



NEWSLETTER

Council OKs Awards for Outstanding Work

After nearly 20 years of intermittent debate, the Oral History Association is set to establish an awards program to recognize exemplary work in a wide range of oral history activities.

At its mid-winter meeting in February, the OHA Council authorized implementation of an awards program that will recognize outstanding books and articles involving oral history, non-print public presentations that use oral history, outstanding use of oral history in pre-collegiate and collegiate classrooms and outstanding oral history projects.

The awards for an outstanding book, pre-collegiate teaching and non-print public presentation will be made in 1995 and in subsequent odd-numbered years, while the awards for outstanding article, postsecondary teaching and oral history project will be presented first in 1996 and in subsequent

even-numbered years.

Details of the criteria for each award will appear in future issues of the OHA Newsletter, but OHA membership is not a prerequisite for award nominations.

While not initially offering a cash prize, the awards program will nonetheless "reward quality work in oral history and by bringing attention to such work can encourage high standards in general," the ad hoc awards committee said in its report to the OHA Council.

"Awards also can increase the visibility and credibility of oral history within the professional community of historians," the report added.

Each award winner will receive a certificate of recognition, a complimentary one-year OHA membership and a registration fee waiver at the OHA annual meeting at which the award is presented.

Editor's Note

The OHA Newsletter is published three times a year in January, May and September.

For the past three years, however, erratic publication schedules and editorial staff changes resulted in some confusion, particularly for libraries and others interested in maintaining complete sets of Newsletters.

Please note that for 1992, Vol. 26, only three issues were published, not four, which previously was the case. For 1993, Vol. 27, only two issues were published. Beginning this year, for Vol. 28, three issues will be published. That publication schedule will be maintained as long as I remain the editor.

Mary Kay Quinlan

History, Culture of Southwest Highlight OHA Conference

Tours of Santa Fe, an archeological site and wineries, the Acoma Pueblo and the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center/Neon Tour of Albuquerque--in addition to thought-provoking panels and workshops--are on tap for the Oral History Association's 27th annual meeting set for Oct. 27-30 in Albuquerque, N.M.

The cultural richness of this historically important region provides a backdrop for the conference program aimed at challenging the images of American cultures. Ethnic diversity, civil and legal rights, land and water rights, women and community and cultural history are among the dozens of topics to be explored in conference sessions.

An introductory oral history workshop and workshops on preservation, cataloging and access, grants and fund-raising and oral history standards also are scheduled. The University of New Mexico is providing generous support, including assigning two student staff members as conference assistants. Graduate student and oral historian Marion Bell is working for program chair Rose Diaz, and undergraduate Gavin Lujan is helping local arrangements chair Jan Barnhart. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Old Town Hotel in downtown Albuquerque. Complete registration and program information will be mailed to all OHA members in mid-summer.



President's Column

By Kim Lady Smith
OHA President

It costs money to do oral history, and the availability of funding has a powerful influence on the type of interviews that are done.

At the Nov. 7, 1993, annual business meeting in Birmingham, the membership unanimously approved a resolution instructing council representatives to meet with officials from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to discuss funding of oral history interviews, projects and programs. Specifically, we were to explore options for increasing the number of oral history applications and for improving NEH support for oral history.

The resolution was sent to Dr. Sheldon Hackney, chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Dr. George Farr Jr., director of the Division of Preservation and Access, the division responsible for oral history proposals. On March 11, Dale Treleven and I met with Dr. Farr and two staff members, Barbara Paulson and Karen Jefferson, at NEH offices in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Farr and his staff expressed concern about the image of NEH as an unfriendly environment for oral history projects. Their desire to work with us to correct that perception resulted in several recommended actions to address the concerns of our members and to assist NEH in the evaluation of oral history proposals. These actions include: publishing an article from NEH in the next issue of the OHA Newsletter, an NEH representative attending the 1994 annual meeting and participating on a panel on federal funding and possibly a workshop at the 1995 annual meeting. Responding to our concern that proposals with oral history components submitted to other NEH divisions might not be judged in accordance with OHA evaluation guidelines or reviewed

by qualified oral historians, it was agreed that an OHA representative would make a presentation on oral history to all division directors and other appropriate staff. After a two-hour discussion, both parties committed to work aggressively to increase funding of oral history proposals through the mutual education of oral historians and NEH officials.

