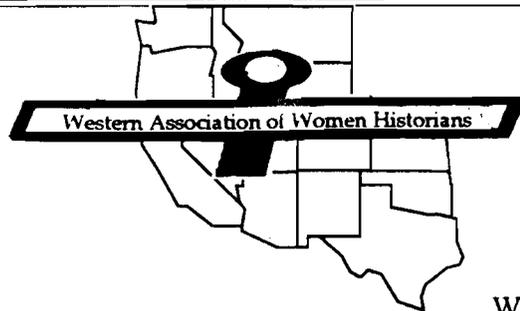


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# THE NETWORKER



Vol. XXVI, No. 2

Winter 1994

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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Let me begin by wishing you all a very pleasant holiday and a pensive new year. Now it's time to sit back and examine the last year and set our course for the next.

First, I want to welcome all the new members of WAWH and offer special thanks to several of you who wrote me letters to express your pleasure in learning about our professional society. It led me to recall how lonely the West Coast seemed when I first moved here and how happy I was to find a *Networker* and the address of Betsy Perry. I hope that WAWH will prove to be as professionally supportive and friendly to you as it has been to me in the last fifteen years.

I am pleased to report that many of our new members have joined in response to the outreach project that I proposed to the Executive Board last spring. I suspected that there were many women in the West who had not learned about WAWH, and I was correct. Still I must admit that it was with some trepidation that I took up the project. But I promised the Executive Board I would send a letter to these scholars, and I like to keep my promises. Fortunately I had the help of Barbara Stites, who sat down with the AHA directory and compared its list of scholars to our membership list to determine whom we needed to reach. THANKS, BARB! I also appreciated the careful review that Susan Wladaver-Morgan and Jackie Barnhart gave to the draft of my letters inviting women to join or renew membership.

I must admit I felt the rush of excitement that Grace Larsen and Linda Kerber must have felt 25 years ago when they saw responses to their letter of outreach. Our membership is now in excess of 600 and continues to grow. That means we must have new work ahead to assure that we are able to meet the needs of our diverse membership. Please let me know what you like and don't like.

I also want to thank many of you for your response to the "WAWH: Looking Ahead" question-

naire. Several suggestions have been very helpful in planning the program for this June and in setting goals for the organization. A number of you expressed interest in sharing new techniques for teaching and to share ideas about solving problems we encounter in the classrooms of the 1990s. I would like to suggest that we consider adding a column to the newsletter. I was really impressed to see that teaching is getting more attention at the AHA, the OAH, and other big meetings.

I just spoke with Jackie Braitman about proposals for panels, and it appears that we have another exciting conference to look forward to at Asilomar. (See the article about the plenary session speakers on page 6.) But let me warn you: you will receive the program for the June conference before you get the next *Networker*. Asilomar needs to know by mid-April what our registration will be. So please make a note to yourself to complete your reservations for the next conference as soon as you get the program.

I am pleased to say that Karen Offen and Lyn Rees have been most successful on getting the study of women included in the curriculum standards set by the state of California. We need to congratulate them on a job well done and commend them for the diligence and time they committed to the project. CONGRATULATIONS, LYN AND KAREN. Now WAWH needs to make a careful assessment of the situation and plan accordingly. Just because we now have the study of women appended to the California standards does not mean our work is over. We will take the issue up at our meeting in June, so please come prepared to map plans for the implementation and other outstanding concerns.

I would also like to propose that we open our columns to a discussion of the political issues that we face now as historians. Now voluntary, the existence of national standards in the history curriculum

(continued on page 2)

has raised some critical questions. At the university we have the liberty to make choices about what we consider crucial, but teachers in the K-12 system do not necessarily have that liberty. Political forces on the right see the standards as tools of the liberals to impose "politically correct" curriculum on innocent youth. I have already had students question the time that I have spent on Sojourner Truth at the expense, they claim, of Franklin Pierce. It is easy to say that they are just mimicking Rush Limbaugh and dismiss their questions. But we shouldn't do that. We need to discuss the curriculum recommendations that have been made in the national standards and take our own positions. I would like to see us explore the subject at our next meeting and in the columns of our *Networker*.

I think that I can safely say that the 1994 elections have startled us all. No matter what state we live in, we are all wondering what this shift in the balance of power will mean for women historians and for higher education. Our scholars in California now face even greater pressure to "down-size" our schools, even as our populations continue to grow. Tuition will continue to rise even as the pressures of the unemployed make re-entry to college a crucial option. These are the times we need real serious programs of retraining. Instead these are tight-fisted, scrooge times.

