



NEWSLETTER

Oral History: An Organizing Tool and a Healing Art for Labor Union Women

By Marat Moore

Women's words have been searched out, gathered, broadcast, published and studied in many oral history projects, providing valuable details about the complexity of our inner and outer lives. Much of this work has focused on probing personal memories about experiences long past. But in some cases, interviews must be conducted "as it happens" during turbulent economic or social shifts.

What is the value and the cost of documenting events as they are unfolding? What happens when the interviewer is involved in these events? And for activists and organizations, can oral history be used to help make sense of social change, to build networks of support, and to provide information that will be useful in creating strategies for future action?

These are questions that face those of us involved with two projects related to union women in traditionally male jobs: women in the mines, and women in construction trades.

The Women Miners History Project, through the nonprofit Coal Employment Project (CEP), is documenting the experiences of women coal miners who crossed the portal after 1973. The collective phase of this project is being launched at a moment of crisis for women miners, when jobs are being lost by the thousands and the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) is battling for survival. The economic and political environment of the 1980s has threatened the survival of unions, has thrown many workers into indefinite unemployment, and has shown the need for organizing to improve a bleak economic future.

We are not trained historians. We are coalminers and activists who are members or supporters, and occasional critics, of the UMWA. We are black and white and Navajo, and we belong to the CEP network of women miners that has sustained itself for 15 years. Like a long marriage, this association has weathered conflicts and has been able to explore deeper issues of differences in the group.

During a difficult transition period in the organization last summer, we made our first attempt to use oral history as a means of emotional support. We organized and collectively built an exhibit out of the personal collections, writings, artwork and historical materials related to women miners and CEP, and conducted videotaped oral history interviews. Our hope was to provide an affirming context for our group as it struggled to define its future course.

"If we are honest, we can use oral history to help build our organizations, and help others avoid problems," said CEP director and laid-off miner Cosby Totten.

From that exhibit evolved the idea of creating an anthology of writings and artwork by and about women miners, and the formation of a history committee. This anthology, Totten believes, will be an effective organizing tool.

"We want to get the story told," said Totten, "and it's a bigger story than just an annual conference, or the legal work, or the newsletter stories. And we want to get the word out, and to reach out to miners' wives and to women in other industries."

In this oral history work, we are hunters and gatherers, tracking stories with an ear to the ground, sniffing scents on the wind, writing letters and poems and sharing



Pregnant miner Brenda Brock at High Splint Mine, Harlan County, Kentucky.

questions. Our questions include how we have fared, do we go on from here, and whatever happened to affirmative action in mining and other high-skilled, high-paying industries?

To one of our sisters in the construction trades who is researching and writing about women in the trades, the answer to the last question is bitterly clear. "Affirmative action has failed," says Susan Eisenberg, who worked as an electrician from 1978 until a recent layoff, and remains a member of the International Brotherhood [sic] of Electricians Local 103 in Boston.

"If affirmative action guidelines had been followed, women would make up

(continued on page 2)

From the President

It has become fashionable for presidents of professional societies to announce to their members that their organizations are at the crossroads. I am happy to report that OHA has not reached this junction; however, we will indeed face a variety of challenges as we prepare for the 1993 annual meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. Membership, which has fallen off slightly during the past three years, has begun to stabilize, although one of my priorities as OHA President is to reverse the downward spiral and increase the Association's membership. True, this is primarily the work of the Membership Committee, but it has been my experience that membership in professional societies is also increased by word of mouth. Thus, I would encourage each of you to be vigilant, not only in renewing your individual memberships, but also in encouraging friends or associates to join OHA and to attend our annual meetings. If only 10 percent of our membership encouraged a new member to join the Association, this would be a significant achievement.

I received a number of suggestions from OHA committee chairs at the Cleveland



meeting which I will ask Council to consider at the mid-winter meeting. A task force, for example, will be appointed to consider the feasibility of giving an award to an outstanding teacher who uses oral history for educational purposes. Similarly, the Publications Committee will study the feasibility of presenting an award for the best book or article that uses oral history.

I would encourage each of you to plan to attend the 1993 meeting in Birmingham, which will be held November 4-7. Hotel rates will be considerably cheaper than at the Cleveland meeting, and Birmingham is a charming southern city. Kim Lacy

Al Broussard

Rogers, whom I appointed as Program Chair, is working diligently with the Program Committee to design an extraordinarily innovative and diverse program, and I urge you to consider submitting a proposal for an individual paper or entire session. The general theme of the conference, "Thirty Years After: American Society and Culture Since 1963," is designed to attract a broad spectrum of topics relating to oral history work. Additionally, the Program Committee is committed to increasing the number of sessions in international topics, and former OHA President Terry Birdwhistell has suggested that we might consider increasing the number of workshops that discuss basic principles of interviewing, editing and transcribing.

