PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Asilomar—our beautiful wooded conference center by the sea where the Western Association of Women Historians was founded twenty-two years ago—will be the site for our annual conference again this year, May 31 through June 2. I recommend that you send in your reservation as soon as you receive the conference program in the mail, for our reserved space will go very quickly. You won’t want to miss this opportunity for intellectual stimulation and socializing with friends new and old.

Asilomar offers even more that might be described as food for the spirit. In this lovely natural setting, we easily regain a sense of joyous wonder at things as ordinary and marvelous as the sound of the surf and the smell of the pines. Two years ago, when WAWH celebrated its twentieth anniversary at the annual conference at Asilomar, a deer stopped to watch me as I did Tai Chi on the beach one early morning. Later that afternoon, I heard a wonderful paper presented by a young woman, now a graduate student, whom I had taught when she first began college. And that memorable day ended with a dinner that featured the humorous and exciting memories of several founding members of WAWH about how our group had been twenty years earlier at Asilomar.

A sense of connection with nature, students, and colleagues is the best antidote I know for the early spring blahs. Most of us have times when the pressure of everyday life threatens to completely eclipse our sense of purpose. And who has not faced the awful realization that what we are working on seems drab and uninteresting? At times, committee work and teaching may overwhelm us with having to work with people, while research and writing can make us feel isolated.

This winter, the Persian Gulf War has compounded all these other woes, distracting and alienating many of us. For a few weeks after the war broke out, I could not really concentrate on reading 400-year-old documents. Gradually, however, I began to see that the growing intolerance of Christians for Muslims in sixteenth-century Spain may tell us a lot about the state of conflict in our present-day world. I am asking more questions of my documents now—about how people identify themselves and how they objectify others, how education and life cycle ceremonies become more highly politicized, how space is assigned and made sacred, how homes become subversive, how gender roles both protect and create subversives, how difference is seen not as an asset, but as a threat.

While I have regained a sense of connection with my historical work, I am looking forward to our meeting at Asilomar to remind me of my connections to you and our larger world. Don’t miss this great opportunity to reenergize yourself at a bargain price in an incomparable place. And I want to repeat: Be sure to return your reservation as soon as you receive the conference program in the mail!

See you at Asilomar.

Betsy

PCB NEWS

Barbara Kanner, the WAWH’s liaison with other organizations, has played a vital role in this year’s meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. Thanks to her energetic efforts as program chair (and also to the support of UCLA, which made university facilities available for the purpose, even though
Penny has been on leave this year, women scholars will participate in this major meeting to an unprecedented extent. Scholars from all over North America, as well as Asia, Australia, and New Zealand, will take part in the conference. Perhaps even more impressive, 23 out of the 87 panels will reflect aspects of women's history, from antiquity up to the present. WAWH will be cosponsoring several of the women's history sessions, as well as hosting its annual luncheon. This year's speaker will be Patricia Grimshaw, from the University of Melbourne.

Clearly, the PCB conference in Hawaii will be an exciting place to be this August 14-18, and it is becoming increasingly affordable to go there. The luxury hotel, the Royal Waikoloan, in Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii, has just lowered room rates for those attending the conference, with rooms for four costing under $100 a night. Since these rates also apply for the three days before and after the conference, the meetings could well form the heart of a family vacation (child care will be available). For more information, contact Shirley Kawashima, the travel agent who is handling conference arrangements, at 1-800-367-5130; be sure to identify yourself as affiliated with the PCB conference.

The WAWH can help match people up to share rooms for this event. Our own conference at Asilomar, May 31-June 2, offers one excellent means. Another means is for you to send your name, phone number, and any specifications for a roommate (e.g., non-smoker) to the Newsletter for the June issue. That way we can use our network to save money! If this works for the PCB conference, it could well become a regular feature of the Newsletter for other conferences as well. For now, here is the first person to use this service: Alexandra Nickless seeks non-smoker roommate for full run of the PCB; call (415) 337-8004 in the evenings.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The National Historic Communal Society Association seeks papers for its October 1991 conference. The theme is "Community as Family: Family as Community." Send a c.v. and 100-word abstract by April 1, 1991, to Patrick Harris, Director, Old Aurora Colony Museum, P.O. Box 202, Aurora, OR 97002; (503) 678-5754.


The Center for Pacific Rim Studies and the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California call for papers or panels for a conference entitled "Chinese Americans: Origins and Destinations," to be held in late August 1992. Send proposals to the Center for Pacific Rim Studies, 11250 Bunche Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1487. The deadline is May 1991 (no day given).

The Conference on the History of Christianity, March 26-28, 1992, especially seeks papers related to the history of evangelization in North or South America since 1492. Please send a 1- or 2-page proposal and a c.v. to History Conference, Cushwa Center, University of Notre Dame, 614 Hesburgh Library, Notre Dame, IN 46556; (219) 239-5441. The deadline is June 15, 1991.

