

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS *Newsletter*

Vol VII, no. 2

December, 1976

We're sorry that the Newsletter was not finished last month, but we hope that its present contents will help to compensate for its tardiness. We encourage you to read these pages carefully, for they contain many interesting and challenging materials. With the increasing recognition that the WCAWH is receiving, Rosemary, Penny, and I are the recipients of an ever-growing flood of mail much of which announces new projects and opportunities of interest to women historians and historians of women.

The WCAWH is also undergoing some changes. Last summer Penny Kanner brought the mailing list up-to-date with a call for renewals (and address changes) from those members who had not yet renewed for 1976. Many of you who had not attended the 1975 conference were not yet aware that our fiscal year was changed at that meeting to correspond with the calendar year. At the end of this Newsletter you will find a renewal form for 1977, and we urge all of you to fill it out and send it in while you think of it, in order to avoid being taken off the mailing list. We have had to cut down the mailing list drastically, primarily because of the tremendous increase in postal rates, and we can no longer continue to carry delinquent members.

However, our membership has grown continually, as women in the historical profession learn more about our programs. We anticipate the largest turn-out yet for our 1977 conference in April at the Villa Maria del Mar in Santa Cruz, and our Newsletter now reaches well over 600 women in the western states, despite the cutbacks in the mailing list.

In the following pages you will find announcements of new women's history groups, new journals and projects, employment and fellowship opportunities, graduate student activities, local chapters, and finally a Newsletter Inneration--a personal news column.

I wish you all good reading, a happy holiday season (for these I won't see in green at the AEA convention), and a busy and happy 1977.

Pat Fouquet
Patricia Reet Fouquet

P.S. Please note that I am no longer at California State University, Long Beach. My new address is 2222 Carmel Valley Rd., #6, Del Mar, CA 92014.

- 2 A memo from Mary Maples Dunn and Hilda Smith brings the WCAWH up to date on the CCWHP and its efforts to reorganize women's groups in the historical profession:

" At the Berkshire Conference meeting at Pryn Mawr in June CCWHP officers and regional heads discussed the possibilities of creating a greater alliance between the local and national organizations. It was suggested that regional officers encourage their members to hold joint membership in the local and national organization (ed. note: in the last Newsletter the president's message suggested just such membership) and eventually work towards having a mandatory requirement for national membership for those belonging to local groups. The regional officers felt that such a major decision had to be debated in their local business meetings so that any final decision on a joint dues structure will have to wait until the CCWHP business meeting in Washington at the AHA meetings this December, or perhaps even later depending upon the next scheduled business meetings of the individual groups.

"Enclosed you will find a description of CCWHP which Karen Offen has used for prospective members. ... Although the efforts of your regional organization may seem more relevant to the needs of your constituency, without the lobbying efforts of the national group it will be difficult to keep pressure on both the AHA and OAH to give sufficient attention to questions of women's status and women's history. The activities on the national and local levels should be very much a mutually-supportive effort with the resolutions of the national organization gaining strength from the activities of local groups and the regional organizations relying on the clout of the national organization to support them in their independent endeavors."

For those of you who have not yet joined the CCWHP, here is an abstract of Karen Offen's description:

The Coordinating Committee on Women in the Historical Profession, or CCWHP for short, was organized in December 1969, during the annual convention of the American Historical Association in Washington, D.C., with the following purposes:

1. to encourage the recruitment of women into the historical profession and to advance the status of women at all levels within that profession.
2. to oppose discrimination against women in the profession.
3. to encourage and help develop research and instruction in the field of women's history.

Membership is open to all persons interested in these objectives. A graduated membership subscription fee has been set for the calendar year at \$3 for graduate students and the unemployed; \$7 for untenured faculty and staff, \$10 for tenured faculty and senior staff. These fees are subject to change in future years, by decision of the membership at the annual business meeting held during the AHA. Members will receive periodic mailings, including the CCWHP Newsletter, the newsletter of the Conference Group in Women's History, and other publications concerning current research and courses in the history of women.

In addition to issuing the publications mentioned above, CCWHP encourages sessions on the status of women and on women's history at professional meetings of historians; introduces pertinent resolutions or other proposals for action by the professional organizations; encourages the formation of regional groups of women historians; and assists in communication and coordination between existing groups, and between them and other professional women's organizations, and engages in other activities as determined by the membership. CCWHP is affiliated with the American Historical Association, but operates as a separate organization, with its own membership structure and mailing list.