The "mutual" aspect of this effort is important to keep in mind. We did not go to NEH to demand that more oral history projects be funded. We went to express our concerns about the limited project support of recent years and to offer our assistance in addressing this situation. The OHA can help NEH evaluate oral history proposals in accordance with the professional standards we have established, but it is also our responsibility to educate oral history practitioners in the application of those standards. The OHA must work together with NEH if we are to achieve the result we desire--a higher level of federally funded oral history projects that reflect the importance of oral history research and add significantly to our understanding of history and culture.

Before concluding this column, I would like to report briefly on the mid-winter council meeting held in Albuquerque on Feb. 18 and 19. The council considered committee reports, reviewed the association's financial status, heard from Rose Diaz and Jan Barnhart on plans for the 1994 annual meeting and took action on several recommendations. Most notably, we approved criteria for the awards program that will be announced this summer. Linda Shopes and the ad hoc awards committee have done an outstanding job putting together this new initiative for the OHA. I also would like to thank Rose Diaz and the Southwest Oral History Association for inviting me to speak at their spring meeting in Sacramento, Calif., in March. It

was a pleasure to visit with colleagues from the western half of the United States and to learn more about the activities of this very successful regional organization.

OHA Committees Get New Chairpersons

OHA President Kim Lady Smith has named two Midwesterners and two Texans to head four OHA committees this year.

- Endowment and Fundraising: Cullom Davis of the Lincoln Legal Papers in Springfield, Ill.;

- International: Richard Candida Smith of the University of Michigan;

- State and Regional: Lois Myers of Baylor University's Oral History Institute in Waco, Texas;

- Ad Hoc Scholarship: Rebecca Sharpless, also of Baylor's Oral History Institute.

Continuing as committee leaders are:

Jay Haymond of the Membership Committee, Elly Shodell of the Publications Committee, Gwendolyn Etter-Lewis and Celia Alvarez of the Multiculturality Committee and John Terreo and Barry Lanman of the Teaching Committee.

OHA Needs You!

To help the Oral History Association meet future needs 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 fund, write to: Jan Barnhart, Executive Secretary, Oral History Association, P.O. Box 3968, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3968.

Oral History Project Documents Diplomatic Life

By Carl L. Nelson
Washington, D.C.

Jewell Fenzi may have had a hint that Thursday in the spring of 1986 when she and Pamela Burdick entered the U.S. Senate dining room of the difficulties involved in creating an oral history archive. "We were starting from zero," says the founder and current director of Foreign Service Spouse Oral History, Inc. "We had no idea of the work to come."

Fenzi, a spouse with 30 years in the Foreign Service, and Burdick, a former Agency for International Development spouse, soon were disabused of the notion that oral history could be easy. Their luncheon partner that day, then OHA President Donald A. Ritchie, associate Senate historian, "advised us to seek institutional backing, raise funds, train a corps of interviewers, develop an interviewing methodology and establish our interview universe," Fenzi remembers. "We furiously scribbled notes."

That the work over the next seven years was successful, there is no doubt. A book, "Married to the Foreign Service: An Oral History of the American Diplomatic Spouse," is scheduled for publication next month by Twayne Publishers.

More than 170 interviews have been taped, transcribed and archived. And a growing network of current and former spouses continues to record a unique aspect of the history of American women and, increasingly, men.

Spouse involvement in U.S. diplomatic life abroad goes back to 1784 when Abigail Adams followed her husband John Adams, then American Joint Commissioner at the Court of France, to Paris.

The intervening 200 years brought many changes, but for spouses, the role of unpaid and unrecognized support systems for their husbands--managers of special

events and social occasions--remained the same. For the spouse oral history program, if not for the self-esteem of spouses themselves, this was a decided advantage. "Foreign Service spouses proved to be very good interviewers," Fenzi says. "In diplomatic life we were accustomed to drawing out others. Questioning a colleague was second nature. We also knew our subject because we had lived the role. And, perhaps equally important, we were accustomed to working as volunteers."

