


Dear Laren,

Thank you for being a member of ALA's Intellectual Freedom Round Table. We hope that IFRT is a space to explore and support intellectual freedom issues in libraries, whether that's through this newsletter, our ALA Connect space, programs, or our social media pages. IFRT wouldn't be what it is without the contributions of our members, so thank you for reading, following, and contributing!

Amanda Vazquez, chair of IFRT's Publications and Communications Committee.

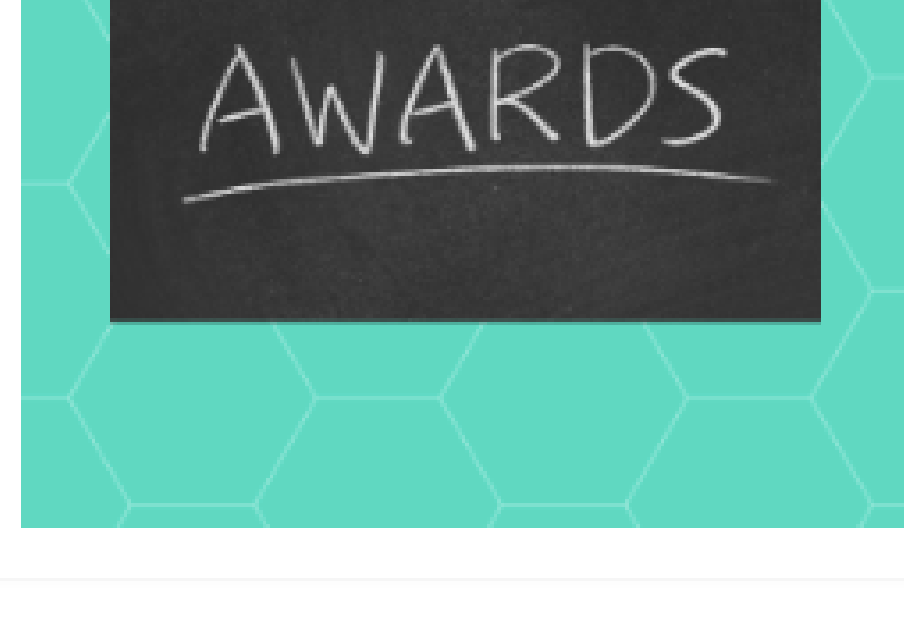
New Edition of *Intellectual Freedom Manual* from ALA OIF



The tenth edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*, from the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and edited by Martin Garmar and Trina Magi, is available for [preorder in the ALA Store](#). The *Intellectual Freedom Manual* includes updated summaries of key intellectual freedom issues, new interpretations of the *Library Bill of Rights*, policy statements and documents from ALA, and explanations of legal issues in the intellectual freedom sphere. Other practical information is included for those wishing to assess their workplace in light of intellectual freedom, as well as those facing a challenging situation. Whether you are in need of a refresh on current intellectual freedom issues or dealing with a challenge to a material, display, or policy, the new edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual* is an excellent reference text for those seeking to support library users and their rights.

[Preorder the 10th Edition of the Intellectual Freedom Manual](#)

