

THE WOMAN'S COLLECTION  
Texas Woman's University  
Denton, Texas

# *The Networker*

Volume XXIV No. 1 Fall - Winter 1997

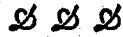


**President's Column:** Greetings! In my first column as president of the WAWH I'm reminded of how long the organization has played a role in my life. I arrived in California in 1979 and immediately was contacted to serve on the program committee for a conference held in Pacific Palisades. Carole Srole was the graduate student representative and we spent many hours in Penny Kanner's lovely home putting together panels and planning. I invited one of my students from UC Riverside, whom we then knew as Kim Lester, to come to her first historical conference. Today that student is Camille Guerin Gonzales, Professor of History at University of Colorado, and we laugh about how nervous she was and how it was the first time she had left her husband and children to go away overnight. The WAWH has been an organization particularly useful and nurturing for generations of graduate students who tested their wings giving their first paper in a venue where the term constructive criticism really means what it says. Independent scholars, too, have found a scholarly home in WAWH where distinctions of rank and institution mean less than friendliness and goodwill. I like to think of the WAWH as user friendly, providing a range of members with support and an organizational home that has never failed to remind me of why I am so committed to women's history.

The importance of having this organization and the network it has provided came into sharp focus this last week as I testified before the Title IX panel investigating sexual discrimination in the history department at UC Riverside. I left UCR in 1994 to chair the Women's Studies program at Arizona State University West, relieved to be leaving a department that had become toxic, sapping my energies and demoralizing my spirit. The Title IX investigation, conducted by Christine Littleton of UCLA, Shiela O'Rourke of UC Berkeley, and Michael Parrish of SDSU, was ordered by the executive vice chancellor after years of complaints by women faculty, some of whom like Carole Shammass, Judy Coffin, and myself left to take other jobs. The number of former students who came forward to testify has been gratifying. Many teach in the area and are active in WAWH. We wait to see what action will be taken and I promise to report on the outcome in the next NETWORKER.

In the meantime, I am at work on the spring conference, scheduled for MAY 16-18, 1998 at the Huntington Library. I plan to break with tradition and dispense with the President's diner at the Holiday Inn in favor of an informal open house Peggy Renner has graciously offered to host on Friday night and dinner at a local restaurant on Saturday. When the Holiday Inn raised their room rate to \$118 we moved to SAGA, where we will hold a wine reception by the pool on Saturday night and announce winners of the fellowships and awards before we head off to dinner somewhere wonderful but cheap. Any suggestions?

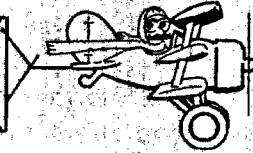
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## WAWH Networker Calendar

December 20, 1997	Deadline for WAWH conference submissions
March 1, 1998	Deadline for submissions to NETWORKER
May 15-17, 1998	WAWH Conference, Asilomar

### Member News



Susan Karant-Nunn, Portland State University, has published her book *The Reformation of Ritual: An Interpretation of Early Modern Germany* (London & New York: Routledge, 1997).

Gloria Ricci Lothrop, W.P. Whitsett Chair of California History, California State University, Northridge, recently adds numerous publications to her list of achievements including "Archival Resources Pertaining to Ethnic and Gender Issues," *California History* (Archives of California issue) LXXV (Spring, 1996); "Introduction to the 1 Reminiscences of Felipa Marron," *The Californians* 3 (Jan/Feb 1996); "Unwelcome in Freedom's Land: Italian Enemy Aliens During World War II," *Journal of the West* XXXV (Jan. 1996); "A Shadow on the Land: The Impact of Fascism on Los Angeles Italians," *California History* LXXV (Winter 1996/1997); "A Selective Guide to the Ethnic Press of Southern California," *Hoja Volante*, the Quarterly Publication of the Zamorano Club of Los Angeles (April 1997). Whew!

Valerie Sherer Mathes - republished her book *Helen Hunt Jackson and Her Indian Reform Legacy* (University of Texas, 1990) for University of Oklahoma Press.

Priscilla G. Massman, has finished her dissertation entitled "A Neglected Partnership: The General Federation of Women's Clubs and the Conservation

Movement, 1890-1920's," receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut in May of 1997.