Finally, I would welcome any suggestions to strengthen the financial foundation of the Association, admittedly a difficult task during these tenuous economic times. I will work closely with both the Executive Secretary and Joel Gardner, chair of the Endowment and Fund Raising Committee, in this area. Feel free to pass on your ideas to me personally or to any member of Council.

Labor Union Women,

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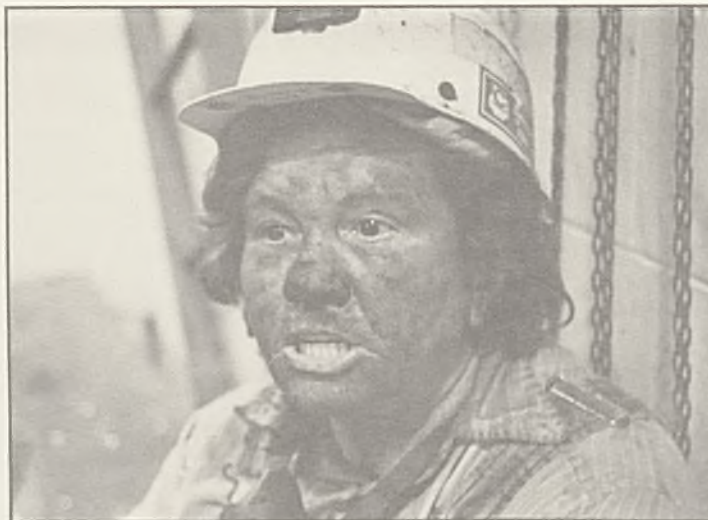
12 percent of workers in the trades," she observed. "Instead, the percentage has been institutionalized at two percent."

Eisenberg set up the Tradeswomen Research and Education Project, which is based on oral history interviews, after hearing one too many "interpretations" of why so few tradeswomen are still employed.

"Affirmative action was being presented as a silver-platter opportunity that women had taken and then walked away from," she said. "What I kept hearing was, 'Well, they must not have liked those jobs' instead of looking at the system to see what changes were needed to support women and people of color in those programs."

From her interview material, Eisenberg has created exhibits, written poems and published analytical articles in an attempt to broaden understanding, and to address the feelings of women who have often blamed themselves and dropped out of their support networks.

"It is important to me to honor how hard these women have tried, and to document the ways the system has failed them. Many women have vanished from the industry. Layoffs accounted for part of it, but many



Elizabeth Laird of Cordova, Alabama, who began work as a coal miner at age 50 after working 23 years in textile mills.

others were forced to leave for other reasons," she said. "It is really hard for white men to understand the cost of sexual and racial discrimination. It costs all of us and if the labor movement is to move forward, we must change the system to broaden who it includes and who it supports. Oral history provides a way for men 'to cross into experiences they've never had. And for women, these stark, painful stories have helped start the healing that we all need to do.'"

In the mines and in the trades, and in the broader labor movement, we are com-

mitted to this process of grassroots story-gathering.

What value will it have? We can't be sure. But we will continue to work because we have to.

Marat Moore is an associate editor of the "United Mine Workers Journal" and is a coordinator of the Women Miners History Project, which has been funded by the Kentucky Oral History Commission, the West Virginia Humanities Council and the District of Columbia Arts Commission.

Forrest Pogue Turns Eighty

On September 17, 1992, friends of Forrest C. Pogue gathered at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. to celebrate his eightieth birthday. A founding member and past president of the Oral History Association, Dr. Pogue was also an early supporter of OHMAR. OHMAR's Forrest C. Pogue Award for significant contributions to oral history is named in his honor.

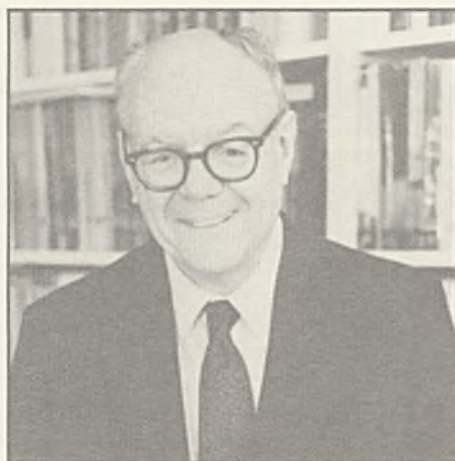
Forrest Pogue began interviewing in the 1930s for his Master's thesis on Kentucky Senator Olly M. James. During the Second World War, he was selected as one of 10 soldier-historians who interviewed American G.I.'s about their experiences in the Normandy invasion of 1944, while the guns were still firing.

