



## President's Column

As the year winds down, we try to put our affairs in order so that we may face the challenges of the months to come more effectively, or at least more calmly. We rush to complete all the hundred of tasks of the waning school term or other time-bound projects. We do our best to remember all the people who matter most to us and to let them know of our care in a meaningful way. We pay our bills, hoping for a more prosperous new year. And we pause to ponder yet again what the future holds.

First, some housekeeping details. *Membership in WAWH runs from January 1 through December 31.* In other words, your present membership is probably about to run out, unless you sent an extra-large check last year and are paid up one or more years ahead. To find out, just check your mailing label on the outside of the issue. Should the date in the upper right corner say 1995 or some smaller number, it is time to renew. At our wonderful year-end rates, your renewed membership offers not only an economic bargain but also the opportunity to update the information about you that will appear in our next directory, coming out next spring. So, before this newsletter gets buried in a pile of holiday mail, please take the time to clip and fill out the membership form in this issue, write your check, and send both items to Emily Rader, our treasurer; her address is listed on the executive board page. Be sure to include at least one clearly marked phone number (home or work), your e-mail address, and your most recent teaching or research interests.

WAWH has a new service for any members stumped about finding meaningful gifts for special people--a donation to the graduate student fellowship fund given in honor or memory of someone important in your life. Those who make such donations (care of Emily Rader) will receive a special card from me to present to each honoree, and the persons honored will be mentioned in our newsletter. This idea is not original. The National Women's History Project has been offering special Mother's Day cards for years, and I have increasingly found myself "adopting" manatees, buying commemorative bricks, and contributing to colleges, arts organizations, food banks, and other worthwhile causes in the names of people I want to honor. This approach has several advantages. It avoids much of the commercialism of the holiday season while contributing to the common good. It cuts back on the proliferation of clutter in the lives and homes of those we love. It is tax

deductible as a charitable contribution for the donor. It helps support the next generation of women historians. And it shows thought, care, and respect for the deepest ideals of the person honored. Why not celebrate a relative, teacher, student, or friend this way and simultaneously help insure a bright future for the historians of tomorrow?

One thing the future holds is the prospect that one day our organization will have its annual conference outside of California. Our membership is growing throughout the Western region, while the proportion of our members who reside in California is slowly declining (about 65 percent at present). *(Continued on Page 2)*

## Beijing Insights by Peggy Renner

My trip to China (U.N. Conference on Women) was clearly the most rewarding trip I have ever made. I now have a much better vision of the problems facing women from around the world and we share a common goal to gain equity for all women. I have a better understanding of the issue of structural adjustment (economic debt) and the powerful negative impact it is having on women in the "South" aka "the third world." I know more about the drive to end female mutilation in areas where the "social law" still demands this practice and many women support that demand. Trafficking in women is a growing industry all over the world and the fight to control it continues. *(Continued on Page 5)*



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**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN** (continued from Page 1)

Holding our meeting elsewhere offers opportunities but also risks. We would certainly gain some members in whichever new location we chose, but, at the same time, we would be less able to serve our existing majority from California, at least for that one year. We might well alienate many faithful members, experience lower conference attendance, and lose money for the organization as well. Still, our current pattern of never meeting north of San Francisco ill serves members who live outside the Golden State. We already know it is sometimes difficult for grad students in LA, for instance, to get up to Asilomar, but think of the obstacles to attending that confront our members in Tempe, Seattle, or Boulder. We need to figure out a way to serve all our members, wherever they live. Let me assure you that this is not a roundabout way of announcing that, like it or not, our 1997 conference will take place 1,000 miles away from our usual sites; we have applied for space at Asilomar and fully anticipate meeting there. Instead, this is an attempt to get us to start thinking about how we can best accommodate the needs of all our members. Is transportation the biggest stumbling block? If so, would chartering flights to get better airfares be feasible? Is lodging the problem? Then would it make sense for individual members in the locality to put people up for the duration of the conference? And if these ideas (and others) would help Californians go to any future

## Member News

**Lucia C. Birnbaum**, California Institute of Integral Studies. NGO Delegate to Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China. Coordinator of workshop: **Dark Mothers of the Earth** held on September 7, 1995.