Barbara Bennett Peterson, University of Hawaii, has received the Distinguished Alumna Award from the University of Hawaii Alumni Association and she has published biographical entries on Leow Henri Dunant, the founder of the International Red Cross and Asher Brown Durand, one of the notable artists who founded the Hudson River School of Painting in *Encyclopedia-USA*, Vol. 24, and the supplement to *Encyclopedia-USA*, Vol. 1 in July, 1997

Vicki L. Ruiz, is the chair of the Department of Chicana/Chicano Studies at Arizona State University. Her book *From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America* was published this November by Oxford University Press.

Jill Schlessinger, UC Berkeley, has given two conference papers during the summer: "Unwifely Conduct and Misdoings: Husbands Claiming Abuse by Their Wives" at the California American Studies Association, and "To Interfere With Such Inhumane Treatment: Defining Cruelty to Children in the Middle Class as a Public Matter, 1871-1920" at the Pacific Coast Branch of the AHA.

Jane Slaughter, University of New Mexico, will direct the Feminist Research Institute at the University of New Mexico and she has published her book *Women and the Italian Resistance, 1943-1945* by Arden Press.

Susan L. Smith, University of Alberta Canada, was awarded the 1997 Lavinia Dock Award for Exemplary Historical Research and Writing for her book *Sick and Tired fo Being Sick and Tired: Black*

*Women's Health Activism in America, 1890-1950* by the University of Pennsylvania Press, 1995.

Reba Soffer, California State University, Northridge, has two forthcoming works: "Was it Possible to be a Good Historian, A Good Catholic and a Good Englishman?" in *More Adventures in Britannia*, ed. By Roger Louis (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1998) and "The Honours School in Modern History," *The Oxford University History of the University*, Vol. VII (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1997).

## Deadlines and Data:

### *WAWH Awards and Prizes* 1998

*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, 1998. Membership information may be obtained from the Secretary, Carol Gold, Department of History, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775.*



**Sierra Book Prize** The WAWH will award the 1998 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. Angel Kwolek-Folland, Dept. of History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045.

**Judith Lee Ridge Article Prize** The WAWH will award the 1998 JLRAP (\$100) for the best article in the field of history published by a WAWH member. The article must have been published in 1995 or 1996. All fields of history will be considered, and submissions must include full scholarly apparatus. Please send inquiries

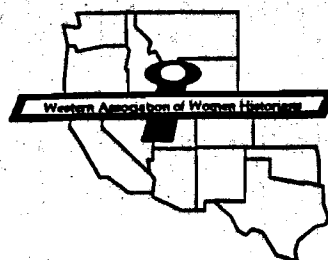
and three copies to Dr. Florence Baker, 1256 Alameda Ave., Glendale, CA 91201.

**Barbara Penny Kanner Award** The WAWH will award the 1998 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. Candace Falk, 912 Mendocino Ave., Berkeley, CA 94709.

**Graduate Student Fellowship** The WAWH will award the 1997 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. Nancy Page Fernandez, Department of History, California State University, Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St. Northridge, CA 91330-8250, or email: nancy.fernandez@csun.edu.



**Job Announcement: United States History Assistant Professor.** Tenure Track position in post-1920 U.S. history and one or more of the following fields: cultural, intellectual, political, social. Required qualifications: Ph.D. in hand by start of appointment; ability to teach the second half of the U.S. survey as well as advanced undergraduate and graduate course in the faculty member's area of specialization. Salary range: \$34,000 to \$36,000. Initial review of applicants will begin November 15 and continue until position is filled. Send letter of application, CV, and at least three letters of recommendation to Professor Thomas J. Lewin, U.S. Search Committee, Department of History, 3001 Wescoe, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2130. Contingent on final budgetary approval.



## Call for Papers

### WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS, TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ❖❖❖❖

The Huntington Library, San Marino, California  
May 15-17, 1997

Proposals for panels are welcome on any historical subject, time period, or region. While WAWH has often had a special emphasis on women's history, we suggest that participants may also wish to think in terms of race, ethnicity, class, religion, age, education, and any other relevant categories, including gender. Panels or workshops on long-term concerns of women in the historical profession are also encouraged. Proposals for complete panels, including commentators, are strongly preferred, but individual papers will be considered.

