassment:

"One of the nastiest forms of harassment we encounter is the insinuation that anyone who complains is emotionally disturbed. The allegations vary from mild terms like "aggressive" to extremes like "insanely jealous" - sometimes with implications of homosexuality. We are shocked at how often complainants, particularly women, are sent to psychiatrists. In affidavits for investigations, alleged discriminators try to divert attention from the charges by suggesting that the problem is emotional instability of the complainant."

Money to help SHER finance its ~~st~~ may be mailed to SHER - NIH/W, P.O. Box 30044, Washington, D.C. 20014.

TASK FORCE CONCERNED WITH SEXISM IN EDUCATION

Over a hundred years ago, Emma Hart Willard, then a school teacher in Vermont, realized the injustice of unequal educational opportunities for women. Because of her public and persistent stand for higher education of women, high schools, colleges and later coeducational universities became a part of our national life.

The Emma Willard Task Force on Education is an independent group concerned primarily with the elimination of sexism in elementary and secondary education. The foci of the Task Force's workshops and seminars are basic feminist issues as they affect sexism in education, interpersonal dynamics, and societal organization and change.

Their book Sexism in Education has sold over 3,500 copies nationwide since its publication in 1972. For information on their services (courses, speakers, workshops, consultation, etc.) write: The Emma Willard Task Force on Education, Box 14229, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

PARLIAMENTARY CLASSES HELP WOMEN

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Last Summer a number of women librarians in Washington State took a class in parliamentary law. This was originally organized by the TFW Coordinator for feminists, but included non-feminists as well.

The class was so successful (how to use the rules to prevent other people from doing things you don't want and how to do things you do want) that SRRT members and union members subsequently took the same class.

For women who hesitate to speak out in formal meetings (AIA, for example) the practice involved is invaluable. Classes here were \$20.00 per person for 24 hours (an additional class was offered each time, with no takers), and were given by a registered parliamentarian who was referred from the National Association of Parliamentarians.

116 West 47th Street, Suite 217, Kansas City, MO 64112

LAST MINUTE NEWCOTT-CALDEBERY NEWS

Contrary to what had been decided earlier, the annual Newcott-Caldeber^{er}y Award Luncheon will be held this year in N.Y., July 10, from 12:00 - 2:00p.m. Busses leave from the Hilton for the Faith, Hope, and Charity Day-Care Center, Brooklyn. Tickets are \$7.95 (inflation) and will be sold at the N.Y. Book Fair for Alternative and Small Presses and at the SRRT information table (if there is one). Proceeds will go to the Ann Littlejohn Memorial Scholarship Fund.

There is a conflict between the N-C Award luncheon and the TFW "Rap" Buffet. Persons wishing to attend the buffet may contribute to the N-C fund, but there seems to be no way of attending both functions; since busses leave for the N-C luncheon at 12:00 and are scheduled to return at 2:00.

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4004 Whitman Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98103

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