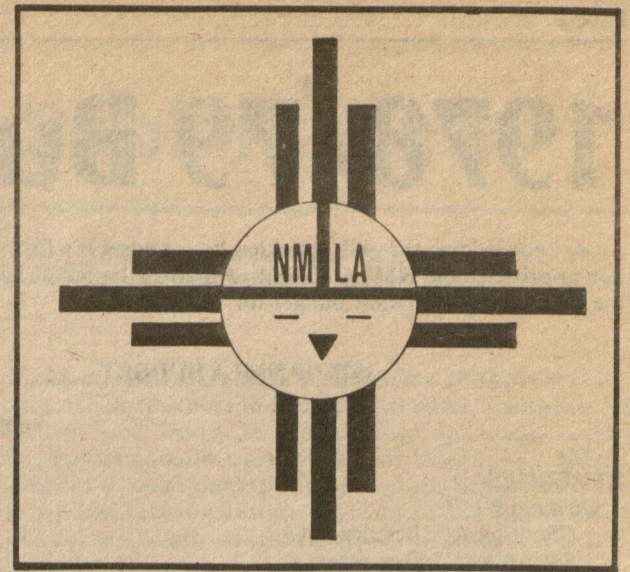


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new mexico library association



Volume 6
Number 3
August, 1978

newsletter



Author Richard Bradford (right) signs a book for UNM Library Dean Paul Vassallo.

Writers' Workshop Brings Authors/Writers Together

About 200 people attended a recent reception for writers participating in the third annual New Mexico Writers Workshop at the University of New Mexico.

The reception, hosted by the Friends of the UNM Libraries, featured New Mexican and Southwestern music. "Books were sold and the writers signed many copies of their books," said George B. Miller Jr., director of UNM library communications.

Among the writers participating in the workshop were:

— Richard Bradford, Santa Fe, author of "Red Sky at Morning" and "So Far From Heaven," and a screenwriter for Universal Pictures.

— Frank Waters, Taos, author of 18 books including "Man Who Killed the Deer," "Masked Gods," "Book of the Hopi" and "Mexico Mystique."

— Tony Hillerman, UNM journalism professor and author of "The Blessing Way," "The Fly on the Wall," "Dancehall of the Dead," and "Listening Woman."

Hillerman is a winner of the Edgar Award for the best mystery novel.

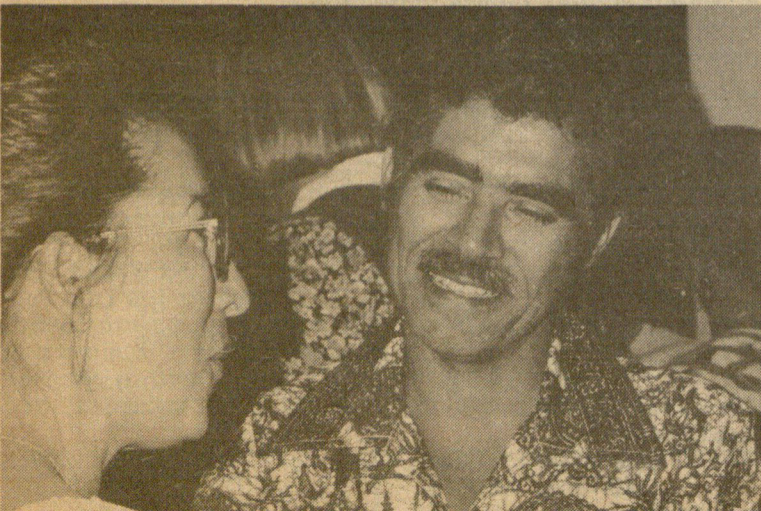
— Dwight Myers, Albuquerque, assistant vice president for Prentice Hall, Inc., and founder and executive director of the New Mexico Book League.

— Rudolfo Anaya, UNM creative writing professor and author of the prize winning novel, "Bless Me Ultima."

— William J. Buchanan, Albuquerque, winner of the Reader's Digest "First Person Award," and contributor to many magazines.

— Robert Creeley, UNM visiting faculty member and author of numerous volumes of poetry and prose.

Also on the instructional staff were novelist Paula Paul; Jose Armas, founder and editor of "Pajarito Publications"; Sheila Tryk, editor of New Mexico Magazine; poet Carolyn Maisel; author Jeanne Bonnette; William Oandasan, editor of "A, a journal of contemporary literature," and Carl Skiff, editor of Empire Magazine.



Rudolfo Anaya and Teresa Marquez discuss the author's books.