New Mexico State University's new Women's Studies Program, which is planning a Southwest Women Writers Conference (fiction, non-fiction, poetry) for May 24-26, 1991. The theme is "Coming of Age in the Southwest." Those interested in attending or participating on the program should contact New Mexico State University Women's Studies Program, Box 30001, Dept. 3WSP, Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001, or call (505) 646-3448. No deadline mentioned.

Publications

*Italian Americana* seeks articles (20 double-spaced pages maximum) in all areas of Italian-American history. Submit materials in triplicate with a SASE. Contact Carol Bonomo Ahearn, University of Rhode Island, College of Continuing Education, 199 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.

*Radical History Review* solicits articles on such topics as the conquest of the Americas, slavery and the slave trade, and the formation of multicultural societies in the Americas. Send proposals to Radical History Review, Quincentenary Issue, Tamiment Library, 70 Washington Square South, 10th floor, New York, NY 10012.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

The United States Institute of Peace offers financial support for research, education, and training, and for the dissemination of information on international peace and conflict resolution. Unsolicited grants are provided for any topics that fall within the Institute's broad mandate. There are two annual deadlines, April 1 and October 1. For information, contact Grant Program, United States Institute of Peace, 1550 M St., N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20005-1708; (202) 457-1700.

The Charles Redd Center for Western Studies announces competition for a $500 prize and guarantee of...
publication for a monograph-length manuscript in the field of Western American Studies, relating to the Mountain West, for the 1991-1992 academic year. The deadline is **May 1, 1991.** For information, contact the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, 4069 HBLL, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602.

The Coalition for Western Women's History announces a new prize, for the best article published in 1990 in the field of the history of women in the trans-Mississippi West. A cash prize will be awarded at the Western History Association's 1991 meeting. Please submit three offprints or copies of an article to Dr. Mary Murphy, Dept. of History and Philosophy, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717. Submissions must be postmarked no later than **June 1, 1991.**

The Urban History Association is conducting its second annual round of prize competitions for dissertations, books, and articles. Deadline for all submissions is **June 15, 1991.** For information, contact Carl Abbott, UHA Prize Chair, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Portland State University, Portland, OR 97207-0751.

The **Newberry Library** offers post-doctoral resident fellowships in the humanities for 1990-1991, featuring Lloyd Lewis Fellowships (in American history) and National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships (in any field). Maximum stipends are $40,000 and $30,000 respectively. Short-term resident fellowships for individual research, including pre-doctoral candidates, are also available. Work in residence by a post-doctoral woman scholar at an early stage of her career is offered through the Monticello College Foundation. For information, contact the Awards Committee, The **Newberry Library**, 60 W. Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610; (312) 943-9090, ext. 478. No deadline given.

The Eugene V. Debs Foundation will award the Bryant Spann Memorial Prize of $1000 for the best article written in the Debsian tradition of social protest or reform. For information, write the Bryant Spann Memorial Prize Committee, Department of History, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809; include SASE. No deadline given.

**PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be offering sixteen training sessions in fifteen cities in 1991. The three-day course is designed to teach the basics of the project review process. Dates vary from now until September. Contact the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 110 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Room 803, Washington, DC 20004, Attention: Training Coordinator.

On **April 19,** UCLA will host a special conference in which all the papers will be given by graduate students. Senior scholars, including Penny Kanner, will act as the conveners and commentators on the panels.

The Southern Association of Women Historians will host the Southern Conference on Women's History, **June 7-8, 1991** at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. For information, contact Janet L. Coryell, Conference Director, Department of History, 7030 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849; (205) 844-6672.

**GRAD NEWS**

Sherry Katz, our grad student representative, sends the following news:

1. We have put together an exciting panel on "Dissertations-in-Progress" for the 1991 WAWH conference at Asilomar. We are also planning to hold a graduate student get-together so that we can "network" and discuss plans for continuing our work within WAWH between the 1991 and 1992 conferences. We hope you can join us.

2. I am going to be retiring as WAWH's graduate student representative in May. If you are interested in becoming the new representative, please call me at (415) 527-9179. Being the grad student rep. has been a wonderful experience for me, providing a great opportunity to get to know other grad students and their work, to research and make more widely known the dissertation grants and other fellowships available to us, and to make our needs felt in WAWH as a whole.

