President’s Column

Call to Conference

Mark your calendars and return your registrations as soon as you can for the 25th Annual Conference of the Western Association of Women Historians! The program should arrive in early April. We have an exciting program to look forward to. I know other presidents have said it before me, but I have to say it again. There is considerable talent in our organization! The twenty sessions planned include scholarship that circles the globe. You may opt to go back to colonial New England and New France, or the American West, or to the contemporary Middle East, to China, to name a few of the geographic regions to be considered. The time frame covers at least the last 800 years. The themes include a secret language of Chinese women, native American women in the southwest, the history of work and working women, motherhood, politics, religion and much more. In addition to the scholarly research, we have planned a workshop on co-operative teaching and a workshop on the Internet for historians, in response to requests that I got from several of you.

Included among our panelists are independent scholars, professors from community colleges, public universities (SUs and UCs in California), and private colleges and universities — the full spectrum of our membership working together in the cooperative style that has always been the trademark of WAWH. But let me be careful. Not all of our participants come from California. We will have scholars coming from Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Oregon. It begins to sound like we represent the American west as it was defined in 1790.

My thanks to the Program Committee and to the many of you who have sent in panels and individual papers. Unfortunately we were not able to schedule all the proposals that we received. But we do hope that papers that we just could not match this year will be submitted again. And hopefully our WEB, which Emily Rader, our graduate student rep has organized, will help us to find matching papers next year.

The weekend of May 20–22nd will be an exciting weekend. So get your reservations in as soon as you get your program. We will gather on Friday evening to share our “non-historical” talents. We do have many. Included among us are singers, pianists, comedians and folks with other talents we generally do not share at professional conferences. (Any tap dancers among us?). We will also have time to reminisce about our twenty-five years as an organization devoted to advancing the causes of women historians. I have already gotten several letters and notes telling me about the old days. So think about the funny, sad, intriguing, challenging, stupid, anxiety provoking memories you have of WAWH meetings and share them with us at the dinner Friday night.

The sessions will begin on Saturday and continue until noon on Sunday. We will meet at the lovely Huntington Library, which is excited to help us celebrate our 25th anniversary. Some of you may want to visit the Lincoln exhibit on Sunday, after our conference ends. So make plans to stay, if you can.

Graduate Student Fund

REMINDER! We need to contribute to the Graduate Student Fund. As I indicated in the last newsletter, we need to build a fund large enough that we will use only interest — not principle — when we grant the four awards we now have. To do that we need a total of $1,850 each year. If we spend the principle we will run out of money in the future and then have to cancel the awards. We must have a balanced budget. Deficit financing just won’t do.

So join us at our annual no-host cocktail party before the President’s dinner on Saturday. Proceeds from that party will be turned over to the GSF, as usual. But you don’t have to wait. You may contribute today and again in May. Consider making a regular quarterly contribution. Remember, the contribution is tax deductible.

WAWH Constitution

We owe Paula Eldot thanks for revising our Constitution. She wrote the original document and agreed to make the necessary changes in the text. Included among the amendments was a name change — the Constitution still refers to us by our second name — changes in the officers, and others. Space permitting, we will print these modifications in the newsletter. We will need to ratify these proposed changes at the business meeting.

(Continued on p. 2)
WAWH at the AHA

To update you on the work of WAWH at the AHA this year, we played an active and productive role at the AHA. We provided support to the CCWHP leadership; our own Betsy Perry, in coping with a difficult question concerning bias on the basis of sexual preference that faced AHA leadership. The planning committee of the AHA had scheduled the annual conference for 1995 in Cincinnati and plans were being made when the voters of the city passed legislation that would have permitted discrimination against AHA members on the basis of sexual preference. The issue was intensely discussed by the executive committee of the AHA, but with the guidance of Betsy and others who were willing to take a strong moral stand, the following resolutions were brought before the business meeting:

"The Association will not hold its 1995 annual meeting in Cincinnati, and it will cover any resulting liabilities through a package of voluntary contributions and dues and other fee increases." AND

"It is the policy of the American Historical Association not to hold its annual meetings in locations where its members would be subject to discrimination on the basis of age, gender, marital status, national origin, physical disability, race, or sexual orientation under state or city laws, and the Association will implement this policy in its negotiations for annual meeting rates."