The passage of Proposition 187 only further complicates the situation that Californians face now and others are likely to encounter soon. The majority of the voters in the last election were convinced that the illegal immigrants were robbing honest, tax-paying citizens of their just due. The evidence is not there to support the belief, but then hysteria is seldom based on fact.

I do believe that we, as historians and as women, have power to help define the course that our several states will follow. But we have to be clear on what that path or those paths should be. I happen to be one of those old-fashioned liberals who is guided by values of fairness and equity. I am troubled by what seems to me to be mean, just plain mean-spirited policy. But I am a scholar and I do want to explore all sides of the issues. Please join me in a discussion of these issues. I hope that we can use space in our *Networker*, just as earlier generations of members used it to discuss the hot political issues of the 1970s and 1980s.

-- Peggy Renner  
WAWH President

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

-- Emily Rader  
Grad. Student Rep.

Looking ahead to the annual conference, I have been thinking about finding the next **Graduate Student Rep.** My term ends in June, and someone else will take my place then, for a two-year term. I want to encourage any graduate student who is in the middle of her program (i.e., who has at least two more years to go), to consider the many positive reasons for being the Graduate Student Rep.

On the personal level, I have met several fine women who are officers or simply active members of the organization. These are women whose scholarship and dedication to their careers I greatly admire and respect; they are also wonderful people who are fun to be around. I would not have met them and many other women if I had not taken on this position. On the professional level, my c.v. has been significantly enriched by my formal involvement with WAWH. All of these benefits and the amount of work are basically whatever you want them to be. The minimum requirement is that you prepare this column four times a year and get involved in some way at the annual conference. Please note that maintenance of Spithra does not have to go with this position, and I am perfectly happy continuing to take care of it. I especially want to encourage women outside of the LA area to volunteer for the position. WAWH leadership is interested in expanding the involvement and recruitment of women outside of the main metro-politan areas of California. Don't be shy. Don't procrastinate. I need to know who is interested. Please contact me through any medium if you'd like more information or encouragement. No prior experience is necessary.

Speaking of the conference: I will help anyone (graduate student or not) make **carpool arrangements** to get to Asilomar in Pacific Grove. Contact me if you need a ride or want additional riders.

Please note that **my e-mail address** was incorrect in the last newsletter (small typographical error). The correct one is: [rader@scf.usc.edu](mailto:rader@scf.usc.edu)

Finally, please let me know how Spithra is working out. If you are new to it, see the blank form on p. 3 of this newsletter. To access Spithra, just go through the following steps (but note: two menu numbers have been changed from those printed in the last *Networker* ). If you are connected to a univer-

(continued on page 6)

## MEMBER NEWS

**Natasha Beck** presented a paper, "Socio-historical themes in *No-No Box* and *Obasan*," at both the NW Women's Studies Assn. Conference, Tacoma, WA, April 15, 1994, and at the Gender Studies Conference, Portland, OR, April 19, 1994.

**Susan E. Cayleff**, of San Diego State Univ., has co-edited (with Barbara J. Bair) *Wings of Gauze: Women of Color and the Experience of Health and Illness* (Wayne State Univ. Press, 1993). Her book, *Babe: The Life and Legend of Babe Didrikson Zaharias* (Univ. of Illinois Press) will be published in the spring of 1995.

**Amanda Eurich**, Western Washington Univ., has published *The Economics of Power: The Private Finances of the House of Foix-Navarre-Albret during the Religious Wars* (Sixteenth Century Studies Press, 1994).

**Paula Gillett**, San Jose State Univ., has presented two papers in October, 1994: at the North American Conf. on British Studies, "From Hayden to 'Home Sweet Home': Music in Late-Victorian Philanthropy"; and at the Western Conference on British Studies, on "Music and Morals: A Theme in Victorian High Culture."

**Maryanne Horowitz**, in her role as Occidental College's Title IX Coordinator, speaks and leads workshops, upon request, to counteract sexual harassment and gender discrimination.

**Cheryl A. Koos**, USC, has an article, "Gender, Anti-individualism, and Nationalism: The *Alliance Nationale* and the Backlash against the Modern Woman, France, 1933-1940" forthcoming in *French Historical Studies*, Winter 1995. She has recently declined a Fulbright dissertation grant for research in France in favor of an American Assn. of Univ. Women Educational Foundation fellowship.

