

FEMINIST BOOKSTORES NEWSLETTER

c/o Old Wives' Tales

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At the 1976 Women in Print Conference, Aug 29-Sep 5, representatives from about 20 feminist bookstores across the country met in skills and political workshops. At the end of the week we talked about and came up with some short and long range goals and visions. We presented these to the larger group (including printers, publishers, distributors, magazines and newspapers). The following is approximately what we presented (the original notes having been lost in some later chaos):

1. We want a feminist bookstore newsletter (this is it!) to share information and to help create a communications network based on cooperation rather than (you guessed it) competition.

2. We envision feminist bookstores as a network of "woman's places" and information centers across the country. (feminist shelters?)

3. We are committed to developing our politics as well as our service functions.

4. We want to find ways of dealing with the inherent contradiction between being revolutionaries and being in a capitalist business system.

5. We want to develop ways of working together that make us more accountable to our communities and to each other.

6. We are committed to actively support the feminist media and to increase its effectiveness.

7. We intend to work on creating a feminist "books in print" which would include ordering information.

And now, more about this newsletter. It is made up of submissions from several bookstores that were at the WIP Conference and put together by Carol from Old Wives' Tales, San Francisco and A Woman's Place, Oakland and by Andre from Rising Woman Books, Santa Rosa, CA. The first Three issues are being created with monetary support (loans) from Womanbooks, New York City; New Words Bookstore, Somerville, Mass.; and Amazon Bookstore, Minneapolis, Minn.

Each issue will be composed of submissions by us, the subscribers. Ideas for contents of future issues are: info on books from small presses, other countries; book lists on specific subjects (third world women, books for young women, etc.); news about your bookstore; trouble with publishers and distributors; outreach programs; reflections on processes; and anything else you think of.

The deadline for each issue will be the 1st of the month.

In the next issue, deadline November 1, will be a summary of

the costs for the first two issues. By the third issue we'll have

subscription rates (which will be on a sliding scale).

a year's subscription will include the first three issues.

Got any ideas for names for this rag?

Til next time,

Andre

Oct. 14, 1976

Dear Sisters,

This is it, Volume 1, Number 1, of the bookstores newsletter. Andre is working on what I think is going to be the first page, in Santa Rosa, and I'm here in my room in San Francisco with book lists, new titles and sundry pieces of paper with important scratchings on them. Mostly I'm feeling crazy from all the work Paula and I are doing to get Old Wives' Tales open on Halloween, but more than that, I'm intimidated by this super fancy Gestetner stencil I'm typing on. The only way I can handle it is to share the whole experience and give a blow-by-blow account as it happens. IE--right now the whole thing is slipping to the right.

Ah, better I think. Also be warned that I do not believe what my high school typing teacher told me about my typing reflecting myself. Therefore I do not correct "erroers" not do I have many qualms about my spelling, as long as it communicates. We all have better things to do with out time/lives.

HOT NEW BOOKS

This otta be a regualr feature--but no one sent us anything. (Us-the newsletter.) What I've found are:

DYNAMITE DAMSELS--a hot new, ada funny comic book by roberta Gregory. After seeing a copy, I ordered 50 of them. Order from Roberta Gregory, PO Box 4192, Long Beach, Calif. 90804. 60% off \$1.00 plus postage

THEY SHALL NOT PASS--The Autobiography of La Pasionaria. (Background and story of the Spanish Civil War by the Heroic Resistance leader, Dolores Ibarruri.) I've been told that it's great. International Publishers, 381 Park Ave South, Ny NY 10016. Get a catalogue.

Reissued: PATIENCE AND SARAH by Fawcett-Crest. Same cover, same book--the only change is the numbers in the corner--1.45 instead of .95

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Whoops--another new (?) title) THE FORGOTTEN FIVE MILLION: WOMEN IN PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT a guide to eliminating sex discrimination by Catherine Samuels from Women's Action Alliance 370 Lexington Ave, New York, NY 10017 (yep, Ms' upstairs neighbor) \$5. 60% for ordrs of 10 of the same title. or 70% to feminist bookstores. (If they don't qualify by buying 10 copies?)