At the business meeting we provided strong voting support for these resolutions. Both resolutions were passed by overwhelming margins. I saw only about a dozen or six voting cards against the first measure, and half that number for the second. The issue is not just one of principle. Moving the conference will cost several hundred thousand dollars and that means members of the AHA will need to find ways to replenish the treasury or as AHA President Thomas Holtz stated it, we will need to put our money where are consciences are.

Following the business meeting WAWH gathered with CCWHP at the annual cocktail party sponsored by CCWHP to co-celebrate our 25th anniversaries. We were both created in 1969! I invited our past presidents to be present at the celebration and introduced each of them. It was a delightful party, with lovely refreshments. I am also pleased to say that the group contributed in excess of five hundred dollars to begin the process of collecting funds we will need to cover the costs the AHA will face because it has moved the meeting away from Cincinnati.

Our co-sponsorship with CCWHP of the drop-in room for graduate students at the AHA also proved to be most successful. Dozens of grad students stopped in before or after interviews. We provided coffee cake and muffins, CCWHP paid for the room and the coffee and tea. Our thanks to Regina Lark for scheduling graduate students to staff the room and to all the students who helped. I stopped in several times and each time found most appreciative grad students waiting for or debriefing after an interview. I suggested that the affiliate organizations of the CCWHP take turns providing refreshments. There simply is no reason why the interviewing process be as gruesome as it was in the old days, when I was on the job market. I also made our brochure available and we have gotten new members as a result.

WAWH Survey

Thanks to many of you for completing the survey form in the last newsletter. Some of your suggestions have helped to shape the program in May and others will be addressed at our annual business meeting. If you have not sent your response in yet, do so now. It is never too late to let us know what you want WAWH to be and do.

Next U.S. Archivist

The most recent report from the National Coordinating Committee suggests that the nomination of Mary Maples Dunn as the next U.S. Archivist may be undermined by the appointment of Robert Hardesty. While the NCC had not taken a formal position on the nomination, it has encouraged support for Dunn or Trudy Huskamp Peterson, who are both highly qualified and do not have the partisan connections that Hardesty has. Members of the NCC feel strongly that the appointment must be made independent of partisan influence. For further information, please ask. Better yet, I have asked Page Putnam Miller, who is the Director of the NCC to speak at the President's dinner. So you can ask her directly. You may also want to ask her about the work she has done in developing historical sites on women's contributions to our nation. Some of her work appear in her Reclaiming The Past.

Hope to see you in May.

Peggy Renner

President, WAWH

Call for Papers

The Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association invites proposals from panels and papers for its 88th Annual Meeting, August 4-7, 1995, to be held at the Maui Inter-Continental Resort, on the Island of Maui, in Hawaii.

Proposals may be for individual papers, full panels, or partial panels. The committee especially encourages submission of complete panels.

The deadline for proposals is November 15, 1994. To submit a proposal, contact:

Prof. Marilyn Boxer

Robert W. Cherny

AHA-PCB Prog. Comm. Chairs

Dept of History

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San Francisco, CA 94132

FAX: 415/338-2514 or 415/338-7539

e-mail: cherny@sfsu.edu

boxer@sfsu.edu

SPRING 1994
The Constitution requires that members be notified about proposed changes either in advance or by providing copies at the meeting.

ARTICLE I — NAME AND PURPOSE
Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Western Association of Women Historians.

ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS
Section 3. The officers of the organization shall be a president, a president-elect, a secretary, a treasurer, an editor of the Newsletter, a graduate student coordinator, a social action coordinator, a media and publicity coordinator, and those in such offices as the membership shall choose to create at the annual convention.

Section 4. All officers, with the exception of the treasurer, shall take office at the end of the annual conference in odd-numbered years and serve until the end of the next convention in an odd-numbered year. In the calendar year of her election, the treasurer shall take office after the close of the fiscal year and serve through two fiscal years.

Section 5. The president shall appoint a program chair and an arrangements chair for each annual convention. Additional ad hoc officers may be designated by the executive board according to need.