**Devoney Looser**, Indiana State Univ., spent the summer in London at the Public Record Office participating in an NEH seminar, "Biography and Biographical Evidence: England, 1630-1830." She is presently working on a book project, *The History in Women's Literature: Gendered Texts and Changing Categories in Eighteenth-Century England*.

**Gloria Lothrop** has been appointed to the W. P. Whitsett Chair in California History, Dept. of History, Cal. State University, Northridge, the first holder of this endowed chair. She had been teaching at California State Polytechnic, Pomona, since 1970.

(continued on page 4)

### SPITHRA, THE INFORMATIONAL NETWORK

Welcome to SPITHRA (formerly named WEB), an informational network open to all scholars with an interest in history 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 to help you find colleagues with similar interests. Simply fill out the following form and sent it to Emily Rader, USC History Dept., University Park, CA 90089-0034.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (city, zip) \_\_\_\_\_

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

FAX or e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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 papers: \_\_\_\_\_

Willing to travel to conference to present papers? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

[Co-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 Dept. of History, University of Southern California (USC).]

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**Kristie Miller** has published *Ruth Hanna McCormick: A Life in Politics, 1880-1944* (Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1992).

**Margaret J. Moody** has been in Paris this past fall teaching students in Glendale College's Fall Semester in Paris program, as well as doing research at the Bibliotheque Nationale. She is presently revising the first draft of her dissertation for UCLA.

**Cecilia O'Leary** has been awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship for 1994/1995 by the Smithsonian Institution. She is currently completing her dissertation, "Politics and Patriotism: The Making of an American, 1865-1917."

**Sabrina P. Ramet**, in International Studies, University of Washington, has been promoted to full professor, September 1994.

**Carmen Ramos** attended the 48th Internat'l Congress of Americanists, July 4-8, 1994, on Threatened Peoples and Environments in the Americas, in Stockholm, where she presented a paper, "Gender Imagery in Late-Nineteenth Century Mexican Legislation."

**Anne Richardson** and **John A. R. Dick** have co-edited a collection of interdisciplinary essays, *William Tyndale and the Law* (Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1994).

**Margaret Rose**, Cal. State, Bakersfield, has published "Gender and Civic Activism in Mexican American Barrios in California: The Community Service Organization, 1947-1962," in *Not June Cleaver Women and Gender in Postwar America, 1945-1960* (Temple University Press, 1994).

**Leanne Sander**, University of Colorado, is presently completing a state-wide community oral history project in Colorado.

**Katherine Kish Sklar**, State Univ. of New York at Binghamton, announces the publication of her book, *Florence Kelley and the Nation's Work: The Rise of Women's Political Culture, 1830-1900* (Yale University Press, 1995).

**Tanya Young-Womack**, graduate student at Univ. of Cal., Santa Barbara, completes her M.A. in June, in Latin American and Iberian Studies, and will continue on in the History Dept. for her Ph.D. #

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

**January 5-8, 1995.** The 109th annual meeting of the Amer. Historical Assn, in Chicago. **Hotel reservation deadline: Dec. 5. Meeting preregistration deadline: Dec. 9.**

**March 24-26, 1995:** The annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies, at Cal. State U. in Sacramento. **New deadline for submissions: Jan. 15, 1995.** Contact Peter Mellini, Dept. of History, Sonoma State U., Rohnert Park, CA 94928. ph. (707) 664-2313; fax: (707) 664-3920; e-mail: peter.mellini@sonoma.edu

**April 27-29, 1995.** The annual meeting of the Economic & Business Historical Society, in Boulder, Colorado. A call for papers on all aspects of business subjects, especially business and the environment, business and culture, and political economy. **Deadlines: abstracts by Jan. 15, 1995, papers by Mar. 1,** to Ann Carios, Dept of Economic, U. of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309; fax: (303) 492-8960.

**June 21-25, 1995.** The 16th annual conference of the Nat'l Women's Studies Assn., "Women's Movements: Cultural, Intellectual, and Political [R]evolutions," at the U. of Wyoming, Laramie. For further information, contact NSWA '95 Conf. Office, ph: (307) 766-6872; fax: (307) 766-3812; e-mail: wmst@uwho.edu

**October 5-8, 1995.** The annual meeting of the North American Conference of British Studies in Washington, D.C. A call for papers or panels in all areas of British history and culture. Send proposals of individual papers (200-word abstract, 1-page c.v.) or entire sessions by **March 15, 1995** to Dr. Dorothy O. Helly, Dept. of Hist., Hunter College CUNY, 695 Park Ave., NY 10021, ph: (212) 772-5546; fax: (212) 772-5545; e-mail: dohhc@cunyvm.cuny.edu