A seed grant of \$500 from the Association for Diplomatic Studies, combined with \$6,000 in anonymous contributions, allowed the program to get up and running. After receiving tax-exempt status in 1989, the program greatly expanded its interviewing and transcribing, with generous support from the Marpat Foundation.

Once a "critical mass" of transcribed interviews had been assembled, promotion of the program began to take on a life of its own, according to Fenzi. Anecdotal excerpts from different interviews were supplied regularly to Foreign Service-related publications. More lengthy, interpretive articles appeared in the Foreign Service Journal, such as the experiences of French chef Julia Child as a Foreign Service spouse in Paris and Norway from 1945-1960.

To the prospect of being interviewed reactions varied, says Fenzi. "A few, with the Nixon tapes firmly in mind, assumed FSSOH interviewers were snooping for scandal. Most women, however, welcomed the idea of documenting the spouse role." Many women were eager to document their involvement in American diplomacy abroad, because State Department policy, since 1972, officially imposes no requirements on Foreign Service spouses and ignores any contributions they make.

Recognition of interviewees and additional fund raising also is accomplished through an annual benefit tea.

Tapes, transcripts and supporting documents are housed at the Association of American Foreign Service Women's offices in northwest Washington, while copies of the transcripts are placed in three additional repositories: the National Foreign Affairs Training Center library in Arlington, Va., Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and Radcliff College in Cambridge, Mass.

FSSOH staff and volunteers, all with Foreign Service connections, include: Patricia Barbis, interviewer; Caroline Farquhar, transcriber; Kristie Miller, interviewer and editor; Judy Motley, editor; Patricia Norland, interviewer; Patricia Squire, interviewer; and Joan Williamson, administrative assistant.

Carl L. Nelson is a Washington free-lance journalist who collaborated with Jewell Fenzi on "Married to the Foreign Service."

Frontier Nursing Interviews To Be Transcribed

The University of Kentucky Oral History Program recently received a \$12,278 grant from the Marpat Foundation to transcribe 194 interviews in the Frontier Nursing Service Oral History Collection, according to Jeff Suchanek, assistant director and editor.

In 1925 Mary Breckinridge organized the first effort to bring trained nurse-midwives and doctors to mountain people, and the service continues today in several eastern Kentucky counties.

Grants from the Rockefeller Foundation and the Kentucky Oral History Commission financed the nursing service interviews in the late 1970s and early '80s. The oral history transcripts are expected to be completed and available to researchers by the end of this year.

STATE AND REGIONAL REPORT



Texans Discover Perils Of Publishing Regional Oral History Journal

By Lesley Williams Brunet
Texas Medical Center

In 1993, the Texas Oral History Association celebrated its 10-year anniversary, and as part of that celebration it inaugurated the **Sound Historian**, an annual journal of oral history articles from the region.

Oral history in Texas is rich and diverse, and for many years TOHA members had toyed with the idea of starting a regional journal. Finally with the election of the 1991-1993 board of directors, plans began in earnest. At biannual board meetings, directors outlined the type of journal they wanted to produce and discussed ways of raising money to finance the publication. I agreed to serve as editor, and board members Ken Hendrickson, Susan Denney and Dan Utley volunteered to serve on an editorial committee to help spread the word about the journal, solicit articles, raise money and make decisions about its format.

Like so many journals, getting good articles for publication was harder than it looked. We decided to solicit articles about oral history in Texas and the surrounding states or by regional oral historians and see what kind of response we got. I published a call for papers in the spring 1992 TOHA Newsletter, which unfortunately brought limited response. TOHA could not afford to mail out flyers to all of the academic departments of state universities and colleges where many oral history articles originate. Instead, direct appeals to well

known oral historians around the state to publish papers they had presented in recent years, especially during the annual joint sessions of the Texas State Historical Association and the Texas Oral History Association, proved most effective for the first issue.

For the 1994 issue of the journal, however, I have learned from my mistakes. I already have lined up articles and authors, and we hope that when TOHA members and others see the 1993 journal, they will be more interested in sending submissions and we will have a backlog of articles for subsequent issues.