Section 6. Either the executive board, or the membership at the business meeting, may establish ad hoc committees.

ARTICLE VI — DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS
Section 1. The president shall be the chief executive officer of Western Association of Women Historians. She shall appoint the chair and members of standing and ad hoc committees. She shall represent the organization in its dealings with other groups, arrange for the representation of Western Association of Women Historians on panels and at luncheons during professional conferences, call meetings of the executive board when necessary, and perform such other tasks as the executive board shall authorize. She shall choose the location of the annual conference, coordinate the activities of the program and arrangements chairs, and select the speaker for the president’s dinner.

Section 2. The president-elect, during her term, shall assist the president and prepare to assume the presidency at the end of their respective terms. The president-elect shall be in charge of job information and referrals and participate in liaison with other groups. At the end of the term, the president-elect shall become president.

Section 3. The secretary shall have responsibility for membership recruitment and follow-up, maintenance of the mailing lists and dues records, continuation of the computer directory, production of hard copies of the directory for sale at specified annual meetings, provision of mailing labels and appropriate records to the editor of the Newsletter and, under appropriate circumstances, to other officers and members, taking of minutes and notes for board meetings, and handling the correspondence of Western Association of Women Historians.

Section 4. The treasurer shall maintain the financial records, deposit all receipts in appropriate accounts, pay all expenses with funds drawn on the proper account, present a financial report at the annual convention, and file, with the authorities, the reports required by law.

Section 9. The social action coordinator shall bring to the attention of this organization relevant professional or social issues for action by the group or by individuals in the organization.

Section 10. The media and publicity coordinator shall promote access of members to publishers, journals, and media in order to enhance the members’ traditional and nontraditional career opportunities and to provide the public with the skills of qualified women historians.

ARTICLE VII — AMENDMENTS
Section 2. The text of proposed amendments to the constitution shall either be printed in the Newsletter immediately preceding an annual conference or be distributed with the program and reservation forms sent to members in advance of the meeting. Copies shall also be available at the time of registration.

ARTICLE VIII — DUES
Section 2. Notice of intent to raise or lower the dues shall be put in writing in the Call to Convention Newsletter.

Section 3. Dues are payable for the calendar year starting January 1.
Judith Strong Albert reports that the book to which she contributed the final chapter, *Margaret Fuller: Visionary of A New Age* (Marie Oleson Orbanski, ed.) was published in February by the U. of Maine Press.


Tani Barlow, San Francisco State, edits a new journal, *Positions: East Asia Cultures Critique*. She is soliciting papers on women in Asian American and East Asia Studies.

Jacqueline R. Braitman has an article in the May 1993 Pacific Historical Review, “Elizabeth Snyder and the Role of Women in the Postwar Resurgence of California’s Democratic Party,” and an upcoming book review in *California History* on Judith Raftery’s *Land of Fair Promise*.

Antonia I. Castañeda, UC Santa Barbara, is on leave during the academic year 1993-1994, with a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, to work on her book manuscript.


Nancy Page Fernandez (nfernand@orion.oac.uci.edu) and Susan Kullmann Puz (skpuz@csupomona.edu) organized (online) a Huntington Library Women’s Studies Seminar on “The Feminist Potentials on the Internet: Information, Communication, and Networking” that took place in April, 1994.

Anthea M. Hartig delivered “In the World He Has Created: The Reconstruction of the Southern California Landscape, 1890-1940” at the Huntington Library in February, 1994, as part of the Citriculture in Southern California, New Historical Perspectives Conference. She serves as Commissioner for the City of Ontario’s Historic Preservation Commission and Director, Board of Directors, of the California Council for the Promotion of History.

Sandra Haarsager, (sandrah@uidaho.edu) University of Idaho, published a biography of the first woman elected mayor of a large city in the United States, Bertha Knight Landes of Seattle — Big City Mayor (U. of Oklahoma Press).

Barbara Day Hickman’s article, “Political Dissent and Napoleonic Representation During the Restoration Monarchy” was published in *Historical Reflections/ Reflexions Historiguais*.