(this is the 5th time I've taken the stencil out and moved it over (Hence the wavy left margin. I think its the typewriter...keep the faith and keep reading....)

(so far so good. I even remembered to take out the paper between the film and the stencil both times. Haunted memories tell me that's vital.) (still sliding right, though.....)

BOOKS IN SPANISH

The following information is from Karyn London at Womanbooks, NYC:

DE COLORES- Journal of Emerging Raza Philosophies, Vol. 2, no. 3
Chicana 2.25 Pajarito Pub., 2633 Granite NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

SOY-Zelima Poetry. Women's Press Collective

MY MOTHER THE MAIL CARRIER MI MAMA LA CARTERA-Inez mauriry 3.50
Feminist Press Pub.

La VIDA DE DOS NOVIDOS- Martin Vinaver (The Life of Sweethearts, tr.)
"Dedicated to all children also to those whose parents won't
let them read this book." 4100 4.00 Dist. by Bookpeople

LOS NINOS MAGICOS (the Magic Boys) Harriet Rohmer and Mary Anchondo
Fifth World Tales Series 2.95

ROSARIA-judith Diaz 1.25 Bilingual story about a Puerto Rican boy
at new school. Bilingual Press, Box 302 Ocean Beach, Fire Island
Ny 11770

ZENAIDA Celina Andrade Campbell 1.25 All of Us Press via WIND

LA AVENTURA DE YOLANDA (Yolanda's Hike) Tomas Rodrigues Gaspar
1.25 New Seed Press via Bookpeople

Womanbooks also got some titles on a one time only opportunity.
Ordering information on the best of them is as follows. They haven't
ordered direct on any of these. anyone who does, let us know how
it works, terms, etc.

ANTHOLOGIA DEL FEMINISMO amalia Martin-Gamero, El Libro de Bolsillo,
Alianza Editorial, Madrid, Spain

Muheres en la Revolution-margaret Randall, Siglo Veintiuno Editores,
Sa: Gabriel Mancera, 65: Mexico 12 DF

La Mujer en la Lucha Hoy- Nancy Zayas & Juan Angel Silen, Rio Piedras,
Puerto Rico 1972

Also they have on order fdon Larousse & Co, 572 Fifth Ave. NY NY 10036
the following books: (see below for ordering info)

LAS MUJERES Randall

NI DIASA NI MARTIR Randall

LAS MUJERES CBERVADAS S. de Beauvoir Tiempo Nuevo-Pub

LA MUJER CAMA CANDENTE Sullerot Guadaramma, ed

DE PROFESION MUJER Capmany Plaza y Janes

MUERTI CIVIL DE MUJER ESPANCLA Capmany

CUATRO ENSAYCS SOBRE LA JUJER Castillo de Pino Alianzo, ed.

Womenbooks placed this order w/ Larousse w/ their rep on June 11 and still hadn't rec'd the books when Karyn wrote us. Seems that if Larousse doesn't have ~~an~~ the books in stock, they have to order them themselves. (they didn't have any of these titles in stock. Best luck may be obtained by ordering small quantities. (?) Meanwhile, Karyn suggests placing orders directly w/ CHRIS CARCINIA directly either by phone (212-575-9519) or w/ by mail. She's in a position to expedite orders and can provide accurate discou info. (Discounts are 20-40%)

"...I do have faith that they will come someday and anyway, the waiting is infinitely preferable to us to ordering them direct ourselves or not carrying Spanish titles." They have other European language titles.

Also: Children's Book Press 1461 Ninth Ave. San Francisco 94122 puts out a series of bilingual/multicultural books. So far all the books are Eng/Span. and are based on legends and folklores originating in Spanish speaking countries. Their next series will include Chinese, Vietnamese, Black, and Native-American traditions. Mostly they don't have many stories that include women...the ones I've seen don't exactly fit a rigid criteria for being non-sexist, but Paula talked to a woman who works with Children's Books, and she says that consciousness re sex roles is growing. Get a catalogue. Discount is 20% up to 4 books, 40% for 5 or more. 30 days net. ICI-A woman's Place carries Skyworld Woman.