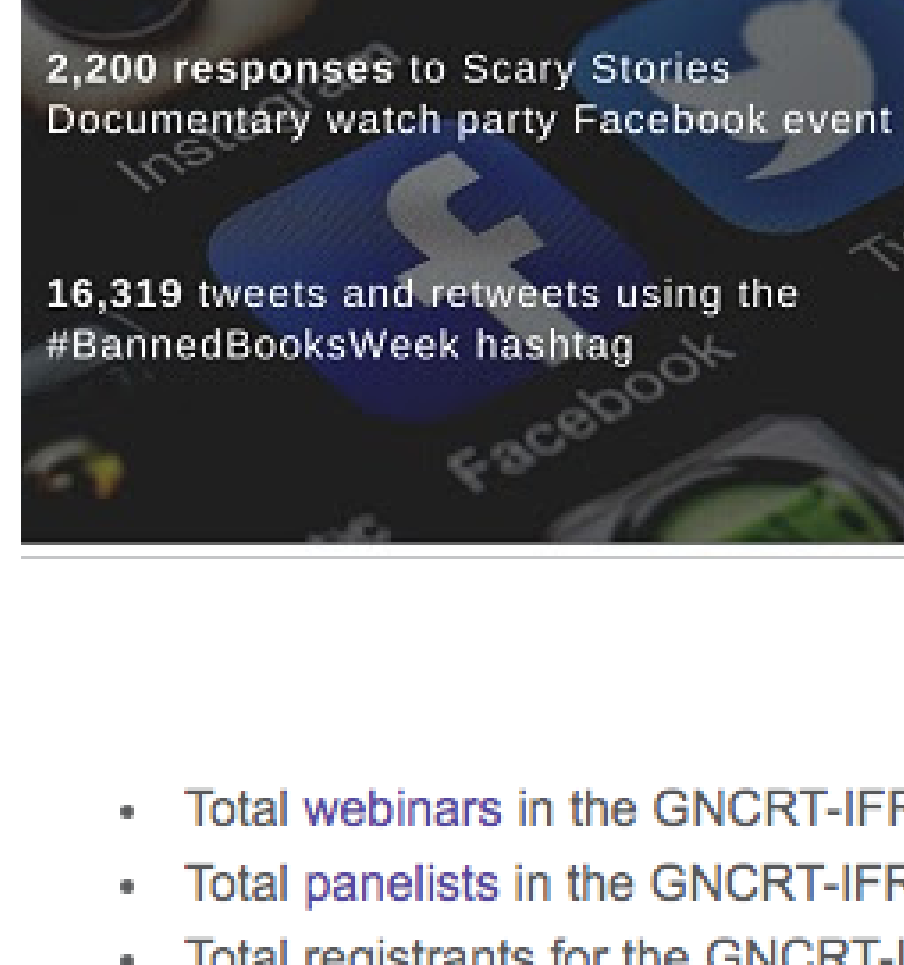
Call for Intellectual Freedom Award Nominations!



Do you know a great candidate or organization that has championed intellectual freedom causes in our profession and/or communities? Recognize their contributions by nominating them for Intellectual Freedom Round Table's prestigious awards: the Gerald Hodges Intellectual Freedom Chapter Relations Award and the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award.

[Learn more](#)

#BannedBooksWeek 2020 By the Numbers



- 535% increase in Twitter impressions
- 2,200 responses to Scary Stories Documentary watch party Facebook event
- 16,319 tweets and retweets using the #BannedBooksWeek hashtag

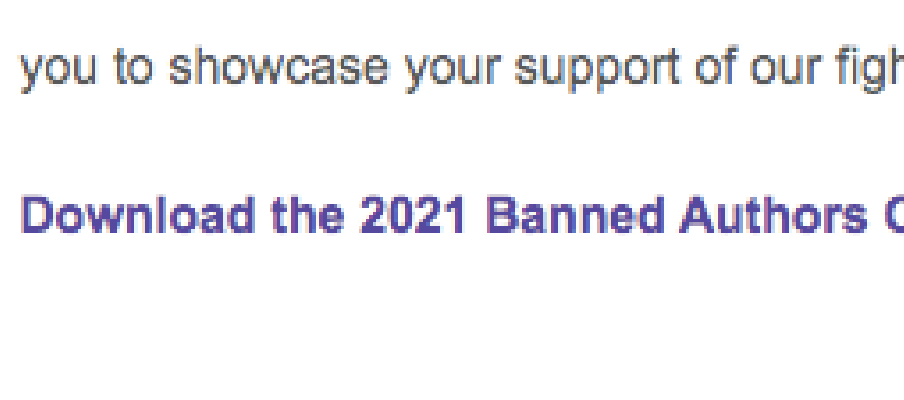
Among the many challenges of 2020, there is another challenge we've faced in the past and will continue to face in the future: book challenges. Censorship doesn't take a sick day — and book ban and challenge statistics reported by OIF prove it.

For the first time, our annual commemoration of the fight against book censorship and other content challenges went virtual. Here are a few statistics from IFRT about **Banned Books Week**.

