



President's Column Carol Gold

This year, the Western Association of Women Historians celebrates its fortieth year as a flourishing, vital academic society for women historians. We have met annually every year for the past forty years (this is actually our forty-first conference) to network, to discuss our work, to encourage young historians and generally just to enjoy each other's company. I sincerely hope you will be able to join us this year in Santa Clara, April 30–May 1. We have an expanded program covering everything from medieval nuns to how to survive in an academic environment. Additionally, this year, we will be honoring past presidents at a reception on Friday evening, followed by a musical event, *Our Smart Women*, loosely based on *My Fair Lady*, chronicling the vicissitudes of women historians over the past four decades. The women may be “smart,” but they still lack singers. So if you are interested in participating, please contact Susan Wladaver-Morgan at phr@pdx.edu, or 503-725-8230.

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society for women historians
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You will probably also have noticed that we have had to abandon our experiment with online registration and membership renewal. It seems that we bit off more than we could chew—in a word, we could not afford the cost. So we are back to paper and snail-mail registration. We hope to be able to join the electronic world again in the near future, although it will probably be limited to conference registration. Paper programs mailed in advance also fell victim to our finances. The good news, however, is that the paper program you will receive at the conference will be much more accurate and up-to-date, as we will have more time in which to accommodate changes in the program. This year's complete conference program is available online at <http://wawh.org/docs/2009WAWHConferenceProgram.pdf>. Check it out.

Finally, although the political season may be over for the nonce, we are still in the midst of a general economic crisis and I could not resist this quote from *New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof, under the headline of “Mistresses of the Universe”:

At the recent World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, some of the most interesting discussions revolved around whether we would be in the same mess today if Lehman Brothers had been Lehman Sisters. The consensus (and this is among the dead white men who parade annually at Davos) is that the optimal bank would have been Lehman Brothers and Sisters. (Nicholas K. Kristof, “Mistresses of the Universe,” *New York Times*, February 7, 2009)

Men, it seems, are more willing to take greater risks, with larger resultant catastrophes when they fail. Join us in Santa Clara as we prepare to take on the Universe!

Welcome New (and Returning) Members

Welcome to members who joined or renewed between Oct. 13, 2008, and Feb. 15, 2009!

Kathleen Adams	Larissa Douglass	Mary Anne Santos Newhall
Gabriela Arredondo	Suzanne Earnshaw	Gwen Perkins
Megan Barber	Robin Feldman	Kathleen Poling
Lindsey Bray	Leslie Friedman	Michelle Reid
Erika Bsumek	Phyllis M. Housel Gale	Robin Sager
Chia-Lan Chang	Pamela Huckins	Kathy Savopolos
Elizabeth Clark-Lewis	Katrina Jagodinsky	Debbie Sederstrom
Dominique Clement	Jill Jozwiak	Amy Simon
Rebekah Crowe	Jennifer Fish Kashay	Diane Smith
Chelsea Del Rio	Phylis Martinelli	Ericka Swensson
Brandi Denison	Cynthia Melendy	Joanna Tague

Mark Your Calendars!

WAWH 2009 Conference
Santa Clara University
Santa Clara, CA
April 30-May 3, 2009

WAWH 2010 Conference
University of Puget Sound
Tacoma, WA
May 20-23, 2010

Thank You, Donors!

Thank you to the people who made donations between Oct. 13, 2008, and Feb. 15, 2009.

Lindsey Bray	Asuncion Lavrin
Erika Bsumek	Kristie Miller
Linda L. Clark	Marguerite Renner
Margaret DeLacy	Anne York

The WAWH is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Your donations are tax-deductible. Donations of any size are welcome. Donations can be directed to a specific fund or award. Thank you for your continuing support.

Executive Director's Column

Amy Essington

We are about two months away from our fortieth anniversary conference. We will meet April 30–May 3, 2009, at Santa Clara University. The conference will begin Thursday evening with dinner and will include sessions all day Friday and Saturday. Friday will include a reception honoring all of the past WAWH presidents, followed by dinner and

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It is our members...who make
WAWH strong enough to
last for forty successful years.