After the war, General Dwight D. Eisenhower assigned Pogue to write the official history of the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEP). In 1956 he became director of the George C. Marshall Foundation, where he conducted the interviews and collected the papers that led to his widely acclaimed four-volume biography of Marshall. Later Dr. Pogue headed the Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute at the Smithsonian. Guests, who represented many of the different stages of Pogue's long career, recounted his unfailing assistance and good advice, especially to beginning oral historians. Sharing many of his reminiscences in reply, Pogue asserted that he himself had learned from every person that he helped.

The October, 1992 issue of the "Cosmos Club Bulletin" carried a profile of Pogue, "From Trench-Digger to World War II Historian," written by Frank Van Der Linden from an interview conducted by William Fox for the Cosmos Club Library. Pogue is also the subject of a forthcoming oral history interview by Holly C. Shulman, that will appear in the "Pioneers of Public History," series in "The Public Historian."

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

The Center for Latin American Studies and the Center for African Studies invite junior and senior scholars to participate in an interdisciplinary program on Afro-American identity and cultural diversity in the Americas, including the Caribbean, Brazil, and the US, as well as the sending areas of Africa. Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the program will enable visiting scholars in the humanities to spend a year or a semester at the University of



Forrest C. Pogue

Florida to do research in this area. The University of Florida has a large faculty specializing in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa, as well as outstanding library collections in each of these areas. Building on these strengths, the program will focus on three interrelated issues, each of which will be emphasized in a different year, in the following sequence: 1) (1993-4) the intersection of race, class and gender as seen in research on women and the family, slavery and race relations, social movements, and migration; 2) (1994-5) studies in literature, religion and popular culture which reveal the ways in which Afro-American culture has transcended national boundaries and brought together people living in different regions; 3) (1995-6) studies on historical processes of adaptation to the physical environment through research on material culture, ecological systems and the built environment. Since the intent is to support the best proposals, this yearly framework will be broadly interpreted.

Each fellow will receive a maximum stipend of \$35,000 for the academic year, or half that for the semester. Applicants will be selected on a competitive basis related to their expertise and research in these areas. By February 3, 1993, candidates should submit (1) a 100-word abstract, (2) an essay of approximately 1,500 words detailing the proposed research (3) a full curriculum vita (4) two letters of recommendation.

Inquiries and completed applications should be addressed to Dr. Helen I. Safa, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611-2037, Fax (904) 392-7682, Telephone (904) 392-0375. Fellows will be announced about April 1, and will be expected to take up residence for the Fall semester by the end of the following August.

Twayne's Oral History Series

by Donald A. Ritchie

At the Oral History Association annual meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1987, the Twayne oral history series was launched. Twayne had previously published Sherna Gluck's "Rosie the Riveter Reconsidered," which proved both a scholarly and commercial success. As the publishers of several other series, Twayne explored the possibility of an oral history series, with each volume based on oral history interviews that had been previously conducted or were currently underway. The volumes would consist largely of excerpts from the interviews, with introductory and concluding essays to place them in historical context. At the Minnesota meeting, Donald Ritchie was invited to serve as series editor, and Rhoda Lewin, who had presented a paper at the conference, was signed to compile the series' first volume, "Witnesses to the Holocaust," which was published in 1990.

Six more volumes have appeared to date on a wide variety of topics. These have included Diane Manning's "Hill Country Teacher: Memories from the One-Room School and Beyond," Stephen Fox's award-winning "The Unknown Internment: An Oral History of Italian American Relocation during World War II," Judith Porter Adams' "Peacework: Oral Histories of Women Peace Activists," Corrine Kraus' "Grandmothers, Mothers, and Daughters: Oral Histories of Three Generations of Ethnic American Women," Julie Jones-Eddy's "Homesteading Women: An Oral History of Colorado, 1890-1950" and Beatrice Rodriguez Owsley's "The Hispanic-American Entrepreneur: An Oral History of the American Dream." The response to the series has been strong, and the reviews have been generally favorable. Another dozen books are under contract for future publication. Twayne plans to publish four volumes a year in the series, bringing books out simultaneously in hard cover and paperback editions.

