CALL TO CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As spring bursts upon us in Northern California, I marvel at the beauty of the blossoms and the miracle of springtime. And I realize that, with the coming of spring and our much-welcomed rain, another year is well under way, and we will soon be meeting again.

Can it really be that 1992 marks the twenty-third conference of our Western Association of Women Historians? This year, from May 29 through 31, we will return to our biannual gathering place in Southern California, the beautiful Huntington Library in San Marino, near Los Angeles.

The program committee, headed by Edie Gelles, has put together a stimulating program of papers, panels, and presentations. As at previous meetings, we will begin our meeting with a historically based theatrical event by a remarkable woman playwright, Elizabeth Roden. Saturday’s program will feature scholarly papers and a panel organized by our standing committee on the K-12 History-Social Science curriculum. It will be capped by our annual awards banquet. On Sunday morning, we will conclude with still more presentations of current historical research by our scholars. This is just a foretaste of our program. Please watch carefully for the official program announcement, which will be mailed to all members in early April.

Our local arrangements committee, headed by Nancy Page-Fernandez, is working hard to ensure smooth coordination of events at the Huntington and the Pasadena Holiday Inn and to facilitate our social gatherings at both sites. And speaking of committee heads, I am looking for volunteers to coordinate the program and local arrangements for our 1993 meeting. Interested members should please contact me.

There will be two especially significant items of business on the agenda for our business meeting. Both are connected with our standing committee on the K-12 history-social science curriculum. The first is to discuss the committee’s draft statement of aims and objectives (see this issue’s insert feature). The second is to present and discuss the committee’s preliminary report on evaluation of the new generation of K-12 history textbooks for the schools. We are particularly concerned with the presentation of women’s history and gender issues in these new instructional materials. So please plan to join us at the business meeting as well as at the sessions.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Huntington. Please send in your conference registration materials and hotel reservations as soon as you receive the program brochure. Make plans to stroll in the Huntington Gardens with a colleague. And in the meantime, do take a moment out to savor spring.

See you at the Huntington.

Karen

THOUGHTS ON NETWORKING

Every three months or so, I gather up the member news and other items that you all have sent in to put together another issue of The Networker. For a few days, this work consumes a good bit of my time, so it is small surprise that the word “networking” begins echoing in my brain.
The name of our newsletter is very apt, but not just because, as women and professionals, we need to build and use networks in order to succeed in what has too long been a male-dominated profession. There are other aspects of a network that fit WAWH as well.

For instance, like a fishing net, our organization is inclusive. We cast our net widely, gathering in those—even men!—who swim in the sea of history. We are not interested only in those who are already well-established or work at a research university or concentrate exclusively on women’s history or live west of the Mississippi. There’s room in this net for everyone.

Like a safety net, our organization allows its members to take risks, to try new approaches, and, in the process, to develop to our full potential as historians. One thing that always impresses me at our annual meetings is the high level of respect we show each other, regardless of where we stand in the academic hierarchy. This respect means that we have a norm of truly constructive criticism—neither the patronizing condescension that lets faulty work pass without comment, nor the egotistical invective that treats one person’s work as an occasion for another’s scoring points or showing off. We take each other, our work, and our struggles seriously. Paradoxically, this seriousness encourages the occasional daring back-flip from which we may gain a new perspective or at very least a new skill.

Work, not necessarily in the usual sense, is also fundamental to networking, and WAWH can help us to do it. Sociologists of the family talk about three main kinds of work that families need to accomplish one way or another—the paid work, the housework, and the network. Regardless of who does how much of the first two kinds of work, women almost universally do a bigger share of the third. Network involves tending, extending, and when necessary mending the vast web of relationships in which we humans are enmeshed—writing notes and letters, planning social engagements, working out compromises, and on and on. We need our WAWH network not just to learn about grants or help each other find professional opportunities, although these are certainly among the resources that we can find in our network. We also need this particular network to strengthen the web of social support for ourselves and each other in a world that often seems increasingly fragmented, maybe especially so in academic circles. The work of social support is demanding, but it yields rich rewards. Our organization and in particular our annual meeting provide a means for us to nurture relationships that offer personal as well as professional support. I always come back from our conferences feeling renewed, standing a bit taller, and thinking, “Now why can’t life be more like this?”

The conference of the WAWH at the Huntington represents a chance to experience real networking at its best. I urge you to come share it.