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an evening musical. The business meeting and awards banquet will be on Saturday. The full program, which includes all sessions and hotel information, is online at <http://www.wawh.org>. This year we did not mail a printed program to the membership, but a printed program will be distributed to all of the conference attendees. Program Chair Barbara Molony and her committee have put together a great program that will include some special anniversary events.

Local Arrangements Chair Amy Randall has managed the difficult details of making all of the onsite decisions and reservations. WAWH co-founder Linda Kerber will be the keynote speaker. A conference preregistration form was mailed to members and is posted online. I encourage you to purchase meals with the conference. Meals provide a valuable time for attendees to mingle, get to know one another, and network. Only a few extra meals are ordered. Every year I have people who want to add meals once they have come to the conference, but they are not available for purchase. The preregistration deadline is postmarked by March 26, 2009. Onsite registration will be available, but the rates will be higher, and meals may not be available.

It is not too early to plan for next year's conference. In 2010, we will return to the Pacific Northwest to meet at University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, May 20–23, 2010.

Membership in WAWH runs from conference to conference. It is now time to renew for the 2009–2010 membership year. All current members should have received a membership renewal/conference registration packet in the mail in the last few weeks. The date on your mailing label is the year your membership expires. For example, if 2009 appears on your mailing label, your membership expires with the 2009 conference and you need to renew your membership now for the 2009–2010 year. If the date on your mailing label is 2010 or later, you do not need to renew your membership at this time, but you should update your information for the membership database.

A 2009 Member Information Update Form specific to you was included in your packet. Please return this form whether or not you register for the conference and whether or not you make any changes. This form shows the information that is currently listed in the

Executive Director's Column (cont.)

membership database and what will appear, depending on your print options, in the 2009 Membership Directory. If you need to make any changes, please do so on the right side of the form. If you do not have any changes, check the "No Corrections" box in the upper right and return the form with your payment. All information received by March 26, 2009, will be included in the 2009 Membership Directory.

WAWH is no longer using the online system for membership and conference registration. The system proved too costly (in part because of the great increase in use of credit cards and the associated fees with accepting credit cards and in part because the board did not approve the raise in membership fees to cover the costs) and the board decided to stop using the online system for now. In the transfer back to the "old" membership database, which I did update during the time the online system was in use, some information did not make the transition. Please double-check the "do not print" option as well as the email list options to ensure I have the options you prefer.

We are always looking for volunteers. There are many positions from board positions, award committees, and specific short-term tasks. Please send me your name and the position for which you would like to volunteer and I will pass it on to the president.

I look forward to seeing you in Santa Clara or the arrival of your membership renewal. It is our members, and their dues, who make WAWH strong enough to last for forty successful years.

Karaoke—without the Machine! WAWH's very own musical

Time to come clean. Haven't you ever fantasized about having just a little too much to drink and singing in front of your friends? Haven't some of you done it? Well, now you can do it among friendly women historians who will appreciate your talents in service of Calliope as well as her sister Clio.

Now's your chance to sign up to participate in *Our Smart Women*, with songs set to tunes from *My Fair Lady*, as part of the celebration of the 40th anniversary of WAWH. This musical charts the progress of women in the profession from the late '60s to our present pinnacle. There will be a few lines to read as well as songs to sing, but nobody will get put on the spot and have to do a fancy solo. It will all be in good fun and hopefully have plenty of back-up. Please get in touch with Barbara Molony (bmolony@scu.edu) or Susan Wladaver-Morgan (swladamor@aol.com or 503-725-8230), if you are woman enough to get up and sing with us. WAWH wants YOU!

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Be part of
a fabulous
musical event!

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Member News

Lynn A. Bonfield published “When Money Was Necessary to Make Dreams Come True,” *Vermont History* 76 (Summer/Fall 2008) 2:130–148.

Kathleen Cairns’s book, *Hard Time at Tehachapi: California’s First Women’s Prison*, is being published this spring by the University of New Mexico Press. It details the rise and fall of the prison, which was called, in the parlance of the time, a “female reformatory.” Focused entirely on rehabilitation instead of punishment, it opened in 1933 and “accommodated” all the women felons in California. It closed in 1952.

Elise Chenier’s book, *Strangers in Our Midst: Sexual Deviancy in Postwar Ontario* (Toronto; University of Toronto Press, 2008), came out last June.