The editors continue to solicit manuscripts for the series. If you have a proposal or questions, you are invited to contact Donald Ritchie, 6033 Avon Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814, or Mark Zadrozny, Twayne Publishers, 866 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.



Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR)

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic (OHMAR) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and improvement of oral history. It responds to the needs of those practicing oral history or to those merely interested in oral history in the Mid-Atlantic region. OHMAR provides a forum for sharing information about the techniques and application of oral history, promoting standards of quality among practitioners and assisting those interested in the subject. Members include public and academic historians, librarians, archivists, teachers, folklorists, independent researchers and others sharing a mutual interest in oral history.

OHMAR's origins lay in the early oral history luncheons sponsored first by Martha Ross and later by Mary Jo Deering at George Washington University. A March 19, 1976 workshop and luncheon attracted 133 people, including students of oral history classes and representatives of projects and institutions in Washington and nearby states. Afterwards, 18 people remained to discuss the possibility of establishing a regional oral history association. Another meeting took place two months later at Towson State College; and in June, 1976, OHMAR was formally organized at a meeting at the Community College of Baltimore. "We called ourselves Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region," said Martha Ross, "possibly because we thought that made a more seductive acronym (OHMAR) than the alternative, Mid-Atlantic Oral History Association (MAROHA)."

On October 9, 1976, OHMAR held its first meeting, hosted by Joan Anderson at the Community College of Baltimore. Ben Frank was elected president, and Betty Key and Theodora Poletis were designated to draft a constitution. In December, 1976, OHMAR published its first newsletter. Aided by a grant from the Maryland Bicentennial Commission, OHMAR sponsored its first all-day workshop in March, 1977, at the Community College of Baltimore. OHMAR sponsors two meetings a year at various locations around the region, that feature panels, workshops, sessions and speakers on topics relevant to the practice and profession.

In 1987, OHMAR expanded its boundaries and added New York to its membership region of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

In its continuing efforts to recognize and promote high standards in the field of oral history, OHMAR created an annual award for outstanding and continuing contributions to oral history. The award honors Forrest C. Pogue, who pioneered oral history in combat during World War II, and who served as an early president of the Oral History Association.

The 1992 Pogue award was presented to Linda Shopes, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, at OHMAR's fall meeting at the Martin Luther King Library in Washington, D.C. Shopes received the award in recognition of her sustained and distinguished leadership in the promotion and use of oral history especially to document more fully the rich variety of community history.

OHMAR current officers are: President-Joel Gardner, Vice President-Terri Schorzman; Treasurer-Mary Kay Quinlan; Secretary-Judith Knudsen; Newsletter Editor-John Schuchman; Past President-Brien Williams; OHA Liaison-Alice Hoffman.

Publications

Descriptions of more than 150 collections of historical records from 30 institutions across Kentucky are contained in a new volume recently published and released by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Public Records Division.

The Guide to Kentucky Archival and Manuscript Collections, Volume Two, provides descriptions of collections on subjects ranging from local history and family genealogy to the coal industry and the Civil War. Documents described in the publication consist of personal and family papers, records of organizations and institutions, oral history reviews, genealogy files, photographs and maps. The materials in the new work and its predecessor, Volume One, are among those located in a statewide survey of 285 publicly accessible Kentucky institutions, including public libraries, historical societies, museums, and religious, college and corporate archives. Volume Two (\$10) and

Volume One (\$15) may be purchased from the department. Kentucky orders must include six percent state sales tax. Make checks payable to Kentucky State Treasurer. Contact Jane Minder, Kentucky Guide Program, Department for Libraries and Archives, P.O. Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537, or telephone (502) 875-7000.

"The New England Speaker Sourcebook," a unique guide to experts on the region's rich historical and cultural heritage, is now available.

The fourth edition of the "Sourcebook," compiled by the New England Heritage Center at Bentley College, lists scores of speakers whose talks range from architecture to industrial history, period costume to Shakers, old ballads to old books.

The new edition also includes a listing of historical re-creations, featuring one-person shows exploring the lives of presidents Coolidge, Jefferson, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt, and other famous

Americans such as Ben Franklin, Eleanor Roosevelt, Malcolm X and many more.

"The Sourcebook" is a vital aid for museums, historical organizations, educators and others seeking speakers for educational meetings and other occasions. First published in 1987, the book now includes approximately 250 speakers from across New England and beyond.