Susan Wladaver-Morgan

JOBS

National History Day, an educational program for students and teachers in secondary schools, seeks an executive director to relocate and staff its headquarters in Washington, D.C., by September 1992. Qualifications include a Ph.D. in history and at least five years of administrative experience. Managerial skills including budgeting, fund-raising, hiring and supervising personnel are necessary. Familiarity with secondary school education is highly desirable. The salary is $55,000 plus benefits. Send c.v. including names and addresses of three references to David D. VanTassel, Ph.D., Department of History, Case Western Reserve University, 11120 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15, 1992.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Conferences

The Plains Indian Museum of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, will host the Plains Indian Seminar, September 24-27, 1992. The theme is “The Artist and the Missionary: A Native-American and Euro-American Cultural Exchange.” The deadline is April 13, 1992. For information, contact Lillian Turner, Public Programs Coordinator, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, P.O. Box 1000, Cody, WY 82414; (307) 587-4771, ext. 248.

The Communal Studies Conference will meet October 15-18, 1992. Paper and session proposals on the theme “Utopian Communities: Rural and Urban Patterns of Settlement and Life,” along with short c.v., should be sent by April 15, 1992, to Robert Sutton, Department of History, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL 61455; (309) 298-1053.

Publications

The new Journal of American-East Asian Relations will begin publication in the Spring of 1992. It is a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary journal publishing research on historical and recent developments in diplomatic, economic, security, and cultural relations between the Americas (primarily the United States, but including neighboring countries in the Americas), the Russian Far East, and Southeastern Asia. It will accept manuscripts for major articles, review essays, and book reviews. For information on submitting manuscripts, contact

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Prof. Michael A. Barnhart, Editor (c/o Imprint Publications, 100 E. Ohio St., Suite 630, Chicago, IL 60611).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

The Henry A. Murray Research Center of Radcliffe College offers three types of grants for post-doctoral research using the Murray Center resources. The earliest deadline is April 1, 1992. The center also offers a visiting scholars program for eight to ten scholars who wish to research an aspect of women and social change or the study of lives over time. For information, contact Nancy Kressin, The Henry A. Murray Research Center, Ten Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-8140.

The Eugene V. Debs Foundation will award the annual Bryant Spann Memorial Prize in 1992 for the best article, published or unpublished, written on social protest and reform. For information, write to the Bryant Spann Memorial Prize Committee, c/o The Department of History, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809. The deadline is April 30, 1992.

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

The Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals solicits proposals for eight grants of $2000 for research relating to the history of evangelical theological education since the 16th century. Applications must be received by June 1, 1992. For information, contact D.G. Hart, ISAE. Wheaton, IL 60187; (78) 752-5937.


PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

The Clark Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies will sponsor the Georgia Archives Institute, June 15-26, 1992, a program designed for beginning archivists, librarians, and manuscript curators. Tuition is $400. Enrollment is limited and the deadline for applications is April 1, 1992. Write to Donald E. Oehlerts, School of Library and Information Studies, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA 30314; (404) 325-0778.

The Pacific Northwest American Studies Association will meet in Seattle, April 2-4, 1992, focusing on the theme of “Community and Communities in American Culture.” For information, contact Jon Lewis, PNASA, English Department, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331; (503) 737-1660.

The Organization of American Historians will meet in Chicago, April 2-5, 1992. For further information, contact Organization of American Historians, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199; (812) 855-7311.

The University of Chicago Centennial Symposium on “Women in American Higher Education” will be held April 3-4, 1992. Panels will focus on undergraduate and graduate education in the early years (1890-1930), and there will also be discussion of changes over the last two decades in the measurement of the status of women in higher education and in the conception of women’s/feminist/gender studies. The Symposium is free and open to the public, but advanced registration may be made through March 15. For detailed brochure, contact Symposium on Women, Office of the Centennial, University of Chicago, 5710 Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL 60637; (312) 702-9192.

The National Social Science Association will hold its national conference April 5-8, 1992. For information, contact NSSA Office, 2020 Hills Lake Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020; (619) 448-4709.

The Western Social Science Association will hold its annual meeting April 22-25, 1992. For information, contact Benjamin D. Rhodes, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI 53190.

The Pittsburgh Center for Social History and the University of Pittsburgh Center for International Studies will host a conference May 2-3, 1992, on “The Social Construction of Democracy.” Participants will explore the social origins of the success and failure of democratic regimes in Europe, Latin America, Japan, and the United States in the 20th century. For information, contact Herrick Chapman, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

The Agricultural History Society will cosponsor a symposium on “America Rural and Farm Women in Historical Perspective,” June 26-28, 1992. For information, contact Joan Jensen, Department of History, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003.
WOMEN'S HISTORY TOUR

The Women's Heritage Museum is sponsoring a tour of Northeast Sites in Women's History. The tour will visit more than twenty sites in Washington, D.C., and in New York State, especially Rochester and Seneca Falls. For Californians—and other Westerners too—it will provide an opportunity to compare and evaluate what could be done in their own states.