Amy Essington published “Baseball on the Pacific Coast: The Integration of the Pacific Coast League, 1948–1952,” *The Journal of the West* 47:4 (Fall 2008). She wrote the entries “Negro League Baseball” and “Brooklyn Dodgers” for the *Encyclopedia of Jim Crow, 1880–1965* (Greenwood Press, 2008) and biographies on Charles Follis, Effa Manley, John Ritchey, Frank Robinson, and Fleetwood Walker for blackpast.org. Amy participated in the roundtable “How to Navigate the Conference Process: A Roundtable” at the American Historical Association, PCB Conference (August 2008) and presented “The Oakland Larks of the West Coast Baseball Association: The Negro Leagues Move West” at the Association of the Study of African-American Life and History Convention (October 2008). Amy also reviewed an article for the *Oral History Review*.

Susan C. Karant-Nunn co-edited a book with Scott H. Hendrix called *Masculinity in the Reformation Era* (Kirkville, MO: Truman State University Press), which was published in 2008. Karant-Nunn also published an article titled “Reformation und Askese: Das Pfarrhaus als evangelisches Kloster,” in *Kommunikation und Transfer im Christentum der Frühen Neuzeit*, edited by Irene Dingel and Wolf-Friedrich Schänfele (Mainz: Philipp von Zabern, 2008), 211–228.

Asuncion Lavrin received the 2009 Distinguished Service Award from the Conference on Latin American History.

Patricia Schechter, Associate Professor of History at Portland State University, is currently at work on two projects during sabbatical leave, 2008–2009. The first is a book with University of North Carolina Press tentatively titled “U.S. Women and the Colonial Imaginary” and the second is an oral memoir of Hon. Avel L. Gordly, recently retired Oregon state senator.

Kathleen Sheldon and Isabel P. B. Feo Rodrigues published “Outras Vozes:

Share your accomplishments! Include your profession news in the next newsletter.
Send submissions for Member News to Brittany Ferry at networker@wawh.org.

Member News (cont.)

Women's Writings in Lusophone Africa," *African and Asian Studies* 7:4 (2008): 423-445; this is a special issue on "Researching African Women and Gender Studies: New Social Science Perspectives."

Amy Goodpaster Strebe's book, *Flying for Her Country: The American and Soviet Women Military Pilots of World War II*, will be published in paperback by Potomac Books, Inc., in February 2009. This book is the first comparative study to be written about the American Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) and the Soviet airwomen who flew combat missions along the Eastern Front during World War II. For more information, please visit www.AmyGoodpasterStrebe.com.

Nancy C. Unger published "The Role of Gender in Environmental History," *Environmental Justice* 1:3 (September 2008): 115-120. Nancy also contributed to an essay, "Teaching 'Straight' Gay and Lesbian History," to Gary J. Kornblith and Carol Lasser's January 2009 publication, *Teaching American History: Essays Adapted from The Journal of American History, 2001-2007* (New York: Bedford/St. Martins) 247-255.

New Women's Studies Newsletter and Forum

The Latchkey, a journal of New Woman studies, has debuted online at www.oscholars.com. *The Latchkey*, dedicated to "all women who have ever been locked in or locked out," will follow the themes of the New Woman, early feminist journalism, the suffrage movement, the advance of women in the professions, business, sport and the labor movement, the role of actresses and artists, the specific contribution of lesbian women, and more; all themes will be explored in interdisciplinary and cosmopolitan fashion, and adhering to no single ideological or critical school. Editor David Charles Rose invites all historians and scholars to submit announcements of publication, calls for papers, abstracts, and articles as they move towards blind peer-reviewing.

Announcements

NEH Summer Institute Opportunity

Maureen Nutting will be directing a NEH Summer Institute at the Library of Congress this coming July. During the four-week program, they will also be spending three days in New York City, visiting Ellis Island, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and other sites. And in D.C., they have a terrific faculty, experts in immigration history and policy, women's history, and ethnic history coming in to make presentations. Participants will be getting \$3200 stipends,. The "American Immigration Revisited Summer Institute" is available at <http://nationalhistorycenter.org/americanimmigration/> and Maureen would be happy to answer any questions about the program.

Announcements

(cont.)