- Total [webinars](#) in the GNCRT-IFRT Banned Books Week webinar series: 5
- Total [panelists](#) in the GNCRT-IFRT Banned Books Week webinar series: 17
- Total registrants for the GNCRT-IFRT Banned Books Week webinar series (reported by GNCRT): 399
- Total intellectual freedom heroes who [Escape\[d\] the Dead End of Censorship!](#): 47
- Percentage increase in IFRTALA Facebook impressions during Banned Books Week: 8%
- Percentage increase in IFRTALA Facebook engagements during Banned Books Week: 12%
- Percentage increase in @IFRT_ALA Twitter engagements during Banned Books Week: 267%
- Percentage increase in @IFRT_ALA Twitter impressions during Banned Books Week: 535%
- Total IFRT members and guests who gathered for the [Scary Stories Documentary watch party](#): 9
- Total tweets and retweets using the [#CensorshipsScary](#) hashtag for the Scary Stories Documentary watch party: 239

[View the full infographic](#)

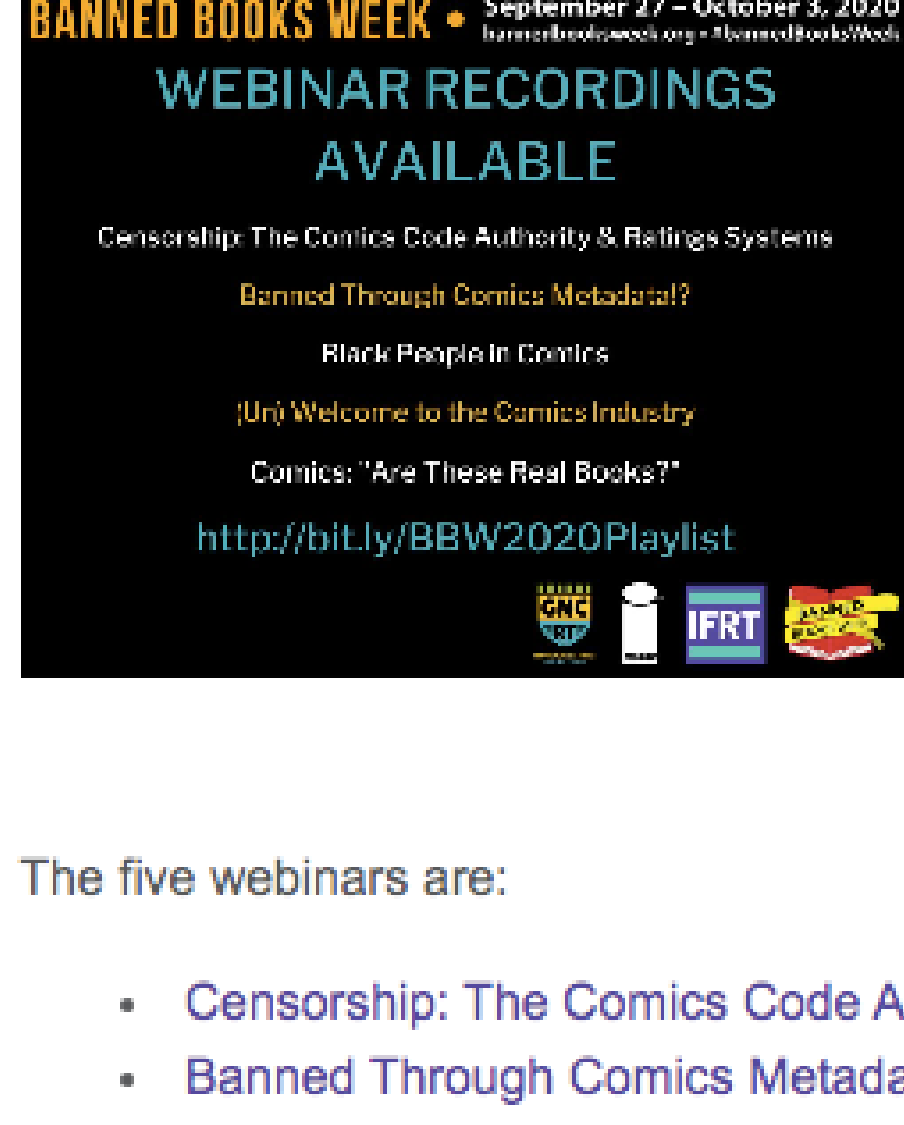
Banned Authors Calendar and Virtual Backgrounds



The 2021 IFRT Banned Authors Calendar and Virtual Backgrounds are available for ALA members or anyone who is passionate about issues of censorship and intellectual freedom. Designed by IFRT committee member Laren Anderson, IFRT's 2021 Banned Author Calendar includes a list of banned author birthdays and important ALA IFRT dates. Perfect for your desk or virtual meetings, these resources can help you keep track of your busy schedule in the new year and allow you to showcase your support of our fight to preserve intellectual freedom.