The Steering Committee of the CCWHP is composed of the acting officers and representatives of the regional associations of women historians and groups concerned with the history of women.

Officers of the CCWHP for 1976-77, are:

- Co-president for professional affairs: Mary Maples Dunn
Bryn Mawr College.
- Co-president for the Conference Group in Women's History:
Hilda Smith, University of Maryland, College Park
- Newsletter editors for CCWHP: Jordy Bell and Joanna Zangrando
- Conference Group newsletter editors: Marlene Stein Wortman and Peter Tyor, Illinois Institute of Technology, Nupur Chaudhuri, Manhattan, Kansas
- Membership secretary and treasurer: Karen Offen, 450 Raymundo Drive, Woodside, CA 94062
- Sessions Coordinator: Wnda McKee Maloney, University of South Carolina
- Graduate Student Coordinator: Noralee Frankel, George Washington University

As many of you are aware, the CCWHP has another national organization affiliated with it -- the Conference Group in Women's History, which will be publishing a newsletter in December, March and June. The following is an abstract of the description of this group at its founding at the last AHA meeting:

"The Conference group is organizing its structure and activities patterned on the decision taken at the business meetings of the CCWHP and the Conference Group during the AHA meetings in Atlanta. At those business meetings it was decided that women's history was a legitimately independent concern from the issues of status pursued by CCWHP generally. However, it was decided that the conference group should remain within the CCWHP for the present so as not to weaken the larger organization and to establish a testing period for the operation of the new conference."

The Conference Group solicits your opinions about the proper structure and activities of the group within the above guidelines, as well as suggestions for advisory committee members from the regional groups. They would like to know whether you think the group should eventually take over the newsletter and bulletins in the area of women's history, and in general would like to know what kind of services you would expect from such a conference group. Please send any comments you may have to Dr. Hilda Smith, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.



4 GRADUATE STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

We urge that all graduate students and those who work closely with them answer this questionnaire and return to Ann Forfreedom, WCAWH Graduate Student Coordinator, 1947 Bell St., #26, Sacramento, CA 95825.

1. Is there a general graduate **students'** organization in your department?
2. Is there a women graduate students' **organization** in your department?
3. Would **you** like to see a special session at the next **WCAWH** conference on graduate student problems?
4. Would you be interested in attending a special retreat for graduate students, held at a **time** other than the **WCAWH** conference?
5. Would you like to see more graduate students presenting papers at the **WCAWH** conference?
6. **Can you** suggest **possible** topics and speakers for the next **WCAWH** conference? Can you suggest speakers?
7. Are there **any** topics **you** would particularly like to cover at the next conference?
8. Is there anything in particular that you would like the Graduate Student Coordinator to do **during this** year?

1977 PROGRAM - APRIL 22-24, VILLA MARIA DEL MAR, SANTA CRUZ

This is the last call for papers for the annual conference. You are especially **invited** to submit abstracts of papers on subjects not related to **women's** history--for example urban history, **European** social and intellectual **history**, **popular** culture--for the spring meeting. The **WCAWH** especially encourages graduate **students** to participate. Send **three** copies of **your** abstract or **panel/workshop** proposal to Dr. **Rosemary Masek**, Department of History, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV 89154, before **January 15**, 1977.

The program is shaping up well, Rosemary reports, **with** a Friday evening panel on the **responsibility** of the academic historian to the feminist community, moderated by Dr. Helen **Hawkins**. There **will** be panels or workshops on such topics as publishing, life styles, job **opportunities**, oral **history**, women and labor, research problems on African **history**, **psychohistory**, women and **religion**, family history, and **Latin American** women. We are heavier on **women's** history than on **any** other area, however, hence the call for papers not related to **women's** history, in order to give the program better balance. Papers on topics in American history are welcome, **but** we are **particularly** concerned that other geographical areas be better represented. If **you** have any work in progress, or know of anyone who does, please let Rosemary know **right** away, so that the Program **Committee** can complete its job.

The AHA Committee on Women Historians will hold its annual breakfast on Wednesday, December 29, from 7:45-9:00 a.m., in the Continental Room at the Sheraton-Park Hotel. Tickets for the breakfast may be purchased from the meal ticket cashier at the AHA registration desk in the Sheraton-Park.