**Willi Coleman**, Ethnic Studies, California State University, San Luis Obispo, has delivered a paper "Black Women and the Politics of Race and Gender in The United States: A Historical Perspective." University of South Africa, Women's Studies Program, Pretoria South Africa. Also, received an Affirmative Action Faculty Development Grant to conduct research on Race and Women's Groups in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Laura Coodley**, Napa Valley College, received California Council for the Humanities Grant to write a documentary film script on the life of Upton Sinclair, with emphasis on his role as male feminist and founder of utopian colony based on theories of Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

conferences held out of state, then shouldn't we try to offer similar services to other Westerners to allow them to attend our conferences in California? As our organization grows, we will have to face these questions sooner or later, and the executive board would appreciate insights and input from all of you.

Coming up sooner is the meeting of the Organization of American Historians in San Francisco in April 1997. Traditionally, we have not played a very visible role at the OAH, but since this group will be meeting in our region, perhaps we should take this opportunity to make ourselves better known. So, if you have ideas or would like to volunteer to coordinate our presence at the OAH, please contact me as soon as possible. 1997 will be here before we know it.

In the meantime, however, let me wish you all a peaceful and productive 1996.

**Susan Wladaver-Morgan**  
WAWH President

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**Robert J. Dinkin**, California State University, Fresno, has published *Before Equal Suffrage: From Colonial Times to 1920*, Greenwood Press, 1995.

**Irene Ledesma**, University of Texas-Pan American, has published an article in *Western Historical Quarterly*, "Texas Newspapers and Chicana Activism, 1917-1974," Fall 1995.

**Morgan Lofting**, University of Southern California, has received USC Hayes Fellowship for first year graduate students.

**N.C. Luebben**, University of California, Santa Barbara, doctoral candidate, has received Interdisciplinary Humanities Centre Dissertation Fellowship to continue her research in Ireland and Scotland during Fall 1995. Also, she has been invited to give the "Young Scholar" research paper presentation at the Church of Ireland Historical Society's meeting in Dublin this November.

## Call for Papers and Forthcoming Meetings

**International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy** invites submissions for a special issue on "Feminism and Men." Theoretical essays that explore supportive roles men might play in the creation of larger feminist realities and experientially grounded papers that provide examples of men who are actively trying to live feminist world views. Especially interested in papers that emphasize opportunities for social change and social policy implications. Essays from both men and women are welcomed. Submission deadline is January 15, 1996. Submit four copies to: Stephen P. Schacht, Dept of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA 99258 (509) 456-8690; or Doris Ewing, Dept of Sociology and Anthropology, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO 65804.

**Plains Indian Seminar** September 27-19, 1996  
Hosted by The Plains Indian Museum of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. The conference will address the theme, "Powerful Expressions: Art of Plains Indian Women". Interested persons are invited to submit a 450-word abstract or completed paper along with an abbreviated resume by April 8, 1996. Address to: Lillian Turner, Public Programs Coordinator, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, 720 Sheridan Ave, Cody, WY 82414 or call (307) 587-4771, ext. 248.



## Deadlines and Data:

### **WAWH Awards and Prizes 1996**

*Each of the following awards is granted at the annual conference of the Western Association of Women Historians. Applicants for these awards must be members of WAWH at the time of submission (beginning with the 1997 awards, all applicants will need to have been members for two years). The deadline for all of these awards is February 15, 1996. Membership information may be obtained from the Treasurer, Emily Rader, 436 Lime Ave, #6, Long Beach, CA 90802.*

**Sierra Book Prize** The WAWH will award the 1996 Sierra Prize (\$250) for the best monograph in the field of history published by a WAWH member. Eligibility for the prize is limited to two groups: those residing in California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Alaska, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana, Texas, or Oklahoma; and WAWH members residing in other states who have paid membership for three years (not necessarily consecutive years). The book must be a monograph based on original research (not an anthology or edited work); the prize is open to all fields of history. Please send a letter of intent and three copies of the book to: Dr. Sherry Smith, Dept. of History, University of Texas, El Paso, El Paso, TX 79968

**Judith Lee Ridge Article Prize** The WAWH will award the 1996 JLRAP (\$100) for the best article in the field of history published by a WAWH member. The article must have been published in 1994 or 1995. All fields of history will be considered, and submissions must include full scholarly apparatus. Please send inquiries and three copies to Dr. Ruth Alexander, Dept. of History, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.