Proposals should include THREE copies of each of the following: a cover page that includes the title of the panel, names of the panelists, and titles of the individual papers; a one-half to one-page abstract for each paper; a one- to two-page curriculum vitae for each panelist; and a list of the panelists that includes their current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. In addition, please enclose one self-addressed stamped postcard for each panelist.

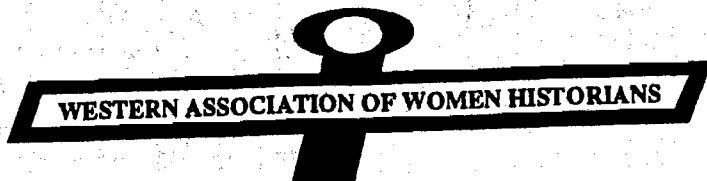
**PLEASE NOTE:** Send TWO proposals to: Dr. NUPUR CHAUDHURI at 1737 Vaughan Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502 ; nupurc@ksu.edu. and send ONE proposal to Dr. Lois L. Huneycutt at the Department of History, 114A Read Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 65211, histlois@showme.missouri.edu The deadline submission for proposals is Dec. 20, 1997.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**-First annual Arizona Women's Studies Council Conference: Bodies of Knowledge will be held at Arizona State University West campus in Phoenix, Arizona, March 27-28. The keynote speaker will be Joan Jacobs Brumberg, author of The Body Project. Send 250 word abstract for papers, workshops, and performances, along with via to Sarah Stage [IESJS@ASUVM.INRE.ASU.EDU](mailto:IESJS@ASUVM.INRE.ASU.EDU). Deadline is January 15, 1998.



### SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Coordinating Council for Women in History (CCWH) is pleased to announce that it will award a \$10,000 scholarship beginning April 1998 to a scholar of excellence. Named the CCWH-Catherine Prelinger Award Scholarship in memory of former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar Catherine Prelinger, the award is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar who has not followed the traditional academic path of uninterrupted and completed secondary, undergraduate, and graduate degrees leading to a tenured faculty position. These funds, granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work by CCWH in promoting women's history, women historians, and challenging the traditional status quo of the profession, are intended to enhance the ability of the recipient who seeks to carry on this CCWH tradition through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly work or professional activity. Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH and hold either A>B>D> status of the Ph.D. at the time of application. They shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional professional career and describe a project that will promote women in history. Request applications forms from Prod. Mary Elizabeth Perry, Dept. of History, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, CA 90041-3314. Deadline for completed applications if Feb. 15, 1998.



# SPITHRA, The informational network

## Spithra Announcement

I am sorry to announce that I am temporarily suspending accepting new entries for Spithra. For quite a while, I have been unable to find the time to enter new information into the database, and it is clear to me that I won't have time for six months or so. However, Spithra will remain posted on University of Southern California's Gopher, so anyone can continue to check it. I will continue to run the directions for reaching Spithra in this newsletter.

I have begun investigating transforming the current Spithra database into a Web site. The transformation will not be too difficult, but I will need some help with a few things:

- 1) I need to find someone to construct a search engine.
- 2) It would be nice to find someone who can make the Web site attractive.
- 3) Spithra will need a new home after I leave USC (which will be either in January or May 1998).
- 4) Advice on how to handle information on the Web site.

Currently, individuals' telephone numbers, home addresses, etc. appear in Spithra. This does not seem to have created a problem of privacy violation for anyone, but I think this is due to the site not being used very much. I'm concerned, though, that if and when Spithra becomes a Web site, many people will stumble upon it who are not involved in historical or academic work. I have thought about omitting personal telephone numbers and addresses and including only ones for work and/or email addresses. I'd like to know what you think about this.

If you have any ideas or can help me with the above, please contact me. My email, telephone number, etc. are printed at the end of The Networker.

Emily Rader  
Spithra Coordinator & WAWH Treasurer

## Directions for Accessing Spithra

Even though I am not updating Spithra with new information, it will continue to exist and be available for anyone to search to find people working on similar topics. In order to access Spithra, follow these steps: If you are connected to a college or university computer, log onto its Gopher. You will find something like "Other Gopher Systems" as one of your choices. This will lead you to "University of Southern California" (USC). If you are not connected to a college computer system, log on to cwis.usc.edu and find USC's Gopher system. Once you have arrived at USC's Gopher, make the following menu choices. (Please note that the menu choices may change a little over time, but the last choices, "History" and "Spithra" should remain the same.) First menu: "University Information," second menu: "Academic Departments," third menu: try either "Humanities" or "Social Sciences and Communications," fourth menu: "History," and fifth menu: "Spithra."

# WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

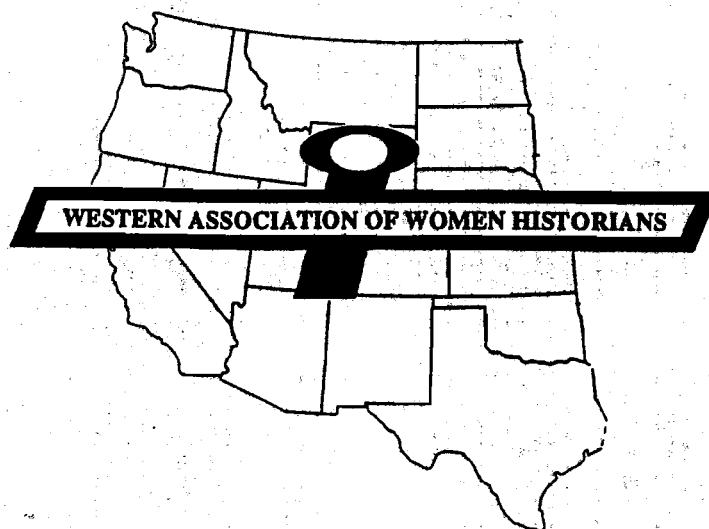
1996 WAWH Membership Directory \$5 (includes \$2 postage)

(Clip and send with your check to: Janet Brodie, WAWH Secretary, Department of History Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA 90272. Do not send to J. Braitman. email: Janet.Brodie@cgu.edu. *Reminder: Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Membership dues are tax-deductible.*)

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

In this issue of *The Networker* we thought we would focus on conference proposals. Here are some tips that might be helpful. 1) Utilize Spirthra. You can find the registration form an old *Networker*. 2) Try to submit complete panels. 3) Ask the commentor and the chair at least one month in advance of writing and proposal. This will help you avoid scrambling around to find someone at the last minute. 4) Follow all of the guidelines published by the organization. For example, if they ask for 3 copies of the completed proposal, submit 3 copies. It sounds like an obvious suggestion, but many panels get rejected simply because panelists haven't read the guidelines carefully. 5) MOST IMPORTANTLY, once your panel has been accepted: Send papers to commentors in plenty of time for them to comment. Show up at the conference. Short of an emergency, commitments should be kept. Bear in mind that program committees work incredibly hard to insure the quality of the papers at the conference, and other panelists are counting on your participation. 6) Try, when possible, to stay at the conference hotel. You can "see and be seen" a bit easier that way. 7) One final suggestion, attend sessions other than your own. The profession is about the exchange of ideas, and what

better way to find out what ideas are circulating than to hear new "work in progress?" OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: A new web site, H-AMINDIAN, can now be found at H-NET. It is a forum devoted to American Indian Studies. Write to [h-amindian@h-net.msu.edu](mailto:h-amindian@h-net.msu.edu). H-Net for those of you not familiar with it, offers a wide variety of web-sites reflecting the diversity of work being conducted in the humanities. In addition, they update a JOB LIST weekly. If you have information you would like to share with other graduate students please contact Katie or Erika. Season's greetings! Erika Bsumek and Katie Pearce-Sassen.



# Member News - The Networker

Name, affiliation:

Notice of publication or other member news:



(Use an additional sheet if necessary. Send to Jacqueline Braithman, 5510 Owensmouth Ave. #208 Woodland Hills, CA 91367) or email: jrb@ucla.edu

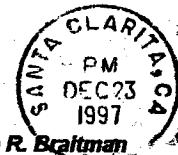
## WAWH Executive Board, 1996-97

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 Graduate Student Fellowship  
 Chair: Nancy Page Fernandez  
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 91016; sis-er7-2827;  
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**WESTERN  
ASSOCIATION**  
*of*  
**Women Historians**  
  
**Happy Holidays**  




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1997

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