The AHA-CWH will also hold two workshops on Tuesday, December 28: Effective Action: Affirmative and Defensive (Joan Kelly-Gad01 and Suzanne Lebsock) Sheraton Senate Room, 12:15-2:00 p.m. Institute for Research in History (see note later in this Newsletter) Sheraton Wardman Room, 12:15-2:00 p.m.

A room where women historians can gather and all historians can obtain information on women's history groups will be maintained throughout the annual meeting in the Warren Room, Sheraton-Park Hotel. It will be open on Monday, December 27, from 7:00-10:00 p.m.; Tuesday, December 28 and Wednesday, December 29, from 9:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m.; and Thursday, December 30, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Berkshire Conference of Women Aistorians, the Conference Group in Women's History, and the CCWHP will co-sponsor a cocktail party in the Sheraton Alexandria Room on Tuesday, December 28, from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The CCWHP will hold its annual business meeting on Wednesday, December 29, from 11:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the Sheraton Assembly Room. It will also hold a colloquium on Women's Initiatives in the Historical Profession on Monday, December 27, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Sheraton South Cotillion Room.

The Job Register will operate as it has in the past, with job descriptions posted in the exhibit halls 1 and 3 (adjacent to the book exhibits) in the Sheraton-Park Hotel.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Radcliffe College has announced a new program of research associate-ships to support studies of women in American society. The program is funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., and will provide two-year appointments for ten associates. Criteria used in the selection are the relevance of the proposed topic to Radcliffe research interests; conceptual and methodological quality; and the probability that the candidate can complete a publishable study during the two years of the appointment. Applicants should have received their doctorates during the last five years. Applications, which are due January 15, 1977, and additional information can be obtained from the Office of the Director of Research, Radcliffe Institute, Radcliffe College, 3 James St., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

The Berkshire Conference of Women Historians will award a prize to the best book and the best article in history written by a woman in the year preceding June 1977. Inquiries and 2 copies of each entry should be sent to: Professor Barbara J. Harris, Department of History, Pace University, Pace Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10038, Rm. A-724. The deadline for entries is February 1, 1977.

The **Schlesinger** Library on the History of Women in America announces **three** openings, as follows: **Archivist**, Massachusetts Women and Organizations Project. To process the records of the **North Bennet Street Industrial School**, including arrangement, sampling, description, **preparation of finding aids** and perhaps **some** reference work. A one-year appointment with the **possibility** of a one-year renewal to process other **Massachusetts** collections. Salary \$10,500, **4 weeks'** vacation. Send resume and 2 references to Project Director, Radcliffe College, 3 James St., Cambridge, MA 02138. **Archivist**, Career and Family Patterns of **American Women**. Work will include sorting, arranging, **describing** and **preparing finding aids** for various **individual and family collections**, and **supervising** staff assistant. A **three-year** appointment, salary \$10,500 (with annual increases), **4 weeks'** vacation. Send resume and 2 references to Project Director, address above. Both of these positions require an **M.A.**, preferably in **American history and/or women's history**, and some archival experience. **Archival assistant**, Career and Family Patterns of **American Women**. Work will include assisting two archivists with sorting, indexing, typing and **preservation work**; also preparing collections for **microfilming**, **checking** films, and, as experience is gained, **processing small manuscript collections**. A three-year appointment, salary \$7,320 (with annual increases), **3 weeks'** vacation. Qualifications include a **B.A.** in **American and/or women's history**, interest in detail, and neat, accurate typing; archival experience helpful. Send resume and 2 references to project director, address above.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Women's History Sources Survey (WHSS)** has made great progress, but **much more needs** to be done in the next year. It is funded by grants from the **Rational Endowment for the Humanities** and the **University of Minnesota** and expects to publish a multi-volume reference guide similar in format to the **National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections**. The **WHSS** suspects that thousands of appropriate **collections** still exist **unidentified** in archives and **repositories** throughout the country, and is **calling** for cooperation from **all levels** of the **archives and history communities**. The staff is **trying** to create a volunteer **network** of local historians and **archivists** who may have leads about **specific** collections, repositories to **visit**, and **persons to contact**. Please send any information you may have to **Doris Lunden, Social Welfare History Archives Center, University Libraries, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455**.