**Barbara Penny Kanner Award** The WAWH will award the 1996 BPKP (\$500) to the best scholarly bibliographical and historical guide to research focused on Women's or Gender history. The award is intended to promote the practice of bibliomethodology and to reflect the critical tools of the historian's craft as they have been developed to provide research guides. Book-length submissions are preferred, but substantial guides in other forms (articles or book chapters) may also be considered. For further information and application, please contact Dr. Karen Blair, Dept. of History, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

**Graduate Student Fellowship** The WAWH will award the 1996 GSF (\$1,000) to a graduate student, advanced to candidacy, who is writing a dissertation at the time of application, and is expecting to receive the Ph.D. no earlier than December of the calendar year in which the award is made. For further information and application forms, please contact Dr. Nupur Chaudhuri, 1737 Vaughan Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502

## Job Openings . . .

### San Diego State University

*20th Century US, political and environmental history*  
SDSU invites applications for tenure-track position at assistant professor rank. Ph.D. required. Screening will begin December 1, 1995. Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found. Send dossier and letter to Chair, Search Committee, Dept of History, SDSU, San Diego, CA 92182-8147.

*Dwight E. Stanford Chair in American Foreign Relations*  
SDSU Department of History seeks a distinguished scholar and teacher for the DWES Chair in American Foreign Relations, effective fall semester 1996. Appointment at full professor with tenure. Salary range \$77,000 to \$85,000. Six unit teaching load. Research interest in Pacific Rim is preferred, particularly American-East Asian relations. Send letter of application, CV and at least 3 letters of recommendation to Chair, Recruitment Committee, Department of History, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-8147. Screening will begin Dec. 1, 1995 and will continue until suitable candidate is found.

### California State University, Long Beach

#### *Latin American History*

CSULB invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in Latin American History. Ph.D. required. Substantial supporting work in other disciplines such as, art, language, or literature desirable. Send letter of application, current CV, three current letters of recommendation, and transcripts to: Sharon Sievers, Chair, Dept. of History, Cal State University, Long Beach, CA 90840. Deadline for applications is Dec. 11, 1995. Position open until filled.

### Purdue University

#### *History of Religion and Academic Advisor*

Beginning Assistant Professor tenure-track position. Ph.D. required. Research specialty in any aspect of field. Effective August 15, 1996. Closing Date Feb. 1, 1996 or until position is filled. Please send letter of application, CV, and three letters of recommendation to: Professor John J. Contreni, Dept. of History Purdue University, 1358 University Hall, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1358.

### California State University, Chico

#### *Eastern European/Russian History*

CSUC invites applications for Assistant Professor tenure-track in 19th and 20th century eastern European/Russian history to begin in August 1996. Preferred concentrations are in the history of science and technology or in gender/women. Ph.D. required. Salary competitive. Candidates should demonstrate promise of being dynamic classroom teachers, excellence in scholarship,

and being a program builder. Will be expected to teach introductory courses as well as upper division and graduate courses. There will be opportunities to develop courses in the appointee's areas of interest. The deadline for applications is January 31, 1996. Send letter of application, CV, and three letters of recommendation to: Hugh Campbell, Chair, Dept. of History, CSU, Chico, CA 95929.

## Editor's Column . . .

Deadline for next submissions to  
*The Networker* is April 1, 1996.

. . .

### OOPS! Correction to Fall 95 Issue-

#### Graduate Student Fellowship

Rebecca Lynn Winer, University of California, Los Angeles

Dissertation: "Silent Partners, Women, Commerce and the Family in Medieval Perpignon, circa 1250-1324"

(Michelle Jolly, UCSD and Jill Fields, USC were listed as winners in the Fall 1995 *Networker*, when in fact, they were given Honorable Mentions.)

See Deadlines and Data for 1996 prize entries info.

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### GENORA JOHNSON DOLLINGER; PIONEER AUTO UNION LEADER PASSES ON OCT. 14 AT 82.

She was a pioneering labor leader in the United Auto Workers Union. Some of you may have seen her inspiring speeches or seen "With Babies & Banners: The Story of the Women's Emergency Brigade," which was nominated for an Academy Award. The film detailed her work as a young woman who organized the Women's Emergency Brigade in the landmark 1937 strike against General Motors in Flint, Mich.

She and other women stood off the Flint police, Pinkerton guards and industrial leaders at the gate of strategic Plant No. 4 where Chevrolet engines were made. Their maneuvering led to victory for the laborers and the development of the UAW. Mrs. Dollinger organized the union's women's auxiliary.

Her exploits were also described in a BBC documentary "The Great Sitdown Strike."

Last year, she was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Michigan Women's Historical Center in Lansing.



## Graduate Student News

Many of you may be in the process of applying for grants and fellowships. Here are some tips that might be helpful.

