



The Networker
The Newsletter of the
Western Association of Women Historians
www.wawh.org

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Fall 2005

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Nupur Chaudhuri

Greetings,

By the time you read this column, the destruction of hurricanes Katrina and Rita will be distant memories for some, but for others among us the effects of Katrina and Rita will be both far-reaching and long-lasting. Our thoughts are with our colleagues and students in these devastated regions. But in spite of natural and man-made disasters, we have always celebrated life and worked to build a better world.

In that spirit, we the members of WAWH are going to celebrate the 25th anniversary year (2006-2007) of the establishment of our Sierra Prize at our annual meeting at Asilomar Conference Center in California. The Sierra Prize honors the best book by a WAWH member. I will take this opportunity to thank the Sierra Prize committee members over the years, including the present members—Jessica Weiss, chair, Patricia Schechter and Eileen Boris—for their hard work and commitment to this prize.

On Friday evening of the conference, May 5, 2006, we will honor all of our Sierra Prize winners for their accomplishments. The success of the Sierra Prize represents the success of WAWH's commitment to academic excellence and sisterhood. We hope that all our members will come and join us to celebrate this occasion. Also, to mark the occasion, this issue of *The Networker* is publishing profiles with Frances Richardson Keller, one of the prize's originators and Patricia Schechter, a previous Sierra Prize (and Ridge Prize) winner. This celebration coordinate with one of the organizational goals for 2005-2006—to raise funds to establish an endowment for the Sierra Prize so that we can

continue to acknowledge and honor our members' outstanding academic achievements for years to come. WAWH is a 501(c)3 organization, all donations are tax deductible.

To promote our organization's visibility, we are establishing and strengthening connections with other history organizations. Regina Lark (the 2006 program chair), Amy Essington, and I have asked Ula Taylor to help us to organize a panel with Association of Black Women Historians for our forthcoming conference. Through the efforts of Jennifer Scanlon, Coordinating Council for Women in History (CCWH) Executive Director, and Eileen Boris, CCWH co-president, we hope to co-sponsor panels at the AHA in 2007. Mary Ann Irwin and Susan Wladaver-Morgan, are working on panel(s) with other organizations such as the Coalition for Western Women's History (CWWH) as well. I will keep you posted on this in the next newsletter. These panels will be added to co-sponsoring receptions at the OAH and Berks.

But mark your calendars now to join with your fellow members of WAWH in the peaceful and beautiful setting of Asilomar for a terrific conference. Please note that this year's conference will follow a somewhat different schedule than in the past, starting in earnest on Friday and ending after the banquet on Saturday. We hope to see you there.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WAWH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Request for Updates: As we begin a new academic year, some people may have new contact information or e-mail addresses. Keeping the membership database updated is an ongoing process. Send updates and corrections to Amy Essington at aessington@verizon.net.

Now Official: The contract has been signed and the WAWH Archives are now officially located in the Sacramento State University Special Collections and University Archives, its historic home. We have made the first deposit and more are scheduled. This will be a place to keep our records for future historians. Continue to check your files for any archival material. Send it to Amy Essington.

2006 Local Arrangements Chair: Kathleen Kennedy, Western Washington University, has agreed to serve as the 2006 Local Arrangements Chair.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Symposium: The Native American Symposium will be held on November 10-12, 2005. The theme this year is "Native Women in the Arts, Education, and Leadership." Over eighty papers have been approved for the symposium and cover every discipline. Buffy Sainte-Marie is the keynote speaker and Winona LaDuke will also speak on relevant

issues. The symposium will be at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, which is located in Durant, Oklahoma. The symposium is presented every other year and promises to be an interesting gathering of scholars. Contact Corie Delashaw at cdelashaw@sosu.edu for more information.

Seminar Series: The Huntington Women's Studies Seminar schedule is set for 2005 - 2006. The October 8, 2005 topic was: "Maintaining Poverty: Women and the Welfare State," and WAWH members Eileen Boris and Carole Srole participated. Upcoming dates and topics: February 25th: "Women and Disability." March 18th: "Women and Politics/Nation Building. June 3rd: Topic undetermined at this time. All programs begin at 10:00am and end at 12:00pm, followed by a lunch on the terrace. Lunches are available for purchase or participants can bring their own. Visit <http://www.americanfolk.com/women/> for more information.

Call for Papers: We are pleased to invite submissions for an anthology that will gather the best of recent and classic work in California women's history. We envision this anthology as a companion to undergraduate history texts, a scholarly resource, and a book with general appeal. It will be a

(Continued on page 16)

THANK YOU DONORS

Thank you to the people who have made donations to the WAWH between June 2, 2005 and October 15, 2005.

Amy Brewster
Dionne Espinoza

Gina Marie T. Pitti

Donna T. Thune
Elspeth Whitney

The WAWH is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Your donations are tax-deductible and help support the continued growth of our organization and its activities including: the newsletter, the annual conference, two prizes, one award, and one fellowship. Donations of any size are welcome. Donations can be directed to a specific fund or award. Thank you for your continuing support.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the members who have joined between June 2, 2005, and June October 15, 2005.