In Washington, the highlight will be an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution entitled "From Parlour to Politics: Women in the Progressive Era." In Rochester, the tour will focus on the home of Susan B. Anthony. In Seneca Falls, tour members will attend the annual dramatization of the first women's rights convention in 1848. Several leading scholars in women's history will meet with the group, including Edith Mayo, who is both the curator of the Smithsonian exhibit and a member of the Women's Heritage Museum's National Advisory Council.

The trip will be from July 12 through July 19, 1992. Accommodations are in college dormitories, and a chartered bus will be at the service of the group throughout the tour. For more information, request a flyer from the Women's Heritage Museum at 1509 Portola Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306; (415) 321-5260. A deposit of $150, due by April 20, should be made out to Cardoza Travel.

The Women's Heritage Museum is a seven-year-old project to originate a museum of international women's history in San Francisco. The organization has been disseminating information to educate the public, working as a museum without walls. In the past year, intensive planning has started the project on the path of acquiring a public office and concentrating on the development of the collection and the acquisition of exhibit space. The tour is in part a fund-raiser for the prospective museum, with $25 of the cost serving as a donation to the museum. Those who want more information or interested in making a donation without going on the tour should also write to the address given above. This museum certainly looks like the kind of project that would support the work of the women historians who make up our membership. Maybe now is the time for us to support the museum.

GRAD NEWS

I have received a very good response from graduate students for "Dissertations in Progress" panel at the WAWH conference at the Huntington Library this May. This year, we will have a strong showing from students at the University of California at Berkeley, and a student from as far away as Albuquerque, New Mexico, will be presenting her work on women and higher education in Spain and the United States during the Cold War period. I am currently working to obtain some exciting prizes for a graduate student fund-raiser, the money from which will be used for scholarship prizes.

"Everything You Wanted to Know About a Career in History But Didn't Know Whom to Ask" is the title of a round-table discussion to be presented at the Huntington conference too. This panel will be geared especially toward those students of history who would like to know more about what the history profession has to offer. An archivist, independent scholar, art museum curator, and several others have agreed to participate in this lively dialogue. Undergraduates and graduate students may find it particularly helpful and thought-provoking.

If anyone would like to submit news or information to the Grad News section of the Networker, do not hesitate to contact me by mail or phone.

See you at the Huntington!

Regina Lark

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

American Philosophical Society Grants-in-Aid are available for all areas of knowledge save those where support by government or corporate enterprise is more appropriate and regularly available. These grants pay for materials or services that advance research, up to a $3000 maximum. Write to Chairperson, Committee on Research, American Philosophical Society, 104 S. Fifth St., Philadelphia, PA 19106; (215) 440-3400. The next deadline is April 1, 1992.

The National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) has several fellowships available. These include those to support various stages of the preparation of authoritative and annotated editions of significant works or documents and those to translate into English significant works. The deadlines for both are June 1, 1992. Contact NEH Research Programs, Room 318, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0207.

NEH fellowships for college teachers and independent scholars are also available. The stipend ranges from $18,000 to $27,500 depending on salary relinquished, to pursue full-time research for six to twelve months. Ph.D. is not required, but a good record in field of your proposal is; highly competitive. Deadline is June 1, 1992. Contact Division of Fellowships and Seminars, Room 316, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0466.
The aims and objectives of this standing committee of the Western Association of Women Historians, mandated in June 1991, are as follows:

1. to acquaint our membership of women historians, through publications and conferences, with current developments in history education in the schools;

2. to make available the expertise of our scholars, especially those whose scholarship centers on women's history and issues of gendering historical interpretation, to those engaged in reformulating and preparing educational materials for teaching of history in grades K-12.

3. to draw to the attention of the general public issues and problems concerning the incorporation and presentation of women's history and of gender analysis into the content of the new K-12 history curriculum. Other groups concerned with multicultural and ethnic issues in the curriculum have not to date made a priority of advocating concerns of women, even among their own constituencies.