To purchase the 88-page "New England Speaker Sourcebook" (\$9.95), or for more information, write the New England Heritage Center, Bentley College, Waltham, MA 02154-4705, or call (617) 891-3481.

Correction

The Summer, 1992 issue of the "Oral History Association Newsletter" stated that the Stennis Oral History Project had completed six interviews when Project Director Dr. Charles Lowery left his position at Mississippi State University. That announcement should have read 60 interviews; the editors apologize for the typographical error.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jo Blatti has been named executive director of the Stowe-Day Foundation of Hartford, Connecticut. She has moved from St. Paul, Minnesota, where since 1986, she has led History Afield, a consulting group also interested in oral history for historic farmsteads. The foundation in Hartford maintains the Harriet Breecher Stowe House and a research library which focuses on the history, literature, architecture, decorative arts and woman suffrage movement of 19th-century America.

The UCLA Oral History Program has received a \$332,000 grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts to prepare for and conduct indepth interviews with researchers selected to participate in The Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences.

The three-year oral history and archives project will involve obtaining, processing, preserving and making available Scholars' personal perspectives about their lives, careers, and scientific inquiries. Principal investigator Dale Treleven and researcher-interviewer Neil Hathaway will be assisted by three UCLA faculty consultants in carrying out the project: Lawrence R. Freedman, M.D., Professor of Medicine; Ynez V. O'Neill, Professor in Residence, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Medical History Division; and Sidney Roberts, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Chemistry.

The Pew Scholars Program since the early 1980s has funded and supported the research of "outstanding scientists from quality institutions." Twenty Pew Scholars are selected each year from a pool of candidates nominated by their respective institutions across the nation.

The Pew Charitable Trusts, a national philanthropy based in Philadelphia, support nonprofit activities in the areas of conservation and the environment, culture, education, health and human services, public policy and religion. Through their grantmaking, the Trusts seek to encourage individual development and personal achievement, cross-disciplinary problem solving and innovative, practical approaches to meet the changing needs of society.

The Pew Charitable Trusts grant is the largest ever received by the UCLA Oral History program, a 33 year-old research unit attached to the Department of Special Collections of the University Library.

The Washington State Historical Society announces the 1993 Pacific Northwest History Conference to be held March 25-27, 1993, in Eugene, Oregon.

Proposals for sessions or papers should be sent in writing to Professor Richard Maxwell Brown, History Department, 175 PLC, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403.

The International Committee of the Oral History Association seeks to establish a network of colleagues in the USA and abroad to facilitate contact among us on issues of common concern. Interested colleagues are urged to get in touch with us. Please send your name and address to: Eva E. Sandis, Social Sciences Division, Room 916, Fordham University at Lincoln Center, New York, N.Y. 10023. Fax Number: 212/581-1284. Bitnet address: SANDIS@FORDMULC.

Former OHA president Don Ritchie has been elected to a three-year term on the council of the American Historical Association. During 1993 he will also serve, by rotation, as chairman of the Organization of American Historians' Committee on Access to Documents and Open Information. In both capacities he is intereted in promoting issues of concern to oral historians, and seeks suggestions from OHA members.

Employment Opportunity

The Missouri Historical Society and the Department of Anthropology, University of Missouri, St. Louis, seek an Urban Anthropologist/Folklorist for a joint position to begin in Fall 1993. Ph.D. and demonstrated expertise in oral history methods required; museum experience desirable. Position entails directed, multidisciplinary urban research at MHS, as well as teaching two courses per year at UM-St. Louis. Twelve-month basis: 2/3 research, 1/3 teaching during academic year; full-time research in summer. Application deadline January 15. Salary competitive, full benefit package. Send vita to: Dr. Eric Sandweiss, Missouri Historical Society Research Center, P.O. Box 11940, St. Louis, MO 63112-0040 (ATTN: Anthropologist Search Committee).

Call for Papers

The IAOH is seeking articles for forthcoming volumes that will focus on the intersection between oral history and work being done in folklore, women's studies, and disability studies. In these areas, we welcome papers on theoretical, historiographical and methodological issues, substantive case studies and review essays. All contributors need to highlight the larger issues raised by the subject of their essays. Contributors are encouraged to consider the political and social implications of their

research agendas, methods, theories and interpretations; especially regarding such topics as the relationship to interviewees, to an interviewee's community, to the text produced by the interviewee and the interviewer, and to the potential audiences they envision for their work.

Send three copies of the manuscript, a separate cover sheet, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Jerrold Hirsch, Editor, IAOH, Division of Social Science, Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, MO 63501.