Janet Afary	Lee Formwalt	Molly Murphy Mac-	Leslie Peirce
Glenda Alvin	Michele Gillespie	Gragor	Kathleen Blain Roberts
Nicole Anderson	Sherry Ginn	Leslie Madsen-Brooks	Vicki Ruiz
Sue Armitage	James Green	Angela L. Martinez	Marie Jenkins Schwartz
Efrat E. Aviv	Amy Harris	Terence McIntosh	Barbara Steinson
Daniela Blei	Amina Hassan	Sally G. McMillan	Sharon R. Taylor
Laura Briggs	Wanda Hendricks	Carmen Nava	Huey Bin Teng
Rhonda Clark	Kathryn A. Jacob	Mary Neth	Donna T. Thune
Elizabeth Colton	Beth Johnson	Christa K. Nonnemaker	Heather A. Vaughan
Amy H. Crain	Mary Ann Johnson	Mary O'Doud	Debbie Walsh
Rebecca de Schweinitz	Jacqueline Jones	Ferris Olin	Cheryl Krasnick Warsh
Lynn Downey	Natalie Joy	Colleen O'Neill	Karol Weaver
Dionne Espinoza	Wilma King	Annette Palmer	Ingrid R. Wilkerson
Barbara Fisher	Jan Lewis	Carol S. Palmer	Megan E. Williams

MEMBER NEWS

Dr. Tisa Anders, scholar activist, has been appointed Executive Director of the Colorado Women's Agenda in Denver. The CWA engages in social action with a focus on women's issues and the political process. This complements her post-doctoral research topics: her dissertation figure, L. Maria Child, a nineteenth-century U.S. activist and author; and Junius Groves, an African-American farmer and entrepreneur from Kansas and one of the wealthiest men in the country in the post-Civil War period.

Susan Groag Bell is pleased to announce that her new book, *The Lost Tapestries of the City of Ladies: Christine de Pizan's Renaissance Legacy*, has arrived. The book was published by University of California Press in November 2004.

In July, **Marilyn Boxer** presented a paper at the International Federation for Research in Women's History (IFRWH) meeting, held in concert with the International Congress of Historical Sciences, in Sydney. The paper was entitled "On the Socialist Construction and International Career of the Concept 'Bourgeois Feminism'."

Nupur Chaudhuri, Texas Southern University, has signed a contract with Prentice Hall to write a book entitled *Women and Nationalism: India, Indonesia, Egypt and Nigeria*.

Trudy Flores, graduate student at Portland State University and newly installed *Networker* editor, also began minding p's and q's as the production editor for *Social Problems*, an interdisciplinary jour-

(Continued on page 14)

Share your accomplishments. Include your professional news in the next newsletter.

Send submissions for Member News to Trudy Flores.

Your information will be included in the next *Networker*. A reminder e-mail is sent to the organizational e-mail list before the submission due date. Due dates are listed on the Calendar section of the newsletter.

NEWS FROM THE 2006 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Greetings WAWH Members and Affiliates!

As we wait for your proposals to roll in, I want to introduce to you the Program Committee for the 38th Annual conference! The scholars who make up the 2006 Committee cover the state of California geographically but offer us a wide range of intellectual and pedagogical interests. And now for the introductions:

Muriel McClendon is an associate professor of history at UCLA whose work engages with the history and literature of medieval and early modern and modern Europe.

Dionne Espinoza, an associate professor of Chicano Studies at California State University, Los Angeles, writes about Chicana activism, feminism and women's movements.

Dr. Alexandra Epstein currently holds a replacement appointment at the University California at San Diego and her work is on California women and internationalism.

Margaret Nash is an assistant professor of Curriculum and Instruction in the Graduate School of Education at University of California at Riverside. Her research interests include early female education in the U.S.

Carmen Nava, an associate professor of history at California State University, San Marcos, focuses on Latin American cultural history and Brazilian national identity.

Ula Taylor is an associate professor of African American studies at UC Berkeley. Her research interests include Afrocentrism and African American women.

And I am **Regina Lark**. I am a long-time member of WAWH (serving as grad representative, local arrangements chair, committee member, then chair of the Kanner prize committee). So I knew that it would be just a matter of time before Nupur Chaudhuri asked me to be part of yet another committee for the WAWH. Thus, in March of this year, I became the Program Chair for the conference at Asilomar. I recently began a new position as Program Director for the humanities, social sciences, and languages for UCLA Extension. My own research interests are in the areas of gender and Japanese immigration to the U.S.

We look forward to receiving your abstract proposals. If you are available to chair or moderate a session please drop me a note and include your CV so we can make a good match to your research interests (rlark@uclaextension.edu)

CALL FOR PAPERS
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS
38th Annual Conference
Asilomar Conference Center
Pacific Grove, CA
May 5-7, 2006

The WAWH welcomes proposals for panels or single papers on any historical subject, time period, or region. Papers do not necessarily have to focus on women or gender history, although those issues are of special interest to our membership. Panels, workshops, or roundtables on major concerns of women in the historical profession are also encouraged. Proposals for complete panels, including commentators, are preferred, but individual papers will also be considered.