Along with soliciting and selecting articles for publication, another important issue to solve was funding. The **Sound Historian** is free to TOHA members, as part of their membership dues, and TOHA will sell copies of the journal for \$5 to non-members. Early in the planning stages of the journal, board members agreed to raise money by soliciting contributions in their local areas and from publishers. As it turned out, however, some board members worked harder at raising money than others, and the bulk of the fund raising fell to the editor and to our hard-working TOHA secretary/treasurer, Lois Myers, who worked with several regional publishers to get ads for the journal. In the end, we were able to raise virtually all of the funds needed for printing the journal and were not forced to use TOHA general funds for publication costs.

Deciding on the format, the name and the publishing or printing company were no less important issues than raising funds. Fortunately I was able to get advice on desktop publishing from my husband, Carlos Brunet, who had volunteered to do the production work for the journal. He took the edited versions of the articles on disk and put them into final form and also designed the cover. Selecting a name that was agreeable to everyone on the board was no easy task, and Dan Utley and I

spent hours pouring over lists of proposed names and negotiating over our favorites. We didn't want the name to be too stereotypically Texan, like **Barbed Wire**, and we finally agreed on **Sound Historian**. But there were still many decisions about the content and design of the introductory pages and the inevitable proofing and correction process that took a lot of time and effort.

Collecting bids from printers was equally time consuming. Late in the process, we learned about a company in Kansas that had a great deal of experience publishing small scholarly journals, and at half the cost of commercial printing companies in Houston, which we originally had planned to use. Best of all the Kansas firm understood what we were trying to do, and our business was important to them.

I've learned a great deal in the past year-and-a-half about starting a regional journal, and if I had any advice to offer it would be: increase the lead time from planning to final publication; advertise and solicit articles at least a year-and-a-half before the time you plan to publish, because people tend not to meet deadlines; be more strict about requiring a compatible computer disk copy of the article; if possible, have a mock-up of the publication before approaching advertisers such as publishing companies and set a realistic time schedule for the journal and for yourself, because it takes a lot more time than you would think.

To order the **Sound Historian**, call the Texas Oral History Association at 817-755-3437, or send a check or money order for \$5 to Texas Oral History Association, P.O. Box 97271, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798-7271.

Editor's Note: If your state or regional group has an experience to share, please fax your article to the Newsletter at 703-379-4381.

Oral Historians Face Problems in Old USSR

By Victor A. Berdinskikh
Kirov, Russia

In the 1980s, great changes appeared in the historical consciousness of millions of Soviet people. Openness made possible mass inquiries of the population about the past of their state, homeland, political life. People had nothing to be afraid of; they no longer had to keep their past from somebody. Many old people are ready to tell everything about the hunger of the '30s, mass repressions, collectivization and World War II, but with a bit of care. Elucidation of the themes of political history--like talking about Stalin--still requires a lot of trust between interviewer and interviewee.

As the main part of the elderly population (in the cities as well as in the country) are former peasants, there are favorable conditions for studying Russian peasants' culture and traditional public structures in many republics of the former Soviet Union. All layers of the population have developed a national self-consciousness, but many people realize that the peasant society's foundations and ways of living, in particular, have great cultural value.

Many young Soviet-trained

historians are displeased with the achievements of the official Soviet historiography of the 1960s-'80s. Interest in the social-economic history issues has weakened, historical-cultural works have become more varied and dissatisfaction with traditional methods of investigation has appeared. Because the bulk of official sources on Soviet history of recent decades was falsified, the search for new sources began.

All these facts became the reason for the interest of young historians in oral history as a new branch of historical science. We have clearly understood that the complete truthful history of the past is impossible without many thousands of oral stories--recollections of our citizens. Living collective memory of the people is a nation's treasure, of great cultural value for the society. Living history of the Russian people is dying with the generations that were born in the 1890s-1920s. Interviewing of these people allows us to create not only a new historical source, but to write the history of the nation, not of the state.

For many Soviet-trained historians, oral history is a completely new method and a new

type of investigation. There is almost no literature on these problems in our country. Two scientific conferences on the problems of oral history took place in 1989 in Moscow and Kirov, and papers have been published from those and subsequent conferences in 1991 and 1992. A Society of Oral History was created within the Association of Young Historians, and the oral historians have recommended:

1) giving priority to studying the history of Soviet society of the 1920s-'50s;

2) creating museums, collections and information banks on oral history in university history departments, institutes and regional archives;

3) encouraging high school history students to take an active part in summer folk, archaeology and ethnography expeditions, aimed at creating oral memoirs.