Conferences/Meetings

The following meetings of the 1993 Chicago Oral History Roundtable are free and open to the public:

Feb. 16: The Newberry Library's American Indian Oral History Collection, John Aubrey, Ayer Reference Librarian, Newberry Library, 6:30 pm, The Newberry Library, 60 West Walton, Chicago

Mar. 20: European Immigrant Oral Histories at the Chicago Historical Society, Archie Motely, Curator, Archives and Manuscripts, Chicago Historical Society, 10:00 am, Chicago Historical Society, 1601 North Clark, Chicago

Apr. 13: "The Promises and Pitfalls of Commissioned Histories," Terry Fife, Principal of History Works, Inc. will discuss commissioned histories in general and her work with Scholl's in particular, 6:30 pm, Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, 1001 North Dearborn, Chicago

May 11: "Broadcast Personalities" - The Oral History Project at the Museum of Broadcast Communications, Roxanne Charkewicz, Archivist, Katie Dishman, Deputy Archivist, and Ted Schulte, Volunteer Coordinator for Oral History Program, Museum of Broadcast Communications, Chicago Cultural Center, Michigan Avenue at Washington, Chicago, 5:30 pm

June 10: "Oral History as a Therapeutic Technique in working with Recent Immigrants and Victims of Torture," Antonio Martinez, Ph.D., Psychologist, Travelers and Immigrants Aid, Travelers & Immigrants Aid, 327 South LaSalle, Chicago 6:30 pm

Oral History for the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) will hold its Spring, 1993 Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania, April 2 and 3. The Conference will begin Friday, April 2, with a tour of the Hershey factory and a dinner speaker,

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Oral Historian Presents Civil Affairs Collection to National Defense University

On Friday, August 7, 1992, Colonel Patrick W. Carlton, Senior Research Fellow with the Institute for National Strategic Studies, presented Special Collections at National Defense University a collection of materials on Civil Affairs Operations in the Persian Gulf War. These materials had been collected by Carlton during the period October 1, 1991 to August 1, 1992 and include 145 fully transcribed interviews collected by Carlton along with almost 50 interviews collected by other military historians. The interviews include first-person accounts of civil affairs in support of displaced civilians in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, as well as a substantial body of information on Operation PROVIDE COMFORT, the Kurdish relief operation that occurred in Turkey and Northern Iraq between April and July, 1991. Also included in the collection are approximately 6,000 documents dealing with the operations, a set of videotapes prepared as part of a Defense-wide Symposium on civil affairs in the Gulf War held in October, 1991, and audio tapes of the interviews conducted during the study.

Colonel Carlton commented that the work in which he has been engaged offered a unique opportunity for an oral historian to gather large quantities of valuable material soon after the events themselves occurred and to preserve it for the use of historians in the future. Interviews in the collection include those with the Honorable James Locher, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict; Morton Abramowitz, former Ambassador to Turkey; LTG John M. Shalikashvili, CDR of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT; Edward W. Gnehm, Ambassador to Kuwait; numerous representatives from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; a number of representatives from Private Voluntary Organizations involved in humanitarian relief activities in the area; and Civil Affairs personnel in all ranks from Brigadier General to Sergeant.

As part of the data collection process, Colonel Carlton traveled extensively in Iraq, Turkey, Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, interviewing, gathering documents and visiting the locations where PROVIDE COMFORT took place. One unique opportunity involved accompanying the Commander of the Military Coordinating Center in Zakho, Iraq on a visit to the Headquarters of the Iraqi Army representative near Faydah, where he had the opportunity to meet Iraqi negotiators and to observe their ongoing dialogue with

U.S. representatives. He also participated in a meeting with senior Kurdish officials in the city of Dihok, Iraq.

"Seeing how heavily armed the Peshmerga bodyguards were certainly caught my attention initially," Carlton stated, "but one soon came to accept the presence of large amounts of such hardware as the norm in that part of the world."

Interestingly enough, U.S. military representatives go unarmed as they carry out their daily duties, apparently feeling quite confident that the Kurds will ensure their well-being. Carlton's "heaviest artillery" was a Sony tape recorder, which he used constantly and to good advantage during the trip.

The Civil Affairs in the Persian Gulf War Collection is available for use by all legitimate researchers studying CA operations in the War. The materials are housed in Special Collections, Main Library, Marshall Hall, at National Defense University, Ft. McNair, D.C. and is under the control of Ms. Susan Lemke, Special Collections Librarian.