Proposals must include each of the following:

A WAWH Cover Page (found at www.wawh.org)

The cover sheet MUST be included for both individual and panel proposals.

A one-half to one-page abstract for each paper.

One-to-two-page curriculum vitae for each panelist.

The program committee reserves the right to change or reconfigure panels.

Submission of proposal will indicate agreement with this policy.

Communication with panelists will be made through the designated contact.

Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

Current (2005-2006) WAWH membership and conference registration is required of all program participants.

WAWH Membership runs from conference to conference.

Membership forms can be found at <http://www.wawh.org>.

If you have any questions, please contact the program chair:

Regina Lark

Program Director, Humanities and Social Sciences

UCLA Extension

10995 Le Conte Avenue, Suite 711

Los Angeles, CA 90024

310-825-2272

rlark@uclaextension.edu

Mail four sets of proposal material to the program committee chair by November 1, 2005.

All WAWH award and prize applications are due January 15, 2006.

The Western Association of Women Historians was founded in 1969.

Drawing scholars from the Western states, the WAWH is the largest of the regional women's historical associations in the United States.

For information about the organization, award and prize applications, call for papers deadline, conference registration, conference program, and membership, please visit www.wawh.org.

DISSERTATIONS-IN-PROGRESS PANEL CALL FOR PAPERS

If you are currently ABD, and are looking for a place to present your work, the WAWH welcomes you to submit a proposal for inclusion on a panel of dissertations in progress. Papers can cover any historical subject, time period, or region, and do not necessarily have to focus on women or gender history although those issues are of special interest to our membership. Current WAWH membership is required of all program participants as well as conference registration (found at <http://www.wawh.org>).

Proposals must include the following:

A WAWH Cover Page (found at www.wawh.org)

A one-half to one-page abstract for each paper

A one-to-two page curriculum vitae

Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

The program committee reserves the right to change or reconfigure panels.

Submission of proposal will indicate agreement with this policy.

Proposals for the Dissertations in Progress Panel are due by October 20, 2005, to Sandra Dawson.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Sandra Dawson

Department of History

University of California, Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, California, 93107

sdrn@umail.ucsb.edu

Successful applicants for the dissertations in progress panel will be notified by Sandra Dawson.

Paper proposals not included in the panel will be forwarded to the 2006 WAWH Program Committee for consideration in other panels.

WAWH 2007 Conference

May 4-5, 2007

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice

University of San Diego

San Diego, California

Come to sunny San Diego as we expand our southern California meeting location south of Los Angeles.

We will have beautiful views and good San Diego weather for our yearly conference.

WAWH 2008 Conference

May 16-17, 2008

University of British Columbia

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Bring your passports! Join us for our first venture outside of the United States.

WAWH HISTORY: KANNER PRIZE

by Amy Essington

This is another in a series of columns (formally known as The Hunt for the WAWH Archives series) informing the membership about the organization's history. The issue highlights the Barbara "Penny" Kanner Award. Seven awards have been given. The Kanner Award is intended to promote the practice of bibliomethodology or autobiography in historical context. The bibliomethodology award should reflect the critical tools of the historian's craft as they have been developed to provide research guides rather than library catalogues. The autobiography in historical context award should reflect the craft of history as developed and interpreted in individual lives. The bibliographical and the autobiography awards are given in alternate years, with submissions for each award considered for two-year intervals from the date of publication.

Penny Kanner, WAWH President from 1981-1982, has made several generous donation to fund this award. The most recent, this summer, will fund the award for several years to come.

A special organizational thank you to Penny Kanner for her continuing commitment to the award she founded.

2005
Allison Booth, *How to Make it as a Woman: Collective Biographical History from Victoria to Present*. University of Chicago Press, 2004.

2004
Lynn Hudson, *The Making of Mammy Pleasant: A Black Entrepreneur in Nineteenth-Century San Francisco*. University of Illinois Press, 2002.

2003
Sheridan Harvey, et al., eds. *American Women: A Library of Congress Guide for the Study of Women's History and Culture in the United States*. Lebanon, NH: University of New England Press, 2002.

1999
Karen J. Blair, *Northwest Women: An Annotated Bibliography of Sources on the History of Oregon and Washington Women, 1787 - 1970*. Washington State University Press, 1997.

1997
Mary Lynn McCree, Nancy Slote, and Maree De Anguary, *The Jane Addams Papers: A Comprehensive Guide*. Indiana University Press, 1996.

1995
Candace Falk, *Emma Goldman: A Guide to Her Life and Documentary Sources*. Chadwyck-Healy, 1995.

1994
Yaffa Claire Draznin, *"My Other Self": The Letters of Olive Schreiner and Havelock Ellis, 1884 - 1920*. Peter Lang Publishing, 1992.

The WAWH is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization.

Your donations are tax-deductible and help support the continued growth of our organization and its activities including endowing the awards. Donations of any size are welcome.

Donations can be directed to an individual prize. Thank you for your support.