3. The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) has recently begun to issue a NWSA Student Caucus Newsletter that is designed to build a presence within the NWSA for both graduate and undergraduate student concerns. For more information on the caucus or the newsletter, contact Tiffany Hogan, 2000 S.W. 16th St., Apt. 124, Gainesville, FL 32608; (904) 373-0951. Tiffany is a graduate student in sociology at the University of Florida.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS**

Independent historians of science are eligible for grants-in-aid of up to $2000 for travel and other expenses for those unemployed or only part-time employed without prospects of continuation or renewal. Contact Michael M. Sokal, History of Science Society, 35 Dean St., Worcester, MA 01609. The next deadline is **April 30.**

National Endowment for the Humanities grants are available for independent scholars. One set is called
Fellowships for College Teachers and In-nt Scholars. The stipends range from $18,000 to $27,500, depending upon salary relinquished, to pursue full-time research for six to twelve months. The Ph.D. is not required, but a good record in the field of the proposal is. Highly competitive. Contact Division of Fellowships and Seminars, Rm. 316, NEH, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0466. Deadline is June 1, 1991.

In addition, fellowships are available (1) to support various stages of the preparation of authoritative and annotated editions of significant works or documents or (2) to translate significant works into English. These are open to individuals or groups. Contact Division of Research Programs, Rm. 318, NEH, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0207. Deadline is June 1, 1991.

A recent issue of The Independent Scholar (winter 1991) has a fascinating interview with Margaret DeLacy. Along with her many other accomplishments, she is almost legendary for having received an ACLS grant that included money for child care, thereby winning recognition for the fact that every mother is a working mother. To learn how she did it and other information of interest, subscribe to The Independent Scholar. Send a check for $10 to Georgia Wright, 105 Vicente Road, Berkeley, CA 94705.

RESOURCES

Writing Women's History: International Perspectives, ed. by Karen Offen, Ruth Roach Pierson, and Jane Rendall, will be available in June 1991 from Indiana University Press. This volume offers an introduction to different approaches to women's history across the world. Five theoretical essays address such themes as the relationship between feminist history and women's history, the use of the concept of “experience,” the development of the history of gender, demographic history and women's history, and the importance of post-structuralist influence on women's history. Other essays survey the writing of women's history from every continent, with a view to the state of the art, the distinctiveness of different national approaches, and the importance of international influences in the writing of the history of women.

Women's Work-in-Progress Database Online has been developed by the National Council for Research on Women. Successfully through its test phase with over 500 entries, this database is one of the most frequently searched on the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), a national online resource that includes an automated catalog of more than 40 million records. It is designed to include information about a wide range of works in progress about women: books, articles, dissertations, working papers, policy resources, curricula, art, software, planning documents, and reports. Individuals may access RLIN through university/research libraries or sign up for a personal searching account by calling 1-800-537-RLIN. To contribute to the database, contact Debra Schultz, (212) 570-5004.

Books on Tape, Inc., P.O. Box 7500, Newport Beach, CA 92658; 1-800-626-3333. For those whose schedules do not permit as much reading time as they would like (commuters, for instance), books on tape can be a useful supplement. The catalog of the above company is 250 pages long, filled with totally unabridged books, including histories and biographies, some of which are out of print or otherwise hard to find. It costs roughly $18 to rent a book a month, but it may be well worth it to put those frustrating hours in the car to better use.

CLARIFICATION DEPARTMENT

To those who have queried why the expiration date on their mailing labels is not current, even though they have recently mailed their checks: The answer is either that our records show the label date as the most recent one for which a check was received or that there have been intervening years during which no dues have been received. In other words, please pay your back dues too.

To those in doubt about what to send to whom: Please send dues and changes of address to Alison Klairemont Lingo, our secretary, who is in charge of keeping membership and mailing lists up to date. Send member news, job or other announcements, or letters to the editor to the Networker at the return address on this newsletter. Contributions to the graduate student fellowship fund should go to our treasurer, Paav Renner. Thanks for your help.

NEW MEMBERS

The WAWH welcomes the following new members:

Susannah E. Baxendale, independent scholar, studying late medieval-early renaissance history, especially Italy; Stephanie Braun, grad student at Stanford, studying 18th-century/revolutionary France, women's history, and early modern Europe; Mary Cassar, professor of English at West Valley Community College; Mary Dedeaux, grad student at Cal State, Los Angeles, studying recent European and U.S. history; Jovce L. Hoggan, professional film editor and grad student at Cal State Northridge, studying U.S. West, intellectual, and social history, as well as 19th and 20th-century women's history;
Gretchen Lemke, grad student at Duke University, doing research in Bay Area on the migration and community-building experience of the African American women who migrated from the South to the East Bay area during World War II;

Muriel C. McClendon, assistant professor, UCLA, teaching and studying early modern England and Europe, religion, and society;

Diane C. Margolf, assistant professor, Stanford, teaching and studying legal and social history of early modern France and England (16th through 18th centuries), and early modern Europe in general;

Karen Mead, grad student at UC Santa Barbara, in Latin American history; and

Anne Richardson, independent scholar in Berkeley, studying the English and continental Reformation.