With these general goals in mind, we intend specifically:

a) to acquaint our membership with the California History-Social Science Framework (1988);

b) to contact publishers and to survey new textbooks and supplemental materials being written; to acquaint publishers with the expertise of our membership for the purpose of consulting about new textbooks, revising those already on the market, and preparing supplemental instructional materials for classroom use;

c) to contact those engaged in teacher training, especially in the California state university system, and groups organized to offer teacher education institutes in history; to acquaint these individuals and groups with the expertise of our membership and let them know of our Aims and Objectives;

d) to contact teachers' organizations in history and social science; to acquaint these groups and their members with our efforts, and to assist in linking scholars directly with classroom teachers in K-12 education;

e) to create networks wherever possible with local school districts, district curriculum committees, and classroom teachers, to link them with the new scholarship on women and gender;

f) to monitor and influence, at the regional and national level, the initiatives of groups and individuals engaged in the elaboration of "essentials," "standards," etc., for history education in the schools; to acquaint these groups and individuals with our organization, this committee and its objectives;

g) to contact the media (radio, t.v., the press) and to bring to their attention the possibilities and problems we encounter in integrating the history of women and gender analysis into the new California history/social science curriculum and into classroom settings.
We contend that the newly-revised curriculum objectives and standards in history-social science education in the schools should reflect the presence of women in the world and the exciting new scholarship in women's history published in the last twenty years. Women comprise over 50% of human populations, of all races, religions, ethnicities, and cultures. We do not think that simply to "add women and stir" (whether "great women", "and women," or "women as victims") provides the proper approach. An authentic history must present women's activities as central alongside those of men and must, wherever possible, account for their diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, culture, and class.

We insist on the importance as well of incorporating gender analysis into the teaching of the human past, be it the history of California, the United States, the Western World, or World History. We advocate a history education in the schools that goes beyond earlier versions centered in political, military, and diplomatic history, a history that encompasses the stories of women's lives as well as those of men in all cultures being studied. Such a history should address the ways in which various human societies, including relations between the sexes, have been constituted and have changed over time.

Further, we underscore that the historical education of girls - as well as boys - is of imperative concern to our future. Knowledge of women's history has been proven to be important in empowering girls and women, of whatever cultural background. We wish to assure that in this time of major reform in history/social science education, that the wide range of female endeavor is treated with respect, as historically significant in its own terms, and that history education will enhance, not undercut women's empowerment.

We come to this task in a cooperative and collaborative mood, but we are prepared to take all steps necessary to realize these aims and objectives.

For the Committee,

Karen Offen & Lyn Reese
According to The Independent Scholar, NEH granted 106 fellowships in the above category in 1991-92. Of the 996 applicants, 24 percent called themselves independent scholars—great increase over the previous year, when most of the applications came from museum and library personnel. Nineteen (8 percent) of the independent scholar applicants were successful, as against 11 percent of the college teachers.

The Sino-American Field School of Archaeology at Zian Jiaotong University, Xian (Shaanxi), China, offers a Summer Archaeological Practicum. For details, contact Dr. Alfonz Lengeyl, Fudan Museum Foundation, 1522 Schoolhouse Rd., Ambler, PA 19002; (215) 699-6448.

RESOURCES

Journal of Women’s History Guide to Periodical Literature, comp. by Gayle V. Fischer, foreword by Christie Farnham and introduction by Joan Hoff (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1992), 512 pages; $39.95, cloth; $18.95, paper. This extremely useful volume represents a ten-year bibliography of periodical literature from the 1980s on subjects related to women’s history. There are forty main subject areas, divided into subcategories, that guide the reader to over 5,500 individual entries, helpfully cross-listed. Nearly one-quarter of the all the entries are about countries outside the United States. The thought-provoking introduction by Joan Hoff addresses questions of “political correctness” and the future of women’s history as a field.

The National Women’s History Project addresses the need for women’s history in public school curricula and publishes an interesting catalog full of books, tapes, videos, posters, games, and other materials. For a catalog, write to NWHP, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492 or call (707) 838-6000.

The Teachers College Record will put out a special issue in the spring of 1992 on Philanthropy and Education. It brings together articles by people involved in all sides of philanthropy—grantees, grantees, administrators, and scholars. The special issue is available for $10.00 or as part of a yearly subscription to the TC Record (4 issues for $24). Write to Teachers College Record, Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 West 120th St., Box 103, New York, NY 10027.

NEW MEMBERS

WAHW is very happy to welcome these new members:

