

EL BUQUI

Newsletter

Vol. 1, no. 2

1979

ASLA ROUNDTABLE ON SERVICES TO THE SPANISH-SPEAKING/ARIZONA CHAPTER OF REFORMA

Un Comentario

This is the second issue of El Buqui and we have already experienced some changes. Our first Chairperson, Luis Herrera, has left us for a new job as Head Librarian of the Ysleta Branch of El Paso Public Library. We wish him well. The new officers are:

Iliana L. Sonntag, Chairperson
Liz Rodriguez-Miller,
Vice-Chairperson
Hilda Soto-Whitney, Secretary
Amanda Castillo, Treasurer
and El Buqui Editor

I am very grateful to have these dedicated and energetic people to work with. We hope El Buqui will grow and have a long and fruitful life. That takes not only the efforts of the Newsletter Committee, but also the contributions of our friends. Please keep them coming.

Iliana L. Sonntag



"Buqui" is the Yaqui/Mexican word for child.



Otro Comentario

To introduce the newly formed roundtable on Services to the Spanish Speaking, the first issue of El Buqui was mailed to ASLA roundtable and division officers. This issue and subsequent issues will be mailed only to SSS roundtable/Arizona Chapter of Reforma members and other interested persons. If you wish to receive El Buqui, please see the information on the back of this issue. We welcome and encourage comments, letters to the editor or any other contributions from librarians and community members alike.

Amanda Castillo



año internacional del niño

MUSIC, FILM Y TEATRO

La gente de Tucson has been given the opportunity this spring of seeing two very fine productions about Chicanos, one a film titled Boulevard Nights and the other a performance by Teatro Esperanza of Santa Barbara, California.

Boulevard Nights, produced by Franco Zefferelli, is a slick effort to capture a mass audience by capitalizing on the current interest in gangs and in low riders. The film is a very interesting piece of sociology and the acting is quite good. It depicts two young Chicano brothers, one a teenage gang member and the other a young adult who has broken away from the gang and has become an active low rider. The conflicts of the two brothers are convincing and the attention to detail by the film makers is admirable. The gestures of the vatos, their music, their clothing, their cars, the furnishings of their homes all ring true. The film portrays honestly and sensitively an aspect of Chicano life that has great importance in the development of the folklore for the next generation. True, it is not all encompassing of the Chicano experience but within the limits it has defined for itself, it works quite well.

Teatro Esperanza's production of "Hijos", in contrast to the film, is not marketed for a mass audience although it is equally enjoyable and it provides the element of family that the film neglects. The teatro stages their play with a minimum of props and with only six actors who perform as many as three or four roles each. Their timing and acting is excellent, and it enables them to pull it off very successfully. The story is about the disintegration of a Chicano family and the death of the mother. The question posed for the audience is, who is responsible for the death of the mother: the children, the alcoholic husband or society? Although the question is never satisfactorily resolved, it is nevertheless a fine production.

Antonio Gomez

MUSIC

A Latin-Black fusion in music has produced a new sound-SALSA. Here are some titles for your SALSA collection:

Celia Cruz-Johnny Pacheco	Eternos	(Vaya)
Eddie Palmieri	Lucumi Macumba Voodoo	(Epic)
Tipica Ideal	Fuera del Mundo/Out of This World	(Coco)
Irakere	Irakere	(Columb)

* * BOOK REVIEWS * *

Cotera, Martha. *PROFILE ON THE MEXICAN AMERICAN WOMAN*. Austin, Texas: National Educational Laboratory Publishers, 813 Airport Blvd.; Austin, Texas 78702, 1976. \$8.00.

This is not only a profile of Chicanas in contemporary U.S. society but also a historical account. Includes foot notes and bibliography. Soft cover 8½ x 11 267 pages. A.G.

Davies, Nigel. *THE TOLTECS: UNTIL THE FALL OF TULA*. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977. \$14.95.

A comprehensive history written more for the advanced history buff or scholar than for the mildly interested or the student doing a paper for a high school class. Includes photos, maps, index. A second volume is planned covering the period from the fall of Tula to the rise of Tenochtitlan. 533 pages. A. G.

Duran, Livie Isauro and H. Russell Bernard. *INTRODUCTION TO CHICANO STUDIES: A READER*. New York: Macmillan, 1973. \$7.95 paperback.

This work is currently being used in chicano studies classes. It contains selections from many well-known authors, mostly from the field of history, but the book does include other aspects of chicano life, i.e. folk medicine, the family, bilingualism etc. 585 pages. Binding is weak. A. G.

Gábaro, Griselda. *GANARSE LA MUERTE*. Buenos Aires: Edición De la Flor, 1976.