Conferences *(continued from page 5)*

and will continue Saturday with a full day of programs and a workshop. For information about the meeting or about membership in OHMAR, write to Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region, P.O. Box 2351, Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C. 20002.

The 27th ANNUAL GEORGIA ARCHIVES INSTITUTE announces an Introduction to Archival Administration to be held June 14-25, 1993 in Atlanta, Georgia. It is being sponsored by the Clark Atlanta University, School of Library and Information Studies, Georgia Department of Archives and History, Jimmy Carter Library, The University Center in Georgia.



OHA Immediate Past-President Terry Birdwhistell (left) passes the gavel to current OHA President Al Broussard during the 26th Annual Meeting of the Oral History Association in Cleveland.

Designed for beginning archivists, librarians, and manuscript curators, the 27th annual Georgia Archives Institute will offer general instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. The two-week program will feature lectures and demonstrations, a supervised practicum, and field trips to local archives. Topics will include records appraisal, arrangement and description of official and private papers, preservation, legal issues, and reference service. David B. Gracy II, Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise at The University of Texas at Austin, will be the principal instructor.

Tuition is \$400. Enrollment is limited and the deadline for receipt of application and resume is April 1, 1993. (Housing information is also available.)

For more information and application, write: Dr. Donald E. Oehlerts, School of Library and Information Studies, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia 30314, (404) 325-0778 or (404) 880-8702.

Future OHA Annual Meetings

1993 Birmingham, Alabama
4-7 November

1994 Albuquerque, New Mexico
27-30 October

Executive Secretary Search Continues

The search committee appointed by Terry Birdwhistell to consider candidates for the position of OHA's executive secretary continues its work. Since Richard Candida Smith indicated his plans to step down from the post the committee has reviewed in detail the responsibilities of the position and is considering creative alternatives to filling it. If you are interested in learning more about this, please contact Anne Ritchie, Gallery Archives, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., 20565. Telephone: (202) 842-6871.

Oral History in the UK

by Alice M. Hoffman

Prior to my going to spend the spring term at Cambridge University in England, Carl Ryant, Chair of the OHA International Committee, alerted me to the fact that the oral historians in the United Kingdom would be holding their annual conference in London May 16-17, 1992. The Oral History Society often devotes their conference to a particular theme. In past years their annual gathering has focused on childhood, politics, black history, community history, etc. Their theme this year was to be Women and Oral History.



ALICE M. HOFFMAN

In 1977 George Ewart Evans organized a conference on oral history as part of the meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science held in Swansea, Wales. I was pleased to represent OHA at that conference and meet Evans, who was a pioneer of the oral history movement in Britain best known for his classic study of rural Suffolk entitled "Ask the Fellows Who Cut the Hay." So it was of special interest to have the opportunity to catch up with the many developments in Britain since then.

Paul Thompson, who is familiar to oral historians on this side of the pond, not only for his writings but also for his contributions to the meetings of OHA, was in attendance, having just returned from Italy where he had been helping to organize an international oral history conference to be held in 1993.

Conference topics reflected the experience of women all over the world from Somalia to Leicester, England, including women steel workers during World War

MARANTZ OFFERS NEW OHA PURCHASING PROGRAM

Marantz Professional Products General Manager M. Mehdi Alister recently announced a new "purchasing program" available to OHA members. During the next several months Marantz will offer OHA members discount prices on new and refurbished Marantz recording products. The refurbished models come with a like-new warranty (90 days labor and one year parts) and full return privileges.

In addition to the discount, Marantz will make a donation to OHA's permanent endowment fund for each purchase made through this purchasing program.

Marantz has long been a supporter of Oral History Association activities and recently served as corporate sponsor for OHA's national videoconference, "Communities, Diversity, and Oral History."

This new purchasing program allows OHA members to save money on equipment purchases while helping OHA's permanent endowment.

PMD MODEL	OHA MEMBER PURCHASE PRICE	MARANTZ CONTRIBUTION TO OHA ENDOWMENT
PMD201 (NEW)	\$ 249	\$ 30
PMD221 (NEW)	\$ 299	\$ 30
PMD222 (NEW)	\$ 329	\$ 30
PMD430 (NEW)	\$ 499	\$ 30
PMD700 (NEW)	\$2,000	\$100
PMD201 (REFURBISHED)	\$ 199	\$ 25
PMD221 (REFURBISHED)	\$ 239	\$ 25
PMD222 (REFURBISHED)	\$ 279	\$ 25
PMD430 (REFURBISHED)	\$ 419	\$ 25

To order equipment through this program, contact Marantz Professional Products directly at: Sales Department, Marantz Professional Products, Dynascan Corporation, 700 North Commerce, Aurora, Ill. 60504, phone (708) 820-4800, FAX (708) 820-8103. Please refer to OHA Program when ordering.