Judith M. Hughes’ *I from I’read’s Consulting Room: The Unconscious in a Scientific Age* will be published by Harvard University Press next fall.

From New Mexico State University, Joan M. Jensen reports that although she is retired from teaching, she continues to do research, write, and be active professionally. She recently completed *One Foot on the Rockies: Women and Creativity in the Modern American West* (U. of New Mexico Press).


Polly Welts Kaufman, University of MA, Boston, announces publication of *Aprons Full of Gold: The Letters of Mary Jane Megquier from San Francisco, 1849-1856* (2nd ed.) for which she wrote the introduction and served as editor.

Deborah Bochner Kennel is organizing a conference at UCLA entitled “Dressing the Renaissance Woman” which will be held May 6, 1994. For further information, contact her at (310) 206-3113.

Ann Hibner Koblitz has been appointed by the United Nations and UNIFEM to put together a section on women in science and technology from *Women’s World, Vol. 11*.


Irene Ledesma presented a paper on Chicana labor activism at the Western History Association meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma in October 1993.

Glenna Mathews co-authored *Running as a Woman: Gender and Power in American Politics* has just been published by The Free Press.

Karen Offen was the plenary speaker at the New Zealand Conference and spoke on “Suffrage and Beyond: Honoring 100 Years of Women’s Vote in New Zealand” in August, 1993. Also, she has prepared a document titled “Bibliography of Edited Collections of Scholarly Articles in Women’s History” and “Theme Issues on Women’s History in Scholarly Journals since 1970.”

And Karen is the new secretary-treasurer of the International Federation for Research in Women’s History / Federation Internationale Pour La Recherche de L’Histoire des Femmes.

Barbara Bennett Peterson received the University of Hawaii Board of Regent’s Excellence in Teaching Award for 1993. She now teaches World Civilization I over Hawaii public television.

*FYI*
WEB

WEB should be online sometime this Spring, running on the USC Gopher. The address for the USC gopher is cwis.usc.edu. If you don’t know how to get to the USC gopher, contact your local computer consultant. Steps to follow to WEB: At the USC gopher directory, choose “University Information,” followed by “Academic Departments,” followed by “Humanities (and Social Sciences),” followed by “History,” followed by “WEB.” Information about WEB participants will probably be accessible through key words for regions of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East, North America, South America), countries, and possibly centuries. Check it out and see what’s there.

WAWH Volunteers Needed

If you plan to attend the WAWH conference, get in free by volunteering for a few hours. We need volunteers to staff the Hospitality Room Friday and Saturday evenings, to help with registration all day on Friday and on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and to help set-up for the panels on Saturday and Sunday. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know: phone: (310) 495-2688; e-mail: rader@scf.usc.edu; or contact Regina Lark, Conference Coordinator, at (213)740-8132; e-mail: lark@chapa.usc.edu; or include a message with your conference registration form.

National Graduate WS Conference

The conference will take place at UC San Diego, April 14-17. If you would like to attend and want more information, contact Lora Taub, conference co-chair, (619) 542-1700.

Members of SCALLOPS have organized a panel for the conference, titled “Graduate Women Scholars of Southern California, Feminism, and Practice,” with Janni Aragon as moderator.

WAWH Grad Discussion Groups

WAWH members on several campuses are involved in ongoing discussion groups for dissertations and other works in progress. These are great examples of students helping each other and students building professional relationships with professors. For example, Susan Mosedale reports that the Phi Alpha Theta chapter at Portland State University has begun holding monthly colloquia at which professors and grad. students present their works in progress. In addition, students working on their theses have been holding weekly brown bag sessions to discuss their troubles and triumphs.

RAGS

Kathy Brown, University of Washington, reports that RAGS (Race and Gender Studies) is a newly formed group that has arranged to a lecture by Martha Hodes (UC Santa Cruz) on interracial sexual relations in the 19th-century South. For more information, contact Kathy at (206) 727-3274.

— Emily Rader

New Informational Network Formed

Welcome to WEB, an informational network sponsored by the Coordinating Committee on Women in the Historical Profession/Conference Group on Women’s History, the Western Association of Women Historians, and the History Department of the University of Southern California. Open to all scholars with an interest in history, this service will help to locate matching paper proposals so that completed panels can be proposed to conference program committees. With or without a computer, you are invited to enjoy the benefits of a computer-recorded network that will help you to find colleagues with similar interests. Simply fill out and return the following form to: Emily Rader, USC History Department, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0034.