[Download the 2021 Banned Authors Calendar and/or Virtual Backgrounds](#)

Did You Miss It? Banned Books Week Webinars



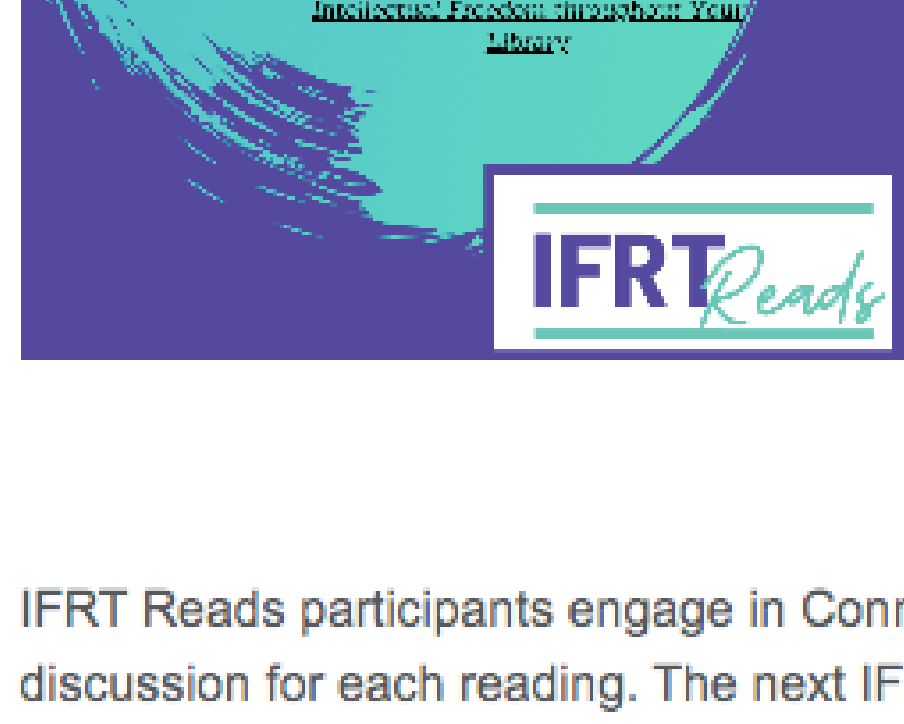
During #BannedBooksWeek 2020, IFRT and Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table (GNCRT) teamed up to create a webinar series featuring authors, illustrators, creators, and librarians. Five webinars discussing censorship and intellectual freedom issues were hosted during Banned Books Week, September 27 – October 3. The recordings of those webinars are archived and available for viewing in a [YouTube playlist: GNCRT/IFRT Banned Books Week 2020](#). Watch one or all of these webinars to learn more about comics, the comics industry, and how they relate to a variety of intellectual freedom issues.

The five webinars are:

- [Censorship: The Comics Code Authority & Rating Systems](#)
- [Banned Through Comics Metadata?](#)
- [Black People in Comics](#)
- [\(Un\)Welcome to the Comics Industry](#)
- [Comics: "Are These Real Books?"](#)

[View the Playlist](#)