2006 WAWH AWARDS AND PRIZES

Founders' Dissertation Fellowship

The WAWH invites applications for its 2006 Founders' Dissertation Fellowship. Applicants must be members of the WAWH, advanced to candidacy, writing the dissertation at the time of the application, and expecting to receive the Ph.D. no earlier than December 2006. The \$1000 award may be used for any expenses related to the dissertation. A complete application must be received by January 15, 2006. The fellowship recipient will be announced at the WAWH Annual Conference.

Applicants for a WAWH Founders Dissertation Fellowship must submit the following to the award committee:

- a. A completed application form. A curriculum vita is not an acceptable substitute.
- b. A summary of the dissertation project, an explanation of its historical scholarship, a survey of the major primary sources, a summary of research already accomplished, and an indication of plans for completion of the dissertation in no more than five double-spaced pages.
- c. One confidential letter of recommendation from a dissertation committee member sent directly to the Founders' Dissertation Fellowship Committee. A file maintained by a university office is not an adequate substitute for the specified letters of reference.

THE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15, 2006.

For full application requirements and form, visit the web site. Applications should be mailed to each committee member, see below and check the web for details.

For further information, please contact the chair.

Alexandra M. Nickliss, Chair
Department of Social Science
City College of San Francisco
50 Phelan Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94112
anickliss@ccsf.edu

Francesa Miller
908 Fordham Drive
Davis, CA 95616
fwmiller@ucdavis.edu

Lisa Cody
Claremont McKenna College
850 Columbia Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711-6420
909-607-2830
lisa.cody@mckenna.edu

Judith Lee Ridge Prize

The WAWH will award \$100 for the best article in the field of history published by a WAWH member. All recipients shall be members of the WAWH for at least one year prior to submission. Eligibility is limited to two groups: those residing in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming or the Western Canadian Provinces; and WAWH members residing in other states who have paid membership for three years (not necessarily consecutive years).

The article must have been published in 2004 or 2005. All fields of history will be considered, and articles must be submitted with full scholarly apparatus.

THE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15, 2006.

For full application requirements and form, visit the web site. Applications should be mailed to each committee member, check below and the web for details.

For further information, please contact the chair.

Sarah Stage, Chair
Arizona State University
Women's Studies
P.O. Box 37100
Phoenix, AZ 85069-7100
602-543-3310
sarah.stage@asu.edu

Elinor Accampo
University of Southern California
3520 Trousdale Pkwy, 270 Social Science Bldg.
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0034
213-740-1649
accampo@usc.edu

Barbara Molony
Santa Clara University, History Dept.
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0285
408-554-4433
bmolony@scu.edu

2006 WAWH AWARDS AND PRIZES

Sierra Book Prize

The WAWH will award the 2006 Sierra Book Prize (\$250) for the best monograph in the field of history published by a WAWH member. Eligibility of the prize is limited to two groups: those residing in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming or the Western Canadian Provinces; 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). It must have been published in 2005. Books previously issued as hardback and reissued as paper can not be submitted more than once. Books can not be submitted more than once. The Prize is open to all fields of history.

THE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15, 2006.

For full application requirements and form, visit the web site. Applications should be mailed to each committee member, check below and the web for details. For further information, please contact the chair.

Jessica Weiss, Chair
Visiting Scholar
Institute for the Study of Social Change
2420 Bowditch St. #5629
UC Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-5670
jessica.weiss@csueastbay.edu

Patricia Schechter
Portland State University
PO Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
503-725-3007
schechp@pdx.edu

Eileen Boris
University of California, Santa Barbara
Women's Studies Program
South Hall
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
boris@womst.ucsb.edu

Barbara Penny Kanner Award

The WAWH will award \$500 to the best scholarly bibliographical and historical guide to research focused on women or gender history. The Kanner Award is intended to promote the practice of biblio-methodology or autobiography in historical context. The bibliomethodology award should reflect the critical tools of the historian's craft as they have been developed to provide research guides rather than library catalogues. The autobiography in historical context award should reflect the craft of history as developed and interpreted in individual lives. Book-length submissions are preferred but substantial guides in other forms (articles or book chapters) may also be considered.

The bibliographical and the autobiography awards will be given in alternate years, with submissions for each award considered for two-year intervals from the date of publication. The 2006 award will be autobiographical and an item published in 2004 or 2005.

THE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15, 2006.

For full application requirements and form, visit the web site. Three sets of application material should be mailed to the chair, check below and the web for details. For further information, please contact the chair.

MariaElena Raymond, Chair
17400 Amethyst Drive,
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
mariaraymond@afes.com

Beginning in 2004, all WAWH awards have an application form which can be found on the organizational web site. Award applicants must also be current WAWH members at the time of submission.

SIERRA PRIZE PROFILES

by Trudy Flores

I recently had the pleasure of speaking to Frances Richardson Keller about the Sierra Prize's beginnings and to Patricia Schechter, the 2002 Sierra Prize winner, about what winning the prize meant to her.

Frances Richardson Keller, Sierra Prize Founder:

I spoke to Frances Keller by phone a couple of mornings ago, and among other things, I asked her about a conference panel I had heard she was planning. When I asked about it, her answer was a question. "Which one"? (It turns out the panel will be about the congruencies between academic fiction and fictional biographies.) And a few minutes later, I was astounded to hear her say that she has not one—but two—books in the works. Gracious, inspiring, and still hard at work over ninety!