Anne Cova, doctoral candidate at Ecoles des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, studying women’s rights and the protection of maternity in France, 1890-1939;
Barbara A. Day, alumna of UC Irvine and now an assistant professor of European history in the Philadelphia area, specializing in French, women’s, and cultural history;
Deborah D’Orazi, M.A. student at San Francisco State University, concentrating on political activities of American women in the Progressive Era;
Sarah S. Elkind, doctoral candidate at University of Michigan, studying 20th-century U.S., California, urban, and environmental history;
Martha Hildreth, associate professor at University of Nevada, Reno, studying French medicine in the 19th and 20th centuries;
Louisa S. Hoberman, lecturer in history at the University of Texas, Austin;
Megan Koreman, Ph.D. candidate at UC Berkeley, specializing in late-modern Europe, especially France in 1944-1945;
Angel Kwolek-Folland, assistant professor at University of Kansas, studying 19th-century women’s history and history of gender and sexuality;
Irene Ledesma, grad student at Ohio State University and Chicana Dissertation Fellow at UC Santa Barbara, studying U.S. and Third World women, Latin America, and 20th-century U.S. labor history;
Cynthia Maya, grad student at UCLA, in medieval history;
Janet McCann, grad student at Central Washington University;
Megan McClintock, grad student completing her dissertation from Rutgers University and adjunct faculty at University of Washington, Tacoma, studying U.S. women’s history and the Civil War;
Rebecca McCoy, assistant professor at University of Idaho, studying modern French social history and teaching 19th-century Europe and France and the French Revolution;
Susan Meyer, grad student at UCLA;
Susan Monday, student at Cal State Northridge, studying Plains Indian Women;
Aida Mostoff-Linares, teaching fellow at UCLA, studying Latin American history;
Alice Yang Murray, grad student at Stanford University, studying Asian American history, especially Asian American women and family;
Janet M. Pope, grad student at UC Santa Barbara, studying Anglo-Saxon monastic history and teaching ancient Rome, medieval Europe, and early modern Europe;
Trudy V. Selleck, doctoral student at UC Riverside, studying 20th-century U.S. history, especially immigration;
Nera Kuckreja Sohoni, an affiliated scholar at Institute for Research on Women and Gender at Stanford, studying the status of women in socioeconomic development and the demography of women and girls;
MEMBER NEWS

Lois Banner's In Full Flower: Aging Women, Power, and Sexuality: A History (Knopf), will be out in April 1992.


Nupur Chaudhuri has published "We All Seem Like Brothers & Sisters": The African-American Community in Manhattan, Kansas, 1865-1940," Kansas Quarterly (Winter 1991-1992); this research was funded by the Kansas Committee for the Humanities. She has also coauthored with Peg Strobel Western Women and Imperialism: Complicity and Resistance (Bloomington: Indiana University Press), which will be published in May 1992.

Joanna Cowden received an NEH summer stipend in the summer of 1991 and served as a receiver of proposals to the NEH's Research Division in January 1992.

Joan R. Gunderson's chapter entitled "Women and the Parallel Church" appears in Episcopal Women (Oxford University Press).


Regina Lark has been accepted into the doctoral program at University of Southern California.


Patricia Neils has been appointed an adjunct professor to teach East Asian history at the University of Montana's Mansfield Center.

Phyllis Peet is now coordinator of women's studies and women's programs at Monterey Peninsula College.

Rosemary Pegueros has been chosen to represent graduate students on CCWHP/CGWH.

Gerda Ray received the 1991 Award for Excellence in Research from the New York State Archives.

Judith Robinson has published a biography of the Hearst family that uses hitherto unexamined family papers and interviews with family members; it is titled The Hearstts: An American Dynasty (Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1991; foreword by Frances Richardson Keller). She is completing a second book for publication next year on the late Representative Phil Burton, Democrat of San Francisco.

Vicki Ruiz will be the Andrew W. Mellon all-Claremont Professor in the Humanities at the Claremont Graduate School and Harvey Mudd College as of July 1992.

Donna Schuele has received a Sourisseau Academy Grant and a UC Berkeley Humanities Graduate Research Grant for Dissertation Research on 19th-century California women's legal history.

Marjorie Shell Wilser has been appointed to Sunnyvale's Heritage Preservation Commission.

Susan Wladaver-Morgan has several articles (on individual women, child labor, New Deal, and constitutional issues) in A Dictionary of United States Economic History (Westport, CT: Greenwood, forthcoming in fall of 1992). She would like to hear from anyone doing research on the modern history of adoption, with the goal of putting together panels for upcoming conferences.

ONE MORE DEADLINE

Although the deadline for submissions is usually the first of March, June, September, and December, this year the deadline for the summer Networker will be June 20. Since our annual meeting will take place at the very end of May, many of you will need time to catch your breath and gather your thoughts. See you in San Marino.
MEMBER NEWS

PLEASE CLIP AND SEND TO: Susan Wladaver-Morgan
2513 N.E. Skidmore St.
Portland, OR 97211

Name ____________________________

Address __________________________

Notice of Publication (use extra sheet if needed) __________________________

Member News __________________________

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Clip and send with your check to Alison Klairmont Lingo, Secretary, 1088 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94708. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31; should you join midyear, we suggest that you pro-rate your dues accordingly.