The Argentine Griselda Gábaro has won acclaim as a writer of theater of the absurd. In this novel, again, the absurd, black humor set the tone. An array of grotesque characters perform acts of cruelty and abuse on the innocent protagonist who maintains her passive unhappiness to the end. Everything of moral value is distorted and mocked. The reader has two alternatives. One is to study the genre and try to make sense out of it, and the other, is to put the book down. It is not pleasurable reading. In Spanish. I. S.

Hernandez, Guillermo. *CANCIONES DE LA RAZA/SONGS OF THE CHICANO EXPERIENCE*. Berkley, California: El Fuego de Atzlan, University of California, Chicano Studies Program. 3408 Dwinelle Hall, Berkley, California 94720. \$4.95

A selected collection of songs popular in the barrio during the period 1928-1965. Although the collection is small (12 songs), the commentaries, photos, drawings, and newspaper clippings make this a fine addition to a chicano collection. Some of the songs would be difficult to find elsewhere and they are here translated for the non-Spanish reader. Includes a glossary and a selected bibliography. Soft cover 8½ x 11 80 pages. A. G.

Ibarguengoitia, Jorge. *ESTAS RUINAS QUE VES*. Mexico: Organización Editorial Novaro, 1975.

Humorous account of a fictional village in Mexico. Its eccentric inhabitants are described by the protagonist who has returned to his birthplace after several years absence. In Spanish.

Johnson, William Weber. *CORTES*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1976.

The always fascinating account of the discovery and conquest of Mexico by Cortes is meant this time for those who have not read extensively about it. It is in plain English, without footnotes, but is nevertheless factual. In spite of Cortés' deceits and cruelty he emerges as a gallant figure. Suggestions for further reading and index are included. I. S.

Lipton, Gladys and Munoz, Olivia. *SPANISH BILINGUAL DICTIONARY: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE IN WORDS AND PICTURES*. Woodbury, New York: Barron's Educational Series, Inc. 1975. \$3.95.

An excellent tool for new learners of both English and Spanish. Contains 2,600 entries which include definition, phonetic transcription, use of word in a sentence, translation, and illustrations for some entries. Includes special sections on personal names, classroom expressions, parts of speech, numbers (1-100), days of the week, months of the year, and a map of principal areas where Spanish is spoken. All of these are in both English and Spanish. Very good for all ages. L. M.

JUVENILE BOOKS

Canepari, Nelly. *Mochito: THE STORY OF AN ORDINARY DOG/MOCHITO: HISTORIA DE UN PERRITO ORDINARIO*. Photography by Jorge Schneider. Detroit: Blaine-Ethridge, 1975. Gr. K-3. \$4.95.

Black and white photographs illustrate the story of Mochito, a puppy who is so ordinary nobody picks him for a pet. Everything is ordinary here--a dull story illustrated by amateur photography that is unimaginative. The bilingual text is separated at times by 1" of space, sometimes 2". Sometimes there is no separation between the English and Spanish text. It is difficult to see this book as anything but a publisher's quick gimmick to market a bilingual book. Blaine-Ethridge has more of the same, each one uglier than the first, like wicked step sisters. E. N.

Cervantes, Esther de Michael. *SENORA PEPINO AND HER BAD LUCK CATS/ SENORA PEPINO Y SUS GATOS DE MALA SUERTE*. Illustrated and translated by Alex Cervantes. Detroit, Michigan: Blaine-Ethridge, 1976. Gr. 1-3 \$4.95.

Senora Pepino's two Siamese cats become very jealous when a calico kitten comes into their house. The two cats cause all kinds of mischief and the kitten gets blamed. This is a good story marred by ugly, distracting illustrations. The format is somewhat better here than in *Mochito*. The bilingual text is separated by several inches of space. The print is small, but it is more pleasing than the typewritten text of *Mochito*. E. N.

Ganz, Barbara. *ALBERTO AND HIS MISSING SOCK/ALBERTO Y EL CALCETIN PERDIDO*. Detroit: Blaine-Ethridge, 1975. Gr. K-3 \$4.95.

Alberto misplaces his shoes, then his socks while he struggles to get ready for school. Alberto's mother nags him throughout this book to "Hurry up!" The story is boring and aggravating. Some of the black and white illustrations were appealing, but they were uneven in quality and monotonous. The format again is an unattractive typewritten text with little separation between the English and Spanish text. E. N.

Gunning, Monica. *THE TWO GEORGES/LOS DOS JORGES*. Illustrations by Sister Veronica Mary Miracle C. S. J. Detroit: Blaine-Ethridge, 1976. Gr. K-3 \$4.95.

An English-Spanish alphabet book featuring similar words common to both languages. A is for airplanes and aeroplanes. B is for bicycle and bicicleta. The black and white pen illustrations are stiff, amateurish, and repetitive featuring Jorge and George with the same smile in page after page. The text is uninteresting and flat. E. N.