When I asked her if she would tell me about WAWH and the Sierra Prize, she got straight to the point. According to Frances, when she came in as WAWH's president back in "1980 or 1981, it was a struggling little bit of a group," but a dedicated bunch.

At the Asilomar conference that year, they decided to work on membership because they very much wanted a "credible" organization that included "younger, vibrant scholars." After discussing the best way to recruit, they came up with a standard assortment of possibilities: encouraging graduate students to join, sending out fliers, informal communication, direct recruitment.

Of course, she reminded, "there wasn't really an Internet back then," so members didn't communicate much between conferences. As the group's president, she decided that coming up with a

good recruitment idea was her responsibility. It occurred to her that "establishing an award on a many-state basis" might be just the thing to draw attention to WAWH and bring in top talent. Initially, she and Barbara "Penny" Kanner, funded the award by giving anonymous donations of \$1000 each.

At the next conference, WAWH began awarding the prize. Frances was pleased that it had the effect they wanted. It seemed they could not have had a "stronger building block" for the organization. Also as they had hoped, it drew national attention. Frances soon felt that people across the country thought that WAWH had "really got it together out there in the West," and she says that it "became one of a group of regional organizations trying to get into the stream of women's activity."

However, she admits being "most gratified that it [the prize] did call forth some very fine scholars," and pleased, too, that the prize she envisioned has had a part in strengthening WAWH.

Of course, both the organization's membership and the prize's funding have had their "moments of ups and downs," but over the years, WAWH's members have created countless connections, friendships, and professional development opportunities.

In fact, without WAWH as a base and without the leadership and networking opportunities WAWH provided for her, Frances questions whether some of her national-level professional leadership roles would have materialized. "The big task," as she sees it, and what she deeply wants to share with younger members, is that both the prize and WAWH have been "part of the struggle" both for women's history and for women as historians.

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SIERRA PRIZE PROFILES, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 10)

Patricia Schechter, 2002 Sierra Prize Winner:

Ida B. Wells-Barnett and American Reform, 1880 - 1930. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001.

I have known Patricia for several years now, and I was surprised by the shift in her demeanor as we started to talk about WAWH. As the questions turned to WAWH and the Sierra Prize, her eyes sparkled and enthusiasm lit her voice. I have rarely seen her so animated (and she's not exactly low-key).

Patricia credits WAWH, for offering "truly fundamental support" for her work. They have provided an amazing "spirit of shared enterprise," she explained, saying that she felt particularly welcomed as a feminist and "as a scholar in and of the Pacific Northwest."

"They have been so supportive," she said, both personally "and of my scholarship." "Of course," she quickly noted, "Susan [Wladaver-Morgan] was the human face of WAWH for me at Portland State [University], helping to welcome me" to PSU and to the organization.

"The fact that WAWH was brave enough to give me" the Ridge Prize in 1998, actually enabled me to write the book." She considered a moment before amending: "or, at least, it allowed me to write a better book." She went on to explain that she had been turned down for a Pew Fellowship

on her first try: "Nobody wants to take a chance on you [as an unproven scholar]," but after WAWH recognition, the Pew fellowship came through when she "applied for a second time . . . it's really true that once your work has been recognized, it's easier to get fellowships and awards. There's sort of a snowball effect,"

The Sierra Prize, especially, was a "tremendous validation," Patricia observed, since it really confirmed the earlier support and showed continued confidence in her work. Unfortunately, "classes at PSU are still in session [in May], so I haven't been able to go to many of the [WAWH] conferences because it's so close to the end of term," she said. As a result, she has had to find other ways to stay involved, as she has with her current service on the Sierra Prize Committee.

Knowing that she recently handed off a series of oral histories for the Oregon Nurses Association and that she's finishing up work on the local Red Cross chapter, I asked her what's coming next. After a rueful chuckle, she said that, as she often seems to do, she's undertaking something she knows "nothing about." This time she's diving into Portland's Jewish women's history and has agreed to work with a local organization called Neighborhood House, that has a treasure trove of documents that are currently being held hostage by a few of the group's old timers, while they "organize them"—gulp.

A special Friday evening reception at the
2006 WAWH conference will honor all Sierra Prize winners.
Please plan on attending to celebrate the achievements of
these individuals as well as the achievements of the organization.

WAWH AT THE AHA-PCB

Several members represented WAWH on the program at the August 2005 meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association in Corvallis, Oregon.

Eileen Boris spoke at Saturday's WAWH Luncheon., and WAWH member Susan Wladaver-Morgan introduced Eileen, who spoke on "The Wages of Care."

Eileen was gracious enough to send a version of her comments, so that those of us who were unable to attend the luncheon would still have the opportunity to read some of her comments on "The Wages of Care."

See page 13.

WAWH Members Participating at the PCB-AHA Conference:

Karen Anderson
 Janet Farrell Brodie, PCB Executive Director
 Joan Jensen
 Kimberly Jensen
 Michelle Jolly
 Julia Kehew, Graduate Student Representative
 Glenna Matthews
 Carol Lynn McKibben
 Patricia Schechter
 Sarah Swedberg
 Allison Varzally

VOLUNTEER FOR THE WAWH

There are many ways individuals can help support the WAWH. Contact Amy Essington at aessington@verizon.net if you are interested or have ideas to share.