Editor's Note: Berdinskikh and his wife, Marina, attended the 1993 OHA conference in Birmingham, Ala., and submitted to the Newsletter a longer version of this article about oral history developments in Russia, which has been edited for space considerations.

Executive Secretary's Report

By Jan Dodson Barnhart

The administrative office has been busy since our last issue with a variety of activities. Renewals have been mailed and your responses are very much appreciated--it seems the enclosed pre-addressed envelopes were a hit! Rebecca Sharpless has created the text for new brochures, which will be available soon. Also, an updated flyer will be printed with publication prices, which have been raised to reflect the postage and handling charges. Orders have been steady with two very large ones reflecting interest in the law and community history pamphlets especially. Anticipation is high concerning the annual meeting, and

we are continually providing information on that event.

We have had many questions from our subscription services and others recently concerning our publication numbering and schedules. Please see the Editor's Note on Page 1 for clarification.

The membership files are being carefully reviewed and we are asking members to renew in a timely manner. We will purge records this year and appreciate the two former members who have indicated that their institution is not renewing because they have cut their serials budget or that they personally are no longer involved in oral history. We will miss them.

Attendees at the annual meeting are welcome to visit the office. We

are planning a "warehouse sale," at attractive prices, of back issues of all publications, so please make note of your missing volume numbers and years.

If you have any questions, please telephone my office 505-277-8213. I now have voice mail, so if you do not call from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MDT, I still will be able to receive your message. Recently, my phone system was completely down and then the voice mail was not working, so if I haven't gotten back to you, try again. When we visit again, the Directory will be in production and the annual meeting will be just around the corner. I will look forward to seeing many of you in Albuquerque.

Carl G. Ryant (1942-1993): Remembering a Friend

By John J. Fox
Salem State College

On Dec. 2, 1993, I lost a good and dear friend when Carl G. Ryant, professor of history at the University of Louisville, died at the age of 51. Carl, a long-time member of the Oral History Association, will be missed by all in the association and in the international oral history movement who knew him.

I first met Carl at the OHA's 1976 annual meeting. But it wasn't until the Lexington meeting in 1985 that our acquaintanceship grew into a lasting friendship that came to include our families. Over the years, Carl and I found times other than the annual meetings to get together. His wife, Mary Lou, sometimes questioned why he was always on the plane to Boston. He could not convince her that it was for professional reasons. She was right to suspect there was a pull north other than professional.

Carl fell in love in Maddie's Sail Loft in Marblehead. Those who know me know that this is our favorite restaurant. It has a character that may be described as a downscale version of "Cheers." On any noon you will find the place packed with fishermen, local bankers, a private investigator, a professor or two from Salem State College (only those who are smart enough to stay away from the faculty dining room) and other locals who have spent many interesting hours at the bar.

Because this is a place to which most keep returning, in time you become a regular, and the locals will begin to acknowledge you and allow you to participate in the banter that goes back and forth. Being himself, Carl did not find it necessary to wait the usual length of time to become one of the regulars. He just joined in. He was welcomed. One of the signs of acceptance at the Sail Loft is the placing of a bronze name plate in your memory on the downstairs wall. If you are ever in the Sail Loft, look for Carl's name plate. I will continue to go to the Sail Loft,

but it will be always with a tinge of sadness, because Carl will not again be seated at our table.

Carl was committed to oral history, believing, as Paul Thompson, that it served as a means of democratizing the history of the people. Born into a working class family in Cleveland, he understood that this class historically has been voiceless. While I never heard Carl talk about history from the bottom up, there is no doubt that he was committed to this concept. As co-director of the Oral History Center at the University of Louisville, he directed, among others, projects on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and on Brown and Foremen distillery. The central focus of each was on the workers rather than the managers.