Plus Ultra 137-A West 14th St NY NY 10011 has Lolita Lebron, LA PRISION - ERA in Spanis only paper 4195 (Also THE PUERTO RICAN WOMAN in English 2.95--Just read the fine print--it's in Span, too.) Also 1 of 10 in a series of heritage posters feature PR Women. ask if you can get just that poster.
Rates: 1-9 copies 20%, 10-50 30%, 51-100 40% 30 days net. w/ finance charge for overdue accounts.

El Camino Real-Minorities Materials Distribution Center, Denver Federal Center GSA Building 41, PO box 25436-A Denver Colorado 80225 has a good catalogue w/ 13 titles listed under 'Chicana Women', I can't figure out that they give a discount to bookstores, but the list itself looks good. Write for it. Ask about bookstore discounts.

A 4 page list of Latin American women writers is available from the Clearing house for Women Authors of the Americas PO Box 42007, SF, Ca. 94142. They offer a 15% discount to University bookstores.

Another Resource is INTERRACIAL BOOKS FOR CHILDREN BULLETIN/ Vol 5 Nos. 7&8 Special Issue on Chicano Materials Get the section on children's books for 85¢ or the whole thing for 1.95 from the Council on Interracial Books 1841 Broadway NY NY 10023. Don't know if there's a bulk rate available. Interesting articles on Chicana Feminism. Subscriptions are \$8.00/ yr for 8 issues.

New Bookstores: These are all new to me since the WIP Conf. if you are a publisher or a distributor...add . to your mailing lists!

Womansplace 9 East 5th St., Tempe AZ 85281 (Mail order Cat, too.)
 OPEN BOOK, 1025 2nd Ave, Salt Lake City, Utah 84103
 ALTERNATIVE BOOKSELLERS NORTH ST, Reading PA
 HER SHELF :Wimmin's books and crafts 2 Highland, Highland Park, Mich.
 Old Wives' Tales, 532 Valencia, San Francisco, Calif 94110*

*Opening celebration flier (most likely) enclosed. What to say? Paula and I decided to do it! Got a \$6,000 loan from the local feminist credit union, and are opening Halloween. We are a partnership of two (feels like getting married to me) and expect to expand the # of partners after we get the loan paid down & can afford to support additional women. We are in the Latino(a) section of SF and are hot on the trails of books for Latina women in Eng and Span.... We are going to sell used books, will let you know how it works. Besides hard-core lesbian and feminist books, we'll have the basic poster, t-shirt, -buttons & record type things, as well as a BIG women-only lounge w/ library, bulletin boards and coffee & tea.

BRILLIANT IDEAS

INSPIRED by the songs around the post office in Omaha, Womanbooks is planning a song-sharing night night using selected songbooks as a focal point.

Susan and Lisa (Tower Press) and Karyn (Womanbooks) talked about arranging a 'NY Regional Women in Print Conf' to talk about the experience and share info w/ those women in their area who didn't have the \$ or time to go, or were overlooked. I guess you could get in touch w/ Karyn at WB 201 w. 92nd st NYC 10025 tel 373-4121 if you want to make it a reality.....

Women's bookstores and coffeehouses & producers in the greater gay (I mean bay) area have been getting together for about 4 months, working on ways to do joint ordering to get 40% discounts, talk about shared problems, and share information. We've done our first joint order, and are working out our policies on ticket selling. (Not to have identical ticket policies, but to put the info out in one place to make better connections w/ producers.)

COMING SOON...

Gilda's conf. photos....(Not published here! When we're rich, all, MAYBE...)

a 7 page list of lesbian titles that can be placed in the Les. Section of a bookstore from Lyndall Cowan at the fall Moon

Info re ways we could get cheap health and disability insurance...

Books for young women

Booklist for Native American women (that's next month--send in your titles and ordering info. Also next month...Black Women in Amka.

only-women
Fun!

Celebrate!

only-women
Food!

Come be midwife to our birthing

OLD WIVES' TALES

Women's Visions AND Books

Party!

Party!

HALLOWEEN

Sunday, Oct. 31
noon to 7pm

532 Valencia
between 16th + 17th
San Francisco

Come as yourself!
Come as your favorite
old wife!

Bring Instruments
Make Music!
Make Merry!

Regular Hours:
noon to 7 pm
Tues. thru Sat.