Treasurer

In order to separate the receipt and depositing of funds, after five years, Amy Essington will step down as treasurer at the end of the summer. She will still continue as executive secretary, but the board position of treasurer is available. The organization purchased QuickBooks, and ideally a treasurer would use it, although it is not required.

Advertising

Advertising and membership growth are ongoing jobs that have many parts. One can volunteer for one part to assist in increasing the visibility of our organization.

Conference Assistance

Maybe you attend the conference, but are not able to commit to the hours of participating on a program committee or local arrangements committee. There are many smaller jobs that occur at the time of the conference, and volunteers are always needed.

We would like to reach out to members who have never held a board position, If there are board positions for which you would like to be considered, in the future, please contact Amy Essington.

WAWH Luncheon Comments: The Wages of Care PCB-AHA Conference, August 2005, Corvallis Oregon

by Eileen Boris,
University of California, Santa Barbara

Like many research projects, this one began with the personal: In late June 2001, barely settled in California, I responded to a call from the United Domestic Workers of America (UDWA) to testify before the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. In 2000, the state legislature mandated that for collective bargaining purposes all counties must become the employer of record for In Home Supportive Service (IHSS) workers by 2003. These workers tend to the personal needs and perform housekeeping for the frail elderly and non-elderly disabled who are eligible for Medicaid, Supplemental Social Security, and similar means-tested programs. I was to use my position as a university professor to argue for the creation of a public authority to set standards and provide training for some 1,500 of these workers in the county.

Having spent a good many years writing the history of industrial homework and thinking about home labor, I became intrigued—and excited over the interpretative and theoretical possibilities, for here was a case in which the state was paying women to care for family—could this be used to argue for revaluing carework, despite the minimum wages that seem to reinforce its degradation? What does the rehabilitation of welfare recipients, through work as home aides helping to maintain the independence of the deserving poor (disabled and elderly), do to the thesis of a divided welfare state? Or for understanding the interplay of state, families, and markets? What can we learn about the state's role in the expansion of the service sector and about organizing strategies for a feminized, service economy? These were some initial concerns. Questions about federalism and social welfare vs. medical models of care delivery came later. There was also my then-ailing, elderly mother, another personal incentive to find out about this form of women's work.

I soon discovered a vibrant group of social science researchers, based at the UCLA Labor Center and funded by the UC Institute for Labor and Employment (recently axed out of the budget by Governor Arnold

Schwarzenegger), who joined with trade unionists to investigate conditions in the industry. They were conducting focus groups and occupational training informals—analyzing state data to argue for higher wages. But, like the existing scholarly literature, everything revolved around the present, with some nod to the organizing efforts of the 1990s. I became determined to give home care a history, to contextualize the wages of care by recovering its past.

My presentation to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors shared just one moment in the story that I'm constructing with coauthor Jennifer Klein of Yale University—our starting point, the New Deal origins of home care when a public/private partnership in New York attempted to develop a "good enough" job but encountered resistance from those further up

the care-giving hierarchy. This genealogy shows how caring labor for the elderly and disabled originated in programs to replace motherwork, with assumptions about dependent recipients and needy providers that reinforced the racialized and gendered division of labor.

In the end, what impressed the supervisors probably wasn't my explanation of how, when undertaken as a job, the workers performing the care that we applaud as a "labor of love," still deserve a living wage and benefits. I'd like to think that it was the testimony of the givers and receivers of care, describing their daily struggles for dignity, that convinced the elected officials that carework is worthy of compensation: that the work should not be regarded as unskilled labor that anyone can do since mothers, wives, and daughters perform it without pay and people of color and immigrants take it on for starving wages. More likely, the supervisors figured that because homecare is cheaper than institutionalization, they'd rather cut a deal with the union than lose out on state funding. But my testimony and that of those directly involved in giving care emphasized both the historical and human elements of the equation.

MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED

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nal from the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP). The journal's editorial offices are at Washington State University, Vancouver, Washington.

Kathleen B. Freeland, Bakersfield College, published Article published "Examining the Politics of Reclamation: The 1944 Acreage Limitation Debate in Congress" in *The Historian*, Vol. 67, No. 2 (Summer 2005).

Norma Nicol Hamilton is pleased to announce the completion of her M.A. History degree at California State University, Sacramento, in the spring of 2005. Her thesis is titled: "Reclaimed from Anonymity: The Life of Commander George Beaton Nicol, USN, 1912 – 1945." It is a biography of her father who was a Navy aviator and a career Navy officer, who held four commands before he lost his life in June, 1945. At the time of his death, Nicol was Commander Air Group (CAG) 93, USS Boxer (CV 21), a newly commissioned aircraft carrier. Norma is the Assistant Librarian, Jesuit High School, Carmichael, California, where she coordinates the Veterans History Project, sponsored by the Library of Congress.