WEB

Name:
Address:
Telephone: FAX or e-mail:
Region of Interest (circle one): Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, North America
Country within region:
Time period of your interest:
Title or topics of proposed papers:
Willing to travel to conference to present papers? _____ Yes _____ No

— Emily Rader
Career Opportunities: Cyberspace Sources

The WAWH membership covers the country as well as a wide range of historical interests. It is often difficult to determine which job notices to include in the pages of the Networker. In this issue, we include some information on the Internet that you can tap into in order to find up-to-date job information.

E-Mail: H-Net Weekly Job Information

The Fall 1993 Networker contained an article about "Historians and the Electronic Highway." H-Net sponsors more than 20 electronic discussion groups (lists) that focus on various aspects of history. WAWH members should note that the electronic mail lists on H-Net share a weekly listing of employment opportunities. Subscribing to any of the H-Net lists will enable you to receive this weekly update directly. This weekly listing can be saved, downloaded, copied, and printed out. To subscribe to a list, send the following message to LISTSERV@UICVM.UIC.EDU (Internet) or LISTSERV@UICVM (Bitnet):

SUB listname Firstname Surname

In order to subscribe to an H-Net list, you do not need a university Internet computer account. You need access to an Internet e-mail provider. There are several full service Internet providers (CRIS, Delphi, Netcom, etc.), several commercial online services with Internet mail capabilities (CompuServe, America Online, etc.) as well as local bulletin boards (BBSs) that provide a mail link to the Internet

Gopher: The Chronicle

You can access the Chronicle of Higher Education via the Internet using Gopher. Gopher is a world-wide online database of information at about 700 sites around the world. You need to be on a system that has Gopher. Once you open Gopher Information Client v1.11, the sequence is "All the Gopher Servers in the World" to "2. Academe This Week (Chronicle of Higher Education)" to "5. Job Openings in Academe from this Week's Chronicle" to either "1. Search Using the Chronicle's List of Jobs" or "2. Search Using any word or words of your choosing". Option 1 gives you a choice between faculty and research positions, administrative positions, executive positions, and positions outside of Academe. The search narrows down to specific fields and ultimately leads you to the same job description that you would read in the Chronicle.

Gopher is an easy to use, menu-driven computer tool. It is available on many university computers, full-service internet providers, and some commercial online services like America Online.

E-Mail Through Women's Wire

Of particular interest to WAWH members is Women's Wire, a relatively new online service coming out of San Francisco. In addition to offering Internet mail access through local dial-in numbers (Sprint-Net), W-Wire is the only women-focused cyberspace environment that I've found on the Internet. You can subscribe to W-Wire through local dial-in numbers (Sprint-Net), W-Wire is the only women-focused cyberspace environment that I've found on the Internet. You can subscribe to W-Wire by sending a message to info@wwire.net or calling (800) 210-9999.

Questions for
Carol Gold, WAWH Treasurer
can be sent to
FFCG@aurora.alaska.edu

Anne Richardson published Tyndale's Quare with Erasmus: A Chapter in the Meaning of the English Reformation (Fides et Historic, Fall 1993). Also, she presented a paper "On Representing Tyndale's English" for the Renaissance English Text Society at the MLA in Toronto last December.

Autumn Stanley published Mothers and Daughters of Invention: Notes for a Revised History of Technology (Scarecrow Press, 1993). Also, she presented a paper on gender differences in invention for the Society for the History of Technology Conference.


News for The Networker

PLEASE CLIP AND SEND NEWS ONLY TO:  (Dues go to Carol Gold)
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or Susan Kullmann Puz  skpuz@csupomona.edu (Internet)

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Notice of Publication

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(Please use extra sheet if needed.)

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Research and Teaching Fields__________________________________________________

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Clip and send with your check to Dr. Carol Gold, Membership Secretary, Dept. of History, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775. Membership runs from January 1 through December 31.