The All Music Guide to Jazz, edited by Ron Wynn (751 pages, August 1994), profiles 1,150 jazz musicians and their recordings. A spin-off of Michael Erlewine's All Music Guide (see C&RL News, April 1993), this volume also packs an abundance of information on every page. Selected CDs and albums are reviewed briefly by jazz critics and music journalists. Other excellent features include definitions of jazz genres, "music maps" that chart the chronological development and use of specific instruments, mini-histories of important jazz record companies, and short descriptions of famous clubs and performance halls. This is an addictively browsable book. $22.95. Miller Freeman Books, 6000 Silacci Way, Gilroy, CA 95020. ISBN 0-87930-308-5.

The Book of Food, by Frances Bissell (275 pages, July 1994), is a colorfully visual encyclopedia of more than 1,000 food ingredients written by the cookery columnist for the London Times. If your corner grocery store doesn't carry Chinese kale, wakame, Northern sea robin, kidzu starch, or zungenwurst, this book will show you pictures, tell you how they taste, and explain how they are prepared. One photo alone displays 66 different pastas; another shows the cross-sections of 23 tropical fruits (see next page). $40.00. Henry Holt and Co., 115 W. 118th St., New York, NY 10011. ISBN 0-8050-3006-9.

Chronology of Women's History, by Kirsten Olsen (506 pages, June 1994), records the triumphs, obstacles, and conditions of women's lives from prehistory to the present. Each year's events are subdivided into the categories of daily life, government and the military, literature, entertainment, athletics and exploration, activism, business and industry, science and medicine, education and scholarship, and religion. A 109-page index enhances access to this excellent supplement to other timetables and chronologies. $39.95. Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06881-5007. ISBN 0-313-28803-8.

Another recently published reference book on women is also an excellent purchase. Great Women Writers, edited by Frank N. Magill (611 pages, June 1994), examines the life and works of 135 of the world's most important women writers from Sappho and Christine de Pisan to Anne Tyler and Sandra Cisneros. Each article includes a list of works, a biographical sketch, a critical analysis of the author's work, and a bibliography. One only wishes more authors had been included, but this might have shortened the insightful critical essays. $40.00. Henry Holt Reference Books, 115 W. 118th St., New York, NY 10011. ISBN 0-8050-2932-X.

Cycles in Humans and Nature: An Annotated Bibliography, by John T. Burns (288 pages, August 1994), covers books and articles that examine periodicities in such diverse phenomena as lynx abundance in Canada, cotton acreage, industrial stock prices, Presbyterian church membership, post office revenue, sunspots, and volcanic eruptions. Interdisciplinary topics such as cycle research are often overlooked in more specialized works, so it is fortunate that this bibliography is available. $37.50. Scarecrow Press, Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840. ISBN 0-8108-2831-6.


Guide to Selecting and Acquiring CD-ROMs, Software, and Other Electronic Publications, by Stephen Bosch, Patricia Promis, and Chris Sugnet (48 pages, February 1994), outlines the steps and knowledge needed to
choose and purchase materials in electronic format. Much common-sense advice here, especially of value to those new to the media. Sponsored by the Publications Committee of the ALA Association for Library Collections and Technical Services’ Acquisition of Library Materials Section. $10.00 (ALA members $9.00). ALA Publishing Order Dept., 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. ISBN 0-8389-0629-X.


The International Directory of Indonesians, edited by Rita Smith Kipp (249 pages, 2d ed., May 1994), lists nearly 900 scholars, business people, graduate students, and other professionals interested in Indonesian studies. Many entries include residential and business telephones and addresses, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. The directory is a project of the Indonesian Studies Committee of the Association for Asian Studies. It is also available as an electronic document that can be used by your word processing software. $20, book version ($12 diskette format only, $25 for both). Rita Smith Kipp, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH 43022.

The Internet Troubleshooter: Help for the Logged-on and Lost, by Nancy R. John and Edward J. Valauskas (145 pages, August 1994), offers cyberspace solace in a question-and-answer format for anyone confronted with telnet troubles and e-mail emergencies. Have you ever asked: “Can I shut off my LISTSERV subscription while I’m on vacation? Can I post binary files to newsgroups? Can I ftp with WWW?” Or have you been in one of these situations: “I got connected and now I can’t get out. My replies keep bouncing back to me. Something is not right with a text file I just downloaded.” Well-illustrated with VM/CMS and Mac screen examples, this book is the place to find solutions. $20.00 (ALA members, $18.00). ALA Editions, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. ISBN 0-8389-0633-8.

If your Internet skills have elevated you to the role of staff trainer, you might want to consider getting Crossing the Internet Threshold: An Instructional Handbook, by Roy Tennant, John Ober, and Anne G. Lipow (134 pages, April 1994). Designed as a training tool, it can also be used as a beginner’s introduction to the Net. $45.00. Library Solutions Press, 1100 Industrial Road, Suite 9, San Carlos, CA 94070. ISBN 1-882208-01-3. The same publisher offers a series of workshop manuals for $45.00 each, accompanied by PC and Mac diskettes containing ready-made slide and viewer files.