The founding convention of a **Rational Women's Studies Association**, hosted by the **Women's Studies Program at San Jose University**, will be held **January 13-16, 1977** in **San Francisco**. The **aim** of the **organization** is to **provide** and **encourage** non-sexist, non-racist feminist education in traditional and **non-traditional** areas of education. For further information contact **Sybil Weir, Women's Studies, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA 95192**.

The supplement to Notable American Women is seeking names of possible 7 candidates for **inclusion**, including less obvious **women** who have made an important contribution to **American** life, as well as prominent figures. The supplement will include only **women** who have died between 1951 and 1975. Address suggestions to Barbara Sicherman, Editor, Notable American women, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden St., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.

Calls for papers or manuscripts have come from the following sources: CCWHP would like to sponsor a session or workshop at every meeting of the national organizations. We are now working on AHA 1977, ASA 1977, and OAH 1978. Since the Conference Group on **Women's History** is now promoting sessions on **women's** history topics, CCWHP would like to sponsor some sessions on other subjects by **women** historians. Please send suggestions and paper abstracts to Linda M. Maloney, Sessions Coordinator, CCWHP, Department of History, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208

Women's Studies Program Committee for the Western Social Science Conference April 21-23 1977 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. You are invited to submit abstracts (not over 500 words) of relevant proposals to Dr. Jane Slaughter, Department of History, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131, as soon as possible.

Anyone who has a **finished** manuscript or will have one in hand by April on a **women's** history topic should correspond with Sherna Gluck, Box 1156, Topanga, CA 90290, for possible consideration by Vintage Press.

There will be a special issue of Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies, to be published in fall 1977, to be devoted entirely to **Women's Oral History**. The deadline for submission of manuscripts is March 1, 1977. Send three copies to either Sherna Gluck, Feminist History Research Project, P.O. Box 1156, Topanga, CA 90290, or Joan Jensen, Department of History, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003.

The Second Conference on the History of Women will be held in October, 1977, at the College of St. Catherine St. Paul, Minnesota. It is sponsored by the **Women Historians of the Midwest** and the Chicago Area **Women's History** Conference Group. Abstracts of papers in all areas (please send two copies) should be mailed by May 1 to: Conference on the History of Women, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105.

Because of the current unemployment crisis, it has become important to stress that a historian is one who **writes** history -- not necessarily one who teaches it. A committee of the CCWHP has wrestled with the task of translating gloomy economic facts into positive aid for those affected. The result is the establishment of the Institute of Historical Studies, which will not only provide affiliation to **unemployed** members but will also provide a serious setting for the **community** of scholars. The Institute has the potential of attracting federal grants, holding conferences, lectures, seminars, and publishing the work of its members. To express your interest, please contact Zee Giraldo, 371 Seventh Avenue, 12B, New York, N.Y. 10001.

S. Joan Moon (California State University, Sacramento), past president of WCAWH, has been elected president of the Western Society for French History. She gave a paper on the Saint Simonian women of 19th century France at the Berkshire Conference In June,

Helene S. Weinstock (Fountain Valley, CA) combines her interest in history with psychology. She is presently a psychological assistant with Leonard I. Schneider and Associates in Newport Beach, CA.

Elinor T. Merideth (Del Mar, CA) presented a paper on medieval family dynamics at the AHA Pacific Coast Branch convention in San Diego in August, and then entered law school in the fall.

S. Barbara (Penny) Kanner reports that Part II of her bibliography, "The Women of England in a Century of Social Change, 1815-1914," will soon appear in A Widening Sphere: Women in the Victorian Age, ed. by Martha Vicinus (Indiana University Press, January 1977).

1977 Dues due now, Please send to PENNY KANNER, 467 COMSTOCK AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA, 90024. \$5 for employed persons, \$2 for students, unemp.

NAME _____ INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

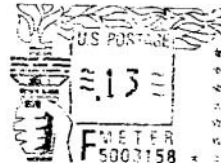
MAIL TO _____ PHONE _____

FACULTY; JOB TITLE _____ SUBJ. _____

STUDENT UNEMPLOYED

FIELDS OF INTEREST _____

WCAWH
467 Comstock Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024



Leah Freeman
Women's Studies
Library, CSU Sacramento
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