Call for Papers -- Edmonton

The Canadian Association for Women's Public History is holding a women's history symposium October 22–24, 2009, in Edmonton, Alberta, with the theme, "Going Public: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives on Presenting Women's History." This symposium will consider the complex and creative ways in which women's history is presented in public contexts. It welcomes presentations in a variety of formats. Full panel proposals are encouraged. To apply as a panel, please submit a panel title and abstract (no more than two pages), including the names of the chair/commentator and each panel member; and a one-page CV or abstract of no more than 250 words for each member. To apply as an individual, please submit no more than a one-page abstract and a one-page CV or a 250-word biography. Proposals must be received by April 2, 2009, and receipt will be acknowledged. You will receive confirmation of acceptance by May 1, 2009. Final papers must be submitted to the other panel members one month prior. Please direct questions and all proposals to: Patricia Myers, Historic Resources Management, Old St. Stephen's College, 8820 – 112 Street, Edmonton AB T6G 2P8. Tel: 780-431-2350. Email: pat.myers@gov.ab.ca.

Call for Papers -- Scranton, PA

The call for papers has been issued for the eighth triennial meeting of the Conference on the History of Women Religious, June 27–30, 2010, at the University of Scranton, in Scranton, Penn. The conference invites papers on the theme, "Confronting Challenges: Women Religious Respond to Change," with particular reference to the ways communities of women religious or their members have defined or redefined their mission in response to regional, national, or international developments. Proposals for papers and/or sessions in the form of a title and abstract of no more than 250 words accompanied by a one-page CV are requested by July 15, 2009. Send all proposals to: Margaret McGuinness, Dept. of Religion, LaSalle University, 1900 W. Olney Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19141. Email: mcguinness@lasalle.edu.

Conference -- International Peace Initiatives

International Peace Initiatives (www.ipeacei.org) will hold the second Women's International Grassroots Peace Congress, August 6–9, 2009. This Congress will be a forum for creating global alliances for women working on grassroots peace initiatives around the world. It will also launch a continental women's grassroots peace movement in Africa. The theme is "Women, Peace and Community: Weaving Partnerships that Promote Grassroots Initiatives for Sustainable Development and Cultures of Peace." The focus of this gathering is to celebrate the gains women have made in choosing to speak for themselves and working toward prosperity, health, and peace. WAWH member Dr. Tisa M. Anders is planning to attend and can be contacted for more information (tanders2003@yahoo.com) along with the Congress' convener: Dr. Karambu Ringera, International Peace Initiatives—Kenya, P.O. Box 2596, Meru 60200. Kenya. Telephone: (011)254-713-937-227 or 0713-937-227 in Kenya.

Announcements (cont.)

Women's Suffrage Exhibit Opens in Washington State

The Washington State History Museum in Tacoma, Washington, is kicking off a sixteen-month exhibit with a free, public opening on February 28. A timeline of women's suffrage and information on women as political participants are complemented by more than 200 artifacts; interactive kiosks; oral histories; Susan B. Anthony's dress, cloak, glasses, inkwell, diary; and a rare copy of the Declaration of Sentiments. After seven months in Tacoma, the exhibit will also visit Wenatchee, Yakima, Seattle, and Spokane. For more information, please visit <http://www.wshs.org/> and click on the link for "Women's Votes, Women's Voices."

Women and Religion Exhibits Soon to Open in Cincinnati

The exhibit "Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America" opens at the Cincinnati Museum of History May 15, 2009. Other venues for the exhibit's three-year tour include the Smithsonian's Dillon Ripley International Museum, January to April 2010. Artifacts and ephemera collected and on loan from more than 400 sister communities include traveling trunks, journals of immigration experiences, pioneering health care devices, diaries, letters, student work, and items connected with a number of saints. For more information, please visit www.womenandspirit.org.

Volunteer for the WAWH

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

Awards Committees

As stated by the newly approved Constitution (2006) award committee members will serve staggered three-year terms. This will mean that each year each committee will require a new committee member.

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 and submit your name.