Mary Ann Irwin's article, "The Air is Becoming Full of War': Jewish San Francisco and World War I," came out in the August 2005 issue of the *Pacific Historical Review* (Vol. 73, Issue 3).

Frances Richardson Keller and **Judith Strong Albert** with Barbara Novak and Joan Von Mehren presented a panel at the American Literature Association in Boston. They discussed the relations of history and fiction as shown in the life of Margaret Fuller. Keller, Albert, and Von Mehren spoke as

historians, while Novak and participants from the audience took the point of view of writers of fiction. At the same conference Frances Keller presented a paper on Charles W. Chesnutt's contributions to American Literature.

Cheryl Krasnick, a newcomer to WAWH, who teaches at Malaspina University-College, in Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, Canada, is delighted to be part of an organization where she can attend conferences without jetlag. Her latest book, *Children's Health Issues in Historical Perspective*, co-edited by Veronica Strong-Boag, has just been published by Wilfrid-Laurier University Press. Forthcoming articles include, "The Case for Chaos: Menstruation, Menopause and the Poverty of Linear Medical Models," in *Mental Health and Canadian Society: Historical Perspectives*, eds. Moran and Wright (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2006) and "In Vogue: North American and British Representations of Women Smokers in Vogue, 1920s - 1960s," co-written by Penny Tinkler, *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History*.

Regina Lark has been named the new Program Director of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Languages division at UCLA Extension.

Francesca Miller spoke on "Moving from the Vote into Citizenship: A View from the Americas" at the Thirteenth Berkshire Conference, June 5, at Scripps College. She is also contributing several articles to the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Women in World History*, to be published by Oxford University Press in 2007. Among the articles for the book are "Las Madres: The Mothers of the Disappeared," "The Inter-American Commission of Women 1928 – 2005," "Doris Stevens," "The International League of Iberian and Spanish Women," and "The First

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MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED

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Feminine Congress of the Pan-American League (1922).” On November 5, 2005, she will be the keynote speaker for the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Institute for Historical Study (San Francisco).

Gendering Modern Japanese History, a book co-edited by **Barbara Molony** (Santa Clara University), is now available from Harvard University Press. She is also one of five co-authors of *Civilization Past and Present* (11th edition).

Carmen Nava, Associate Professor of History, was appointed by Cal State San Marcos President Karen Haynes as the Regional Coordinator, Southern California, for the Office of Women in Higher Education, which is a program of the American Council on Education (ACE).

Dr. Barbara Bennett Peterson, retired Professor of History at Oregon State University and Emeritus Professor at the University of Hawaii, presented a talk titled “Notable Women of China, Seven Moral Exemplars in Chinese History” at Portland’s Classical Chinese Garden on Sunday August 21. She based the talk on her book, *Notable Women of China from the Shang Dynasty to the Early 20th Century*.

Kitty Sklar, Distinguished Professor of History at SUNY Binghamton, is Harmsworth Professor of U.S. History at the University of Oxford in 2005 – 2006, while there, she will lecture on “The Centrality of Feminism in American Political History, 1776 – 2000.” Tom Dublin will join her as a Fellow at the Rothermere American Institute at Oxford.

Nancy Taniguchi, Professor of History at California State University, Stanislaus, recently won the Best Book of the Year Award from the Utah State Historical Society for *Castle Valley, America: Hard Land, Hard-Won Home*, published by the Utah State University Press, 2004. In addition to being called an “insightful and highly readable study.” It was lauded as an “outstanding book [which] tells American history through the stories of Castle Valley, in Carbon and Emery counties [Utah]. A skilled integration of local, state, and national history.”

Jill Watts, professor of history at California State University, San Marcos, is the author of a new book, *Hattie McDaniel: Black Ambition, White Hollywood*. It will be published by Amistad/HarperCollins in October 2005. She is also currently serving as the coordinator of the Film Studies program at CSUSM.

EDITOR’S NOTE:

I’d like to challenge members to include in Member News not just those accomplishments that are visible or easily quantifiable (e.g., publications, presentations, and promotions) but also under-recognized, hidden, or undervalued “accomplishments” that clearly align with WAWH’s mission, such as mentoring, student advocacy, professional service on committees or advisory panels, or just being a workhorse referee for book and article submissions. Professional basketball players get credit for assisting, there’s no reason we shouldn’t too.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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compendium of works contemplating the implications of studying women's history in California and drawing on the last twenty years of women's and California history research. It will span the history of women in California and include articles on topics from pre-European contact through the turn of the twenty-first century.

Areas of emphasis are open and, among others, may include examinations of ethnic/racial groups, family, sexuality, politics, and women's work in California. The book will also emphasize the state's diverse geographies, including urban and rural, coastal and interior, Northern and Southern regions. Authors might use gender, race, or place, as categories of analysis.