II, women in the Grande Bourgeoisie of Belgium and peasant women in Latvia. The common theme running through these presentations was that without oral history, the experience, insights and life story of most of these women from whatever strata of society would be lost to history. A fourth theme was that the lives of women, regardless of background and education, have been marked by struggle and perseverance, as they surmounted obstacles to self-actualization placed in their path. The annual meetings enable OHS to foster best practice in the art of collecting and preserving these life stories, not only through the sharing of methods among the participants, but also through book exhibits illustrating the vitality and diversity of writing available on oral history. The materials from the National Sound Archives are particularly interesting and informative.

At the meetings I met two Russian sociologists, Victoria Seminov and Lyudmila Koklyagina, who are engaged in a fascinating study of the current generation of young adults who must adapt to the new

system. What models are available to this population? Would the experience of their grandparents who remember pre-revolutionary days be useful? What should they preserve from the Communist system and how can they reach back to the ideals prior to the revolution and find what was valuable there and what was not? It is an ambitious project to interview and survey the memories of large numbers of Russians in order to assess these memories and aid in building a new order. It would be my hope that these two scholars could join us at OHA in Birmingham so that we could hear first hand about their project as it develops, and so that they could participate in our dialogue on the shared vision of the past which oral history brings to the present.

I came away from the conference in London with a renewed sense of the importance of these international contacts and with an understanding that there continue to be a wide variety of disciplines and interests which are well-served by the preservation of tape recorded memories.

Fellowships in Military History: The United States Army Center of Military History offers two fellowships each academic year to civilian graduate students preparing dissertations on subjects relating to the history of warfare on land, especially the history of the U.S. Army. Possible topics include military biography, campaigns, military organization and administration, policy, strategy, tactics, training, technology, logistics, and civil-military-social relations. Each fellow receives an \$8,000 stipend and access to the Center's facilities and technical expertise. Applicants must be American citizens and have completed by September, 1992, all requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation. Interested candidates should contact Dr. Clayton Laurie, Executive Secretary, CMH Dissertation Fellowship Committee, U.S. Army Center of Military History, Franklin Court Building, 1099 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-3402, tel (202) 504-5364, fax (202) 504-5390.

SOUTHEAST ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION FORMED

In conjunction with the Southern Historical Association meeting, the organizational meeting of a Southeast oral history association was held on November 6, 1992, in Atlanta. The new organization will provide a means for better coordination among oral history practitioners in the region.

Activities over the coming year include developing a mailing list and newsletter, and taking steps toward incorporation.

Historians, archivists and other regional oral history practitioners are encouraged to send the following to Cliff Kuhn, Interim Coordinator:

- a list or description of current oral history holdings and/or activities;
- names to include on the mailing list;
- additional ideas concerning the structure and activities of a regional oral history organization.

For more information, contact:

Cliff Kuhn
History Department
Georgia State University
University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303
404/651-3255

OHA Election Results

Ron Marcello, chair of the Nominating Committee, reported the following election results:

Vice President/President Elect-
Kim Lady Smith

Council - Linda Shopes
Nominating Committee -

Tom Charlton, Mary Marshall Clark,
Eva McMahon

This year's Nominating Committee will be chaired by Rose Diaz. Please send any suggestions for future nominees to Rose at: Center for Southwest Research, General Library, The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1466.

O H A NEEDS Y O U !

To help the Oral History Association meet the needs of the future and to ensure that we can continue to provide the highest level of services, OHA invites members and friends to support the endowment fund.

The OHA Endowment Fund is a special account, based on but not limited to life memberships, that accumulates a balance so that earnings may be used for special projects or for emergency needs.

For information or to contribute to the endowment fund, write Richard C. Smith, Executive Secretary, Oral History Association, 1093 Broxton Ave. No. 720, Los Angeles, California 90024.

The Oral History Association Newsletter (ISSN:0474-3253) is published quarterly by the Oral History Association for its members and subscribers. Copy deadlines are: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

Address membership, change of address, subscription and delivery inquiries to: Richard Candida Smith, Executive Secretary, Oral History Association, 1093 Broxton Avenue, #720, Los Angeles, California 90024.

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Oral History Association Newsletter
Baylor University, P.O. Box 97271
Waco, Texas 76798-7271

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