Bylaws for WAWH Founders' Dissertation Fellowship (Approved 2007)

1. The Founders' Dissertation Fellowship is an annual award to graduate students who show promise of significant contributions to historical scholarship. Funds from these Awards may be used for purposes directly or indirectly related to the dissertation, such as expenses for research, attendance of scholarly conferences, and the preparation of the dissertation.
2. Applicants to the Founders' Dissertation Fellowship must be current members of WAWH when they submit their application. Current WAWH board members are not eligible to apply. Applicants for the fellowship may apply for it more than once but may win only once.
3. ~~All recipients shall be graduate students in history who have been advanced to candidacy and are writing the dissertation at the time of application.~~ All applicants shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields, as well as have been advanced to candidacy and are writing the dissertation at the time of application. They should expect the Ph.D. no earlier than December of the calendar year in which the award is made.
4. Applicants for a Founders' Dissertation Fellowship must submit the following to the selection committee:
 - a. A completed application form. A curriculum vita is not an acceptable substitute.
 - b. A summary of the dissertation project, an explanation of how the dissertation project will advance our understanding of the issue(s) under study, a survey of the major primary sources, a discussion of the historiography, 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 each member of the Founders' Dissertation Fellowship Committee. A file maintained by a university office is not an adequate substitute for the specified letters of reference.
 - d. Applicants who want acknowledgement of receipt of application materials must send them to each committee member by certified mail with a return receipt. Applicants who do not meet the deadline for submission or include all the required materials will not be considered.
5. The Award Committee Members shall:
 - a. Be appointed by the President for a three-year term.
 - b. Have terms that are staggered in a three-year cycle. Each year a new committee member will be appointed. In case of an incomplete term of service, an appointment will be made to complete the term of service

Bylaws for WAWH Founders' Dissertation Fellowship (Approved 2007)

6. The Award Committee Chair shall:
 - a. Ideally have at least one year experience on the particular committee prior to taking over the position of Chair.
 - b. Be responsible for overseeing the work of the committee, including checking to see if applicants are WAWH members and contacting each committee member to determine if each member has the same number of applications, for the timely determination of award recipient(s), and for the notification of the decision to all applicants, selected or not, as well as the Executive Director.
 - c. Present, or appoint someone to present, the award to the winner at the annual conference.
 - d. Make a summary report to the Executive Board at the annual meeting.
7. Each Committee member shall review and rate each application for the Founders' Dissertation Fellowship. From their individual ratings, Committee members shall confer and reach a consensus on the recipient.
8. The Committee shall use the following criteria in selecting recipients (all are given equal weight):
 - a. Scholarly potential of the graduate student;
 - b. Significance of the dissertation project for historical research;
 - c. Originality and clarity of argument;
 - d. Progress already made toward completing research for the dissertation.
 - e. Timeliness of the topic.
9. The award will be determined by the Founders' Dissertation Fellowship Committee subject to funding availability and the applicant pool.
10. Founders' Dissertation Fellowship recipient(s) shall be announced at the annual conference.

Approved May 5, 2007, at the Business Meeting
San Diego, California

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WAWH Membership Renewal Form

The date on the mailing label of your *Networker* is the year your membership expires. Membership runs conference to conference. Thank you for keeping your membership current.

Become a member of WAWH today or renew your membership

This is a 1) _____ new 2) _____ renewal 3) _____ gift membership

Name: _____

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This is a HOME or WORK address (circle one) For renewals: this is an updated address YES or NO

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Email address: _____

Current Institution and/or Affiliation: _____

Current Department and/or Position: _____

Research and/or Teaching Fields (up to 3): _____

(Please circle YES or NO)

Publish my information YES or NO

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Send me an email rather than paper *Networker* YES or NO

Include me on the organizational email list (only info, reminders, announcements) YES or NO

Membership level	Fees (U.S. funds)
Full-Time Employed	\$25
Part-Time/Retired	\$20
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Lifetime Membership	\$500

My membership level is _____.

I would like to donate _____ to _____.

Membership runs conference to conference.

You may pay either by check or by credit card. Make checks payable to WAWH.

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Please clip form and send with payment to:

WAWH, 3242 Petaluma Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90808-4249, amyessington@wawh.org

MEMBER NEWS

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Notice of publication or other member news: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary. Please send to Brittany Ferry, P.O. Box 634, Cosmopolis, WA 98537, or email it to networker@wawh.org.

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

The Networker

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