## JOB OPENINGS

**American History.** Chair appointment and tenure-track position, starting July 1, 1995, Dept. of History & Pol. Science, U. of Tennessee in Martin. Applicant must have Ph.D. in American History as well as teaching experience. Position requires half-time devoted to administration of the department as chair, half-time to teaching on a 12-month annual appointment. Salary and rank depend on experience

and qualifications. **Review of all applications begins Jan. 15, 1995;** search will continue until position is filled. Send a letter of application, c.v. and three letters of recommendation to Prof. Richard Chesteen, Dept. of History & Pol. Sci., Univ. of Tenn., Martin, TN 38238. Ph.: (901) 587-7473.

**African-American Studies (Humanities).** Tenure-track appointment, effective July 1, 1995, in the Ethnic Studies Department of the Univ. of California, Riverside. Applicant must have Ph.D. degree by the time of appointment with a strong record in research and publication as well as teaching, although consideration will be given to scholars of promise in the early stages of their careers. Rank: open. Submit letter of application, c.v., list of publications and three letters of recommendation to Chair, Dept. of Ethnic Studies, Univ. of Cal, Riverside, CA 92521. **Application deadline: Jan. 16, 1995.**

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Teachers:** The Education Branch of the Nat'l Archives sponsors a series of articles, "Teaching with Documents," in the journal, *Social Education*; each article features a document from its holdings and suggests teaching strategies to use with it. The articles have also been compiled and published under the title *Teaching with Documents*. ~~These documents can be reproduced without restriction for classroom use.~~ For information, contact the Education Branch, National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408, ph (202) 724-0454. #

*Women and Language*, an interdisciplinary research periodical, invites submissions for a special issue, "Women and Storytelling," for spring 1996 publication. Submissions of poetry, personal narratives, essays, letters, research reports, criticism, book reviews, book notices, and related items are welcome. **Deadline: June 15, 1995.** Contact Jo Radner, Dept. of Literature, American Univ., Wash. DC 20016-8047; ph: (202) 885-2982; fax:(202) 885-2938; e-mail: jradner@american.edu #

The History Computerization Project of the Regional History Center, USC-LA City Historical Society/Conf. of Cal. Historical Societies, will have an exhibit at the AHA meeting in Chicago in January, featuring demonstrations of the use of computer database management for historical research, writing, and cataloging. For information about the project or to obtain a free, 80-page tutorial regarding the use of computer database management for historical research, contact David L.Clark, HCP, (818) HISTORY or (818) 591-9371. #

"The Second Wave," a projected four-part documentary series for television on the women's movement from 1960 to 1990, **needs archival and contemporary material**  
(continued on page 6)

#### AWARDS AND PRIZES

**The Nat'l Women's Studies Association** announces the following 1995 Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards in Women's Studies, "intended to expand the boundaries and possibilities of women's studies scholarship." Contact NWSA, 7100 Baltimore Blvd., #301, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20740 [(301) 403-0525] for details and application blanks.

-- **The Illinois-NWSA Manuscript Award of \$1000**, presented annually for the best book-length manuscript in women's studies. Along with the money award, the U. of Illinois will also publish the ms. Mss. may be on any subject in women's studies expanding "our understanding of women's lives and gender systems." Interdisciplinary studies and discipline-specific studies are equally welcome. **Deadline for precis of manuscript entries: Jan. 30, 1995.**

-- **Pergamon-NWSA Scholarship in Women's Studies of \$1000** (first place, funded by Pergamon Press) and **\$500** (second place, funded by NWSA), to be awarded to two students who, in the fall of 1995, will be researching or writing a Master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation germane to the interdisciplinary field of women's studies. Students need not necessarily be enrolled in a women's studies program, but preference will be given to candidates who are NWSA members and whose research projects on women examine color or class. **Deadline: Feb. 15, 1995.**

-- **A NWSA Graduate Scholarship in Lesbian Studies of \$1,000**, to be awarded to a student who, in the fall of 1995, will be doing research or writing a Master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation in Lesbian Studies. Preference given to NWSA members. **Deadline: Feb. 15, 1995.**

-- **A Scholarship in Jewish Women's Studies of \$500**, to be awarded to a graduate student who is enrolled for the fall 1995 semester and whose area of research is Jewish Women's Studies. **Deadline: Feb. 15, 1995.** #

**WAWH's 26th Annual Conference**  
**June 2 - 4, 1995**  
Asilomar Conference Center  
Pacific Grove, California

## CCWHP/CGWH Welcomes WAWH Members at the AHA's Chicago Meeting

The CCWHP/CGWH invites all WAWH members attending the AHA meeting in Chicago to the following events and activities, sponsored by them or jointly with the Amer. Historical Assn. All will be held in the Hilton Hotel.