Smith, Garry and Vesta. *POCO/POCO*. Drawings by Fred Crump, Jr. Detroit: Blaine-Ethridge, 1975. Gr. K-3 \$4.95.

Poco, a little bird, goes to the city to find his uncle who has never returned from a visit there. He finds his uncle at the marketplace amid rows and rows of cages filled with birds waiting to be sold. The story and illustrations are entertaining and whimsical but the format is so bad that it overwhelms a potentially good book. The text is bilingual but the Spanish and English text are not separated by format or space. The print is simply type-written. The Spanish and English text changes abruptly with no change of print or signal of change. At times the two languages are separated by pages but the result is still the same; it is confusing to the reader of English and Spanish. E. N.

C O N T R I B U T O R S

Amanda Castillo, Head of Reference, Mission Branch, Tucson Public Library
Antonio Gomez, Head of Reference, Valencia Branch, Tucson Public Library
Elena Navarrette, Children's Librarian, Valencia Branch, Tucson Public Library
Elizabeth Rodriguez-Miller, Librarian, South Tucson Branch, Tucson Public Library
Iliana Sonntag, Reference Librarian, Spanish American Specialist, University of
Arizona Library
Hilda Soto-Whitney, Young Adult-Adult Librarian, Woods Branch, Tucson Public
Library

Mujica Láinez, Manuel. SERGIO. Buenos Aires: Sudamericana, 1976.

In this novel, a young man's beauty moves everyone he comes in contact with for good and evil. The author approaches the subject of homosexuality, even hints at incest. Yet, it is done delicately, sensitively, and objectively. A story of love and fate. In Spanish. I. S.

Pacheco, Jose Emilio. DON'T ASK ME HOW THE TIME GOES BY. New York: Columbia University Press, 1978.

An English-Spanish collection of poetry by a Mexican poet. Translated by Alastair Reid. A good addition if contemporary poetry in a bilingual format is wanted.

Wood, Richard and Grace Alvarez-Altman. SPANISH SURNAMES IN THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES: A DICTIONARY. Boston: G.K. Hall & Co., 1978. \$18.00.

This book, compiled from listings in recent phone directories for San Antonio, Albuquerque, Tucson, Los Angeles, and Denver, contains entries for approximately 1000 Spanish surnames. Each entry includes the meaning of the name, the etymology, and the geographic location in Spain where the name is most found. Written in English, the book will be appreciated by those who have unsuccessfully searched for their surnames in other Spanish or Anglo surname reference sources. Recommended for public and academic libraries.

Stagg, Albert. THE ALMADAS AND ALAMOS 1783-1867 Tucson, Arizona: University of Arizona Press, 1978. \$11.50.

A history of the prominent Sonoran Almada family and of the Sonoran town of Alamos. The author also recounts the history of the State of Sonora which is a topic of great interest to the Spanish speaking in Arizona. Includes maps and photos and an index. 173 pages. A. G.

32 IDEAS TO REACH YOUR SPANISH-SPEAKING PATRONS is a pamphlet published by Santillana. Written by Ernesto Mayans, this publication provides ideas plus objectives, preparation, materials, sources and cost per program, if any. Ideas range from featuring a Spanish Book of the Month to displaying local art exhibits. This pamphlet is distributed by Quality Books, Inc. 400 Anthony Trail; Northbrook, Illinois 60062. \$2.00.

Trejo, Arnulfo D., ed. *THE CHICANOS AS WE SEE OURSELVES*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1979. 221 pages. Bibliographic Index.

A collection of twelve essays on Chicanos written by experts in the various field. The authors, Chicanos themselves, have been well chosen. The essays are uniformly well written and informative. Most of them give an historical perspective and a state of the art appraisal of their subject; Indian heritage, the status of the Chicana, bilingualism, politics, and identity are examined from the Chicano point of view. The two last essays are written by the editor, Arnulfo Tejo. His chapter on Chicano literature is a well developed survey in which he emphasizes the concern of Chicano writers with their heritage and socio-economic condition as aliens in their own land. Unfortunately, Trejo does not mention any of the literary critics who concern themselves with the analysis of Chicano literature, such as Tatum, Lomeli, Urioste, Bruce-Novoa, and Woods. In his essay on Books and Libraries, Trejo speaks with authority and reveals his devotion of many years to the improvement of library services to the Spanish-speaking people. The book sets out to provide "an inside view" of Chicanos and it does that well. Recommended for all libraries. I. S.

Verbitsky, Bernardo. *HERMANA Y SOMBRA*. Buenos Aires: Planeta, 1977. 249 pages.