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White House Preconference Committee Outlines Activities

The first meeting of the Planning Committee for the New Mexico Conference on Libraries and Information Services (the White House Preconference) was held on July 7, 1978. Twelve committee members, three visitors, and members of the State Library staff and conference contractors were in attendance. Although the guidelines of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Services (NCLIS) do not require that non-librarians be appointed, the Commission (New Mexico) appointed some non-librarians since they feel that all New Mexico citizens have a stake in the library services in New Mexico.

The purpose of the national conference is to develop recommendations for the improvement of the nation's libraries and information centers and their use by the public. Prior to the national conference, each state is to hold a statewide conference. The New Mexico conference is projected to cost \$33,000 of which \$15,000 comes from NCLIS and \$18,000 from the State Library budget. The planning committee discussed several alternative plans for gathering information on the state level, all using a public relations/marketing research firm represented by Owen and Beverly Leach who have contracted to handle the state conference.

Paul Agriesti explained early in the meeting the reasons for this approach.

Numerous vacancies on the State Library staff precluded the State Library's handling of the entire conference. Then, some state laws regarding the spending of funds are at cross-purposes with the intention of the National Commission. Also, he felt that some sort of a marketing research approach should be considered in order to assure that the input of all segments of the state's citizens was obtained.

The public relations/marketing firm will then make all arrangements for the statewide conference to be held in Santa Fe, pay all expenses for the conference, plan the content of the conference program in cooperation with the State Library and the planning committee, and to the extent possible, undertake a marketing research survey to determine people's attitudes towards libraries for use in the conference planning.

The various approaches to the handling/planning of the New

Mexico conference were discussed. They included a telephone survey of librarians, mail questionnaires, meetings with specialized segments of the population, extensive publicity. After much discussion the group decided that the planning committee will work diligently on the delegate selection in order to assure good geographical representation at the statewide conference; and agreed upon Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Roswell and Espanola as sites for one day area meetings to precede the statewide conference which will be held in Santa Fe.

Paul Agriesti explained that Governor Apodaca wishes to participate in the conference and would like the statewide conference to be held before he leaves office in December. After discussing various dates, it was agreed that the best time would be after the elections but before Thanksgiving and suggested the week of November 13. The committee left it to the discretion of the conference coordinator to select the exact days.

Two sample questionnaires were handed out and discussed, one to be used in a telephone survey of the public and one for a mail survey of librarians. A good deal of discussion ensued concerning the questionnaire for the public, and some rewriting is to be done before the committee is asked to give its final approval of it.

Delegate Nominees Needed

Selection of delegates to the statewide conference is to be done by the planning committee but the method of selection has not yet been completely decided. There was a delegate selection subcommittee named which includes Bill Davis of Alamogordo, Sallie Gray and Gary House of Albuquerque, Ruth Wuori of Clovis, and Delores Dietz of Santa Fe as well as Paul Agriesti. Any suggestions of names for consideration as delegates should be made to these committee members as soon as possible as it is necessary to select delegates by August 25 in order to involve them in the regional meetings to be held in September.

Area meetings will be one day in duration and are open to all interested persons. In fact, these meetings, to be held in September, are where much of what is to be discussed at the statewide meeting will be decided so if you want a voice, be

sure to attend. Input from the area meetings will then be used to assure that the program of the Santa Fe conference, which will be 2½ days in length, centers on the interests of the citizens of New Mexico.

The National White House Conference

Individuals will be selected from those attending the Santa Fe conference to attend the national conference in Washington. The planning committee will make these selections. The number of delegates to the national conference from New Mexico is not known at this point — the number will be decided by the National Commission. Expenses of the state delegates to the national conference will be paid for by the National Commission from the White House Conference funds. The written, final report of the New Mexico conference will be forwarded to the National Commission in time for inclusion in the national conference program.

Itinerary and Notes

The basic dates to remember are these:

August 25 — the deadline for submitting names of citizens as suggested delegates to the New Mexico Conference (they may later be selected to go to the national conference). Two-thirds should be non-librarians.

September — More publicity will be out on this soon. This will be the time for the regional one-day meetings where all citizens may have their chance for input to be taken to the statewide meeting in Santa Fe.

November — The week of November 13 has been tentatively selected for the 2½ day statewide conference in Santa Fe. At that conference final decisions as to the important interests of the citizens of New Mexico concerning libraries will be made. These will be written and taken by the delegates selected at this meeting to the national conference in Washington, DC.

September — 1979!! The White House Conference will be held in Washington. It is up to all the librarians of New Mexico to see that the citizenry is informed and that New Mexico sends a knowledgeable group of delegates to this conference.