-- **Two sessions on the official program.** The first, on Friday, Jan. 6, 9:30-11:30 a.m., in the Williford Room C, is on "Interviewing in the Job Market of the 1990s: A Workshop," of special interest to all job candidates. The second, on Sat., Jan. 7, 2:30-4:30 p.m., in the Astoria room, is entitled: "Was There Ever a 'Renaissance' for Women? A Retrospective on the Work of Joan Kelly."

-- **CCWHP/CGWH's membership meeting,** noon-2:00 p.m., Fri., Jan. 6, in Boulevard Room B. Also a **cocktail party,** 5:30-7:30 p.m., given on Fri., Jan. 6, in the Astoria Room.

-- **CCWHP/CGWH's annual luncheon,** 12:15-1:45 p.m., Sat., Jan. 7, in the Joliet Room. The main speaker is Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, on "Doubting the 'Authentic': Women's History and the Conceptions of the Racial Self." The fourth Graduate Student Award will also be presented at the luncheon, going this year to Victoria Wolcott, of the Univ. of Michigan. **Tickets (\$26) must be purchased** from Barbara Winslow, 124 Park Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217, by **Dec. 31, 1994.**

-- **The Graduate Drop-in Room** is open to all for rest and relaxation, in Conference Room 4K. #

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GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS (continued from page 2)

sity computing system, log onto Gopher. There you will see something like "Other Gopher Systems," which will lead you through a series of geographical steps until you reach "Univ. of So. California (USC)." If you are not connected to a university system, log on to "cwis.usc.edu" which will bring you to the Gopher menu. At USC Gopher, make the following menu choices: first menu, choose #3, "University information"; second menu, choose #1, "Academic Departments"; third menu, choose #15, "Social Sciences and Communications"; fourth menu, choose #3, "History"; last menu, choose #1, "Spithra."

Happy multi-holidays to everyone. [ERader]

## Theme of 1995 Conference's Plenary Session Chosen; Speakers Named

Jackie Blaitman, program chair of our June 1995 Conference at Alsilomar, announced that the plenary session of our annual meeting will be devoted to the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the XIX Amendment to the Constitution.

Two outstanding speakers have already been confirmed for the panel: **Glenna Matthews**, author of *The Rise of the Public Woman*, a book which won the Sierra Book Prize of 1993, and **Gloria Lothrop**, recently appointed to the W.T. Whitsett Chair in California History, Cal. State, Northridge. Other speakers will soon be added to the panel. #

Due to space limitations, a report on the success of the K-12 Standing Committee could not be printed in this issue. Interested members are urged to request a copy from president Peggy Renner.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION (continued from page 5)

from those who participated in the movement. Anyone who had been involved may submit videotapes of their personal memoirs to be used in researching and the series. "The Second Wave" is coproduced by Sagebrush Productions and Women Make Movies, a nat'l nonprofit arts organization and distributor of women's media. For further information on how to submit material, contact Terry Lawler, at Women Make Movies, (212)925-0606; fax (212) 925-2052. #

**The National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History** is asking all concerned scholars, archivists and librarians to consider writing the White House, urging that action be taken immediately on the nomination of a permanent U.S. archivist. The position has been filled on a temporary basis now for almost two years, and earlier nominations have stalled for various complicated reasons. When Congress reconvenes it is hoped that the name of a professionally qualified candidate will be submitted forthwith. Letters should be addressed to: Pres. Bill Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500. #

A 271-page guidebook, "National Standards for United States History," which organizes history into 10 periods and proposes two to four "standards" of what students should know about each period, is now available from the Nat'l Center for History in the Schools. For information, write the Center at 10880 Wilshire Blvd., #761, Univ. of California, L.A. 90024-4108; or call 310-815-4702 or 310-825-4321 (UCLA) and ask for the Center. #

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

Notice of publication or other member news: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Use an additional sheet if necessary. Send to Yaffa Draznin, *Networker* Editor, 421 S. Van Ness Av., #27, Los Angeles, CA 90020.)

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WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS

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(Clip and send with your check to Carol Gold, Secretary, Dept. of History, Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775. Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. *Membership dues are tax-deductible as a professional expense.*)