MEMBER NEWS


Lois Banner's new book on women and aging in America, tentatively titled Sunset Boulevard is now complete and should be published this year by Alfred Knopf. She discussed portions of this work at the WAWH luncheon at the PCB in 1989.


Inez Brooks-Myers has been chosen to be the president of the Costume Society of America.

Catherine Ann Curry has received a travel research grant from the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism.

Mary Dedeaux presented a paper on "Pasadena's 1970 Court-Ordered Desegregation" at the 1990 Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference


Nancy Page Fernandez has received a faculty summer research grant from Cal State Northridge to begin a project on women in music in Los Angeles, 1900-1935. She would appreciate hearing from others interested in the history of women in music.

Mikel Garcia has designed and is implementing a multicultural training certificate award for extended education at Cal State Fullerton; this is the first semester that the program has been offered and 23 people are enrolled. The Multicultural Certificate Award is designed to train workers in four work domains: education, health, human services, and the corporate sector.

Joyce Duncan Falk's analysis of 16 on-line databases for subject content and indexing vocabulary related to women is the lead chapter in Women Online: Research in Women's Studies Using Online Databases (Haworth Press, 1990). Her presentation on intellectual access to the literature on women's history in online database, which she gave at the CISH (International Conference on the Historical Sciences) in Madrid last summer, will be available later in 1991 from ERIC as part of her larger study, "Information Retrieval in Women's History."

Rochelle Gatlin's paper, "A 'Society of Outsiders': Union W.A.G.E., Working-Class Feminism, and the Labor Movement" will be published in the International Labor History Association's Yearbook. She presented the paper at a conference held in Madison, Wisconsin in December 1990; it was cosponsored by the Labor History Association and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Lois L. Huneycutt has just returned from seven months of research in England, which was partially funded by the WAWH graduate student fellowship.

Joan M. Jensen's new book, Promise to the Land: Essays on Rural Women, will be published in March 1991 by the University of New Mexico Press. She is now directing the New Mexico State University's new Women's Studies Program, which is planning a Southwest Women Writers Conference for May 24-26, 1991. See Calls for Papers for details.

Penny Kanner was one of only three American scholars invited to participate in the conference on the construction of sex/gender, which was sponsored by the
Swedish Council for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences last October. She spoke on challenging Victorian stereotypes of women. In addition, she participated in a panel on "New Directions in Women's History" at Cal State Northridge on Women's History Day, March 8. The panel session and a dinner were in honor of Rena Vassar, one of the founding mothers of the WAWH.

Susan Karant-Nunn gave plenary papers at two conferences: "Clerical Anticlericalism, an Oxymoron?" at the international conference on anticlericalism, at the University of Arizona in September 1990; and "From Adventurers to Drones: The Saxon Silver Miners as an 'Early Proletariat,'" at the international conference on the workplace before the factory, at the University of Pennsylvania, in October 1990.


Diane North is now teaching the history of California at San Francisco State University.

Kathy Ogren's book, The Jazz Revolution: Twenties America and the Meaning of Jazz, received the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers in December 1990.

Edith L. Piness served as a discussant for the Asia Society Panel on the "Prospects for Liberalization, Political Change, and Human Rights in Burma," which was held at UCLA, February 23, 1991.

Anne Richardson is organizing a four-session program of papers and a film, William Tyndale and the Law, for the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in October 1991.

Elaine G. Rosenthal presented a paper on "Women and the Law in Early Modern Florence" at the AHA in December 1990. She is also the new editor of the quarterly newsletter of the Institute for Historical Study.

Sandra Schackel gave a paper at the Yorkshire Conference in June 1990, entitled "I Don't Know What We Would Do Without It": New Mexico Women and the Agriculture Extension Service" and another at the Western History Association in October 1990, on "Barbara Stanwyck: Uncommon Heroine."


Anne Simonson has recently presented several papers on: the 15th-century Burgundian court, at the College Art Association meetings, in February 1990; Rogier van der Weyden, at the Fifteenth-Century Symposium, at the University of Perpignan (France), in July 1990; and the Merode Triptych, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, in May 1990. She will also chair a session on Northern Renaissance Art, at the International Congress of Medieval Studies in May 1991.


Shirlene Soto has just published Emergence of the Modern Mexican Woman: Her Participation in Revolution and Struggle For Equality, 1910-1940 (Aiden Press).

Sally Roesch Wagner held a residency at SUNY Plattsburgh in February 1991, teaching "Iroquois Influence on Radical Reform," as well as Indian and non-Indian Dakota women's history.

Randi Walker's new book, Protestantism in the Sangre de Cristos, is forthcoming from the University of New Mexico Press in the fall of 1991.
MEMBER NEWS

P.S. CLIP AND SEND TO:

Name ____________________________________________________________

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Notice of Publication (use extra sheet if needed) ________________________________

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