The AHA publishes a *Guide to Grants Fellowships and Prizes of Interest to Historians*. The 1995-96 edition is already out. To order this guide, write to:

The American Historical Association, Publication Sales Department, 400 A Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

Also try the University of Washington's Graduate Funding Resource System Award Opportunity Listing at:

The Graduate School, University of Washington, Box 351240, Seattle, WA 98194-1240.

This service charges \$15.00 per search. Searches are guaranteed. When you decide to apply, request published guidelines for submitting proposals and applications. Faculty members who have applied for numerous grants and who have directed award committees said one of the most common reason proposals were rejected was that guidelines were not followed. Proposal abstracts were too long and letters of recommendation did not arrive on time.

Speaking of letters of recommendation, check with your department or university to see if they have a service to keep and mail out faculty letters. Advisors can keep a letter of recommendation on a computer file so that it can be easily revised according to specific requirements. If the organization requires that your department nominate you before you can be considered for grants or fellowships, make sure you remind the department chair, or secretary, of application deadlines.

We hope that these tips will help reduce some of the anxiety that accompanies applying for funding. In the next issue we will discuss submitting papers for presentation at conferences. Please send suggestions on any of these topics to Katie Pearce-Sasson.

Good luck in your endeavors.

Erika and Katie



### Beijing Insights *(continued from Page 1)*

I thought I knew what it meant to "look at the world through women's eyes" but I also see how "Western" and "Northern" I have been in my world view. That was indeed surprising in that I have lived in the Carribean and I teach the history of women twice every term, four times a year, where I make a conscious effort to see that history through the eyes of African and African American, Native American, Anglo, French, British, Japanese, Chinese, Thai, Korean, Mexican....

If you want to look at the Platform for Action and the goals that our government has agreed to work on, I have copies of these or you can get them from the U.N. on the Internet. But we also need to remember that change will not come strictly from the top down. Women continue to work in a political arena that is not limited to the formal structures of the organized state.

I would like to ask others who were in China to think about a session at the annual meeting at the Huntington. My address is still Glendale College, 1500 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208, or call 818/240-1000.

## WAWH Executive Board, 1995-1996

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#### J.L. Ridge Prize Chair

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ralexander@vines.colostat.edu

#### Barbara Penny Kanner Prize

Chair  
Karen Blair  
Department of History  
Central Washington University  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

## Member News - *The Networker*

Name, affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Notice of publication or other member news:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Use an additional sheet if necessary. Send to Jacqueline Braitman, 23250 Mariano Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367) Deadline for next issue is April 1, 1996.

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### SPITHRA, The informational network

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SPITHRA is for scholars who wish to locate matching paper proposals so that completed panels can be proposed to conference program committees. With or without a computer, you can enjoy the benefits of a computer-recorded network simply by filling out the following form and sending it to Emily Rader, USC History Department, University Park, CA 90089-0034. To access SPITHRA, if you have a computer connected to a university computing system, log onto Gopher. You will then see: "Other Gopher Systems; there you will eventually find "University of So. California (USC). If you are not connected to a university system, log on to cwis.usc.edu; this will bring you to the Gopher menu. At USC Gopher, make the following menu choices: (1) #3 "University Information"; (2) #1, "Academic Departments"; (3) #15 "Social Sciences and Communications"; (4) #3, "History; and finally (5) #1, "SPITHRA"

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_ FAX/e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ evening: \_\_\_\_\_

Region of interest (circle one): Africa Asia Europe Latin America Middle East No. America

Country in region \_\_\_\_\_ Time period of interest \_\_\_\_\_

Title or topic of proposed paper  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Willing to travel to conference to present papers? Yes  No

[Co-sponsored by the Conference Group on Women's History (CGWH), the Western Association of Women Historians (WAWH), and the Department of History, University of Southern California (USC).]

## WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (include. city, zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Internet or Bitnet (circle one)

Current Position and/or Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Research and/or Teaching Fields \_\_\_\_\_

Full-time Employed	\$20
Part-time/Retired	\$15
Graduate Student/Independent Scholar	\$8
Lifetime Membership	\$400

(Clip and send with your check to: Emily Rader, WAWH Treasurer, 436 Lime Ave., #6 Long Beach, CA 90802-2678.  
*Reminder: Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Remember to renew yours before you spend all your money buying holiday gifts! We will issue a new Membership Directory in 1996. Membership dues are tax-deductible. New members will be listed in the Spring edition of The Networker,*



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