IFRT Reads: *Beyond Banned Books*

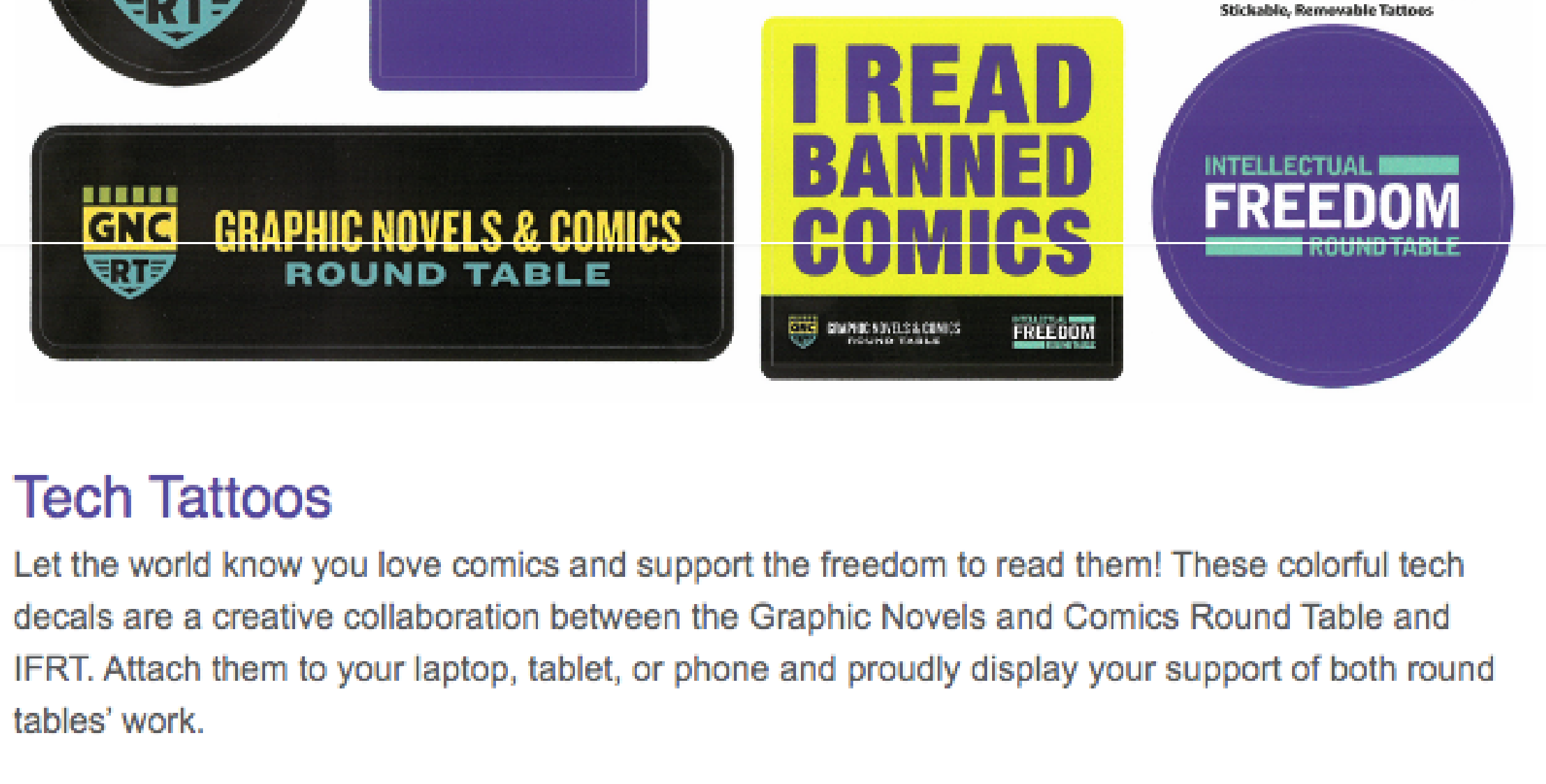


Are you committed to intellectual freedom but also that there's a whole lot of intellectual freedom issues that you'd like to know more about? Do you love discussing things you've read with others? Have you been looking for professional development opportunities related to intellectual freedom? Are you an IFRT member?

If the answer to the questions above are yes, **IFRT Reads** might be just the group you've been looking for! Facilitated by IFRT member Stephanie Barnaby, IFRT Reads is a virtual discussion group where IFRT members have opportunities to expand their knowledge and current awareness of intellectual freedom topics by discussing a shared reading venture.

IFRT Reads participants engage in Connect discussion (asynchronous) and a live group discussion for each reading. The next IFRT Reads feature work is [Beyond Banned Books: Defending Intellectual Freedom In Your Library](#), by OIF's own Kristin Pekoll. *Beyond Banned Books* "uses specific case studies to offer practical guidance on safeguarding intellectual freedom related to library displays, programming, and other librarian-created content."

[Join the IFRT Reads Community for more information about IFRT Reads and Beyond Banned Books!](#)



[Order them online. Only \\$6!](#)

The IFRT Newsletter is compiled by the Publications and Communications Committee.