Submissions should include a 1-2 page curriculum vitae, a 3-page proposal or summary of the paper, and a 1-2 page historiography contextualizing the research. The deadline for submission is November 7, 2005. Please address a copy of the above materials to each of the editors. For further details, please contact the editors: Dr. Edie Sparks, History Department, University of the Pacific, 3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95211; e-mail: esparks@pacific.edu; or Dr. Jessica Weiss, Institute for the Study of Social Change, 2420 Bowditch Street, #5629, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-5670; e-mail: jessica.weiss@csueastbay.edu

Call for Papers: The seventh triennial conference of the History of Women Religious will convene June 24 – 27, 2007 at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana. The theme will be "Local Cultures/Global Church: Challenge and Mission in the History of Women Religious." Paper and session proposals that explore how communities of women religious or their individual members have answered the challenges of interacting with peoples from different cultures and backgrounds are invited. Papers on women from all faith traditions are welcome. Interdisciplinary approaches may

include but are not limited to history, sociology, literature, anthropology, theology, and communication.

Paper and/or session proposals should be in the form of a one-page abstract, accompanied by a one-page curriculum vitae. Send proposals, letter, e-mail, or fax, by July 15, 2006, to Prudence Moylan, HWR Program Chair, c/o Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, University of Notre Dame, 1135 Flanner Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556-5611; e-mail: cushwa.1@nd.edu; fax: 574/631-8471. For more information on the program contact Moylan at pmoylan@luc.edu

Fellowship Opportunity: The Bibliographical Society of America announces its 2006 Fellowship Program. The BSA invites applications for its annual short-term fellowship, which supports bibliographical inquiry as well as research in the history of the book trades and in publishing history. Eligible topics may include books and documents in any field, but should focus on the book or manuscript (the physical object) as historical evidence. Topics may include establishing a text or studying the history of book production, publication, distribution, collecting, or reading. Enumerative listings do not fall within the scope of this program.

Fellows receive a stipend of up to \$2,000 per month for up to two months to support travel, living, and research expenses. The program is open to applicants of any nationality or affiliation.

Applications, including references, are due by midnight December 1, 2005. Application forms in both static HTML and Word formats are available at www.bibsocamer.org, or they may be requested from the BSA Executive Secretary: P.O. Box 1537, Lenox Hill Station, New York, NY 10021; e-mail: bsa@bibsocamer.org. Applications will be accepted through the post or by e-mail attachment, and any questions about the submission procedure can be directed to David Gants, Chair of the Fellowship Committee, dgants@unb.ca.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

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Scholarship Opportunity: The Coordinating Council for Women in History (CCWH) is accepting applications for the 2006 Catherine Prelinger Award. The CCWH will award \$20,000 to a scholar, with a Ph.D. or A.B.D., who has not followed a traditional academic path of uninterrupted and completed secondary, undergraduate, and graduate degrees leading to a tenure-track faculty position. Although the recipient's degrees do not have to be in history, the recipient's work should clearly be historical in nature.

In accordance with the general goals of CCWH, the award is intended to recognize or to enhance the ability of the recipient to contribute significantly to women in history, whether in the profession in the present or in the study of women in the past. It is not intended that there be any significant restrictions placed on how a given recipient shall spend the award as long as it advances the recipient's scholarship goals and purposes. Recipients must be members of CCWH. For more information or application and membership forms, visit the CCWH website at: www.theccwh.org. The deadline for receipt of applications is March 13, 2006.

Book and Article Prizes: The Southern Association for Women Historians (SAWH) invites submissions

for its annual publications prizes. To be eligible, entries must be written in English, but the competition is not restricted to works published in the U.S.

Books: The Julia Cherry Spruill Prize of \$750 is awarded for the best book in southern women's history. The Willie Lee Rose Prize of \$750 is awarded for the best book in southern history authored by a woman or women. Only monographs are eligible for either of these prizes. Books with a copyright date of 2005 are eligible, and they may be submitted for both prizes.

Articles: The A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize is awarded annually for the best article published during the preceding year in the field of southern Women's history. Articles published in journals and anthologies between January 1 and December 31, 2005 are eligible. Editors, scholars, and authors are invited to nominate eligible articles for the prize.

Nominations: Mail four (4) copies of each entry to the following address no later than April 1, 2006. All entries must be clearly marked with the name of the prize competition being entered. Please mail to: Megan Taylor Shockley, Department of History, 126 Hardin Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634. If you have any questions, please contact the SAWH executive secretary: 864/656-4427; e-mail: mshockl@clemson.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

WAWH 2006 Conference
May 5-7, 2006
Asilomar Conference Center
Pacific Grove, CA

2006 will be the first of a two year trial of a Friday noon to Saturday banquet schedule. Plan to arrive for lunch on Friday and return home on Sunday.

Call for Papers due: NOVEMBER 1, 2005.
Applications for Awards and Prizes: due JANUARY 15, 2006.

www.wawh.org

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Notice of publication or other member news _____

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Your information will be included in the next *Networker*.

WAWH CALENDAR

November 1, 2005	2006 Conference Proposals Due
January 15, 2006	2006 Award Applications Due
February 1, 2006	Deadline for submissions for the Spring 2006 <i>Networker</i>
Early February 2006	Mailing of 2006 Conference Program
March 1, 2006	Mailing of Spring 2006 <i>Networker</i>
April 4, 2006	2006 Conference Preregistration Due
May 5-7, 2006	2006 WAWH Conference, Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, CA

The Networker

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