Verbitsky is one of the most distinguished of the Jewish Argentine writers. This is a story of an immigrant family from Russia, with education and good taste who learn to live from one meal to the next. They suffer the disdain of their more affluent relatives and struggle to maintain their values and traditions. It is also a story of a sensitive boy growing up; he develops guilt and feelings of inadequacy and cannot express his love and respect for his family. Written in Spanish. Recommended not only as a good novel but also as an introduction to the lives of European immigrants in Latin America. I. S.

52 PERCENT NON-USERS

SURVEY OF SPANISH SPEAKING USERS AND NON-USERS

by Laura A. Bareno

San Diego County Library surveyed Spanish-speaking library users to determine the perception of the present level of library services, the potential to take advantage of library services, reading interests, and priorities of informational needs. Chicanos and other Latinos comprised 95 percent of the people surveyed; five percent were Filipino and Native American.

The findings indicated 31 percent did not know where the library was located, 68 percent did know; 34 percent did not know that library services were free, 66 percent did know; 52 percent had never used the library, 30 percent occasionally, 17 percent frequently. Magazines were preferred (49 percent), romance, mystery and adventure stories (34 percent), and homemaking (31 percent). Least cited were translations of United States bestsellers (6 percent) and Latin American authors (11 percent). English was the preferred language to read (55 percent), with Spanish language preference at 44 percent. The greatest perceived informational needs were for job openings and legal aid.

There was very little difference between the English and Spanish language readers as to their knowledge of the library, whether they had a library card, or how often they used the library. The English language group preferred newspapers, craft books, biographies and Chicano books, and was more likely to perceive information needs for drug/alcohol abuse, counseling, legal aid, recreational programs and consumer concerns. The Spanish language group felt more need for immigration information, translations and transportation.

It was found that the preference for reading magazines cut across all categories. Generally, the preference for reading material in Spanish increased as the age categories increased.

A copy of the survey report may be obtained by writing to Laura Bareno, Outreach Coordinator, San Diego County Library, 5555 Overland Avenue, San Diego, California 92123.

*from California Ethnic Services Task
Force Newsletter, February 1979.*

1979 ASLA CONFERENCE . . .

The dates for this year's ASLA Conference are September 20th through 22nd. The Conference will be held in Phoenix. The SSS Roundtable/Arizona Chapter of REFORMA will once again be having a special program focusing on improved library service for the Spanish-speaking. More specific details on our program will appear in the next issue of EL BUQUI. We urge all of you to make plans to attend this conference and the SSS/REFORMA program.

PERSONAS

Jose Aponte, librarian at the El Pueblo Branch of the Tucson Public Library, is currently co-director with Arnold Palacios of El Teatro del Pueblo. The Teatro has been in existence since early December 1978. Two plays have been presented since the Teatro was formed: "Las Dos Caras de los Patroncitos", a readaptation of a Teatro Campesino play and "las Fronteras y el Tio Samuel", written by Jose Aponte and currently being performed. The play is based on the Hannigan case and "the double system of justice". The Teatro's next play will deal with the dropout or "push out" problem in the schools. A native New Yorker, Jose came to Tucson as a participant in the first GLISSA program at the University of Arizona.

EL BUQUI Editor, Amanda Castillo has been named Head of Reference at the Mission Branch of the Tucson Public Library.

Pima County Jail librarian Pat Moreno, a member of our organization, will be attending the annual ALA Conference to be held this year in Dallas, Texas.

Special thanks to Lillian Nunez, Library Technical Assistant at the South Tucson Branch library, for her help in getting out the first issue of this newsletter. We urge more clerical and technical library staff members working with the Spanish-speaking to get involved.

GLISSA IV

The graduate Library Institute for Spanish-speaking Americans (GLISSA) has been funded for 1979-80. Anyone interested in more information should contact Dr. Arnulfo Trejo at the U of A Graduate Library School.

DO YOU HAVE ANY BOOKS ON LOW RIDERS?

No books yet but several magazines are now available. The following titles all feature a variety of information on everything the low rider needs for cruising. Included are color photographs of low rider cars, car customizing, fashion, entertainment, barrios and happenings.

LOW RIDER MAGAZINE. Published monthly by ATM Communications. Subscription price is \$15 for 12 issues. Single issue price is \$1.50. Subscription Department: P. O. Box 28365; San Jose, California 95159.

Q-VO MAGAZINE: EL MAGAZINE DE LA GENTE. Published monthly by Q-VO MAGAZINE, P. O. Box 20345; Los Angeles, California 90006. Single issue price: \$1.50.

NUESTRA VIDA. To be published monthly in Tucson, Arizona. Subscription price: \$12 for 12 issues. Send subscription requests to NUESTRA VIDA 601 South 5th Avenue; Tucson, Arizona 85701.

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