While a friendly, outgoing person, there was a private side to him. He never wanted anyone to feel sorry for him, so he kept very quiet about the struggle that he was going through. On Feb. 19, 1993, the day before he and his family were to meet my wife, Marilyn, and me at Kennedy International Airport for our journey to the international oral history conference in Italy, his doctor informed him of the prognosis. It was not good. Never, during our trip, was it ever mentioned. He was, in this stressful time, an agreeable and enjoyable traveling companion.

Unwilling to give in to what would become the inevitable, Carl returned to the classroom last fall. He loved teaching and he loved his students. Soon after the start of the semester, his health began to deteriorate rapidly and he had to take a medical leave. Yet he did not give up his commitment to his students. The last time I talked to him, he was reading and editing a master's thesis for a graduate student. He will be missed by the students of the University.

When Carl became aware of what the final outcome would be, he felt it important to take his 11-year-old son, Neville, to Cleveland. They spent a spring weekend visiting the places that were

important to Carl. He never forgot where he came from and wanted Neville to be aware of his heritage.

Carl received his undergraduate degree from Case-Western Reserve University. He went on to the University of Wisconsin at Madison where he earned his Ph.D. in history. In 1968 he joined the history faculty at the University of Louisville. He quickly was recognized as an outstanding teacher, and students flocked to his classes. Students were always foremost in his mind; as far as I can tell, he never met one he disliked.

Carl never shirked his professional responsibility within the University or professional associations. At the University, he served as president of the AAUP chapter and chaired or served on many important committees. Besides serving as chair of the OHA's International Committee, he also was coordinator of the oral history sections of the Popular Culture and the American Popular Culture Associations. He published articles and books and contributed reviews to journals. From a professional point of view, I am only aware of one disappointment that he suffered. He would have liked to have served on the OHA's Executive Committee.

Although death has taken Carl, he will always be my friend, and Mary Lou and Neville will always be a part of my family. I know that there are others in the OHA who share these feelings and, like me, will be tempted to look for Carl standing above the crowd at the Albuquerque meeting. While he will not be there physically, his spirit, no doubt, will be among us. While it is painful to lose a friend and colleague, it is satisfying to recall what they have contributed to our lives. For me, Carl, significantly younger, was a mentor, a friend and a member of my family. Although Marilyn, our son, J.C., and I will miss him we will not forget him. Nor, I am sure, will he be forgotten by those in our association whom he touched.

BULLETIN BOARD

Opportunities

Fulbright Competition Opens

Fulbright opportunities are available for university lecturing or advanced research in nearly 140 countries for two months up to a full academic year for 1995-96. Openings exist in virtually all areas of the humanities, social sciences, natural and applied sciences, the arts and professional fields such as business, journalism and law. Professionals outside academe are encouraged to apply as are faculty at all types of institutions.

Fulbright scholars must be U.S. citizens and hold a Ph.D. or comparable professional qualifications. For lecturing awards, postsecondary teaching experience is expected. The application deadline is Aug. 1. For information and application materials, call or write to: Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 3007 Tilden Street, N.W., Suite 5M, Box GNEWS, Washington, D.C. 20008-3009. Telephone 202-686-7877.

Announcements

Minnesota Women's History Survey Published

The Minnesota Historical Society announces publication of "Women's History in Minnesota: A Survey of Published Sources and Dissertations." Compiled by Jo Blatti, former OHA Council member, the book contains 844 bibliographic entries for women in Minnesota and adjacent regions, including books, articles, newsletters, yearbooks, government reports, dissertations and some unpublished research papers. The entries are grouped into more than a dozen categories, including social life, state and local history, regional studies, religion and philosophy, arts, economics and employment, law and government.

For information, call or write to: MHS Press, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, MN 55102-1906; 612-296-7539.

Videohistory Book Released

Krieger Publishing Co. announces publication of "A Practical Introduction to Videohistory: The Smithsonian Institution and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Experiment." Edited by Terri A. Schorzman, president of Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR), the book introduces historians to the use of video in research. It describes the Smithsonian's videohistory program and discusses the use of video as a historical research tool as well as presenting an overview of technical and archival issues.

For information, call or write to: Krieger Publishing Co., P.O. Box 9542, Melbourne, FL 32902-9542. Telephone 407-724-9542.

Nevada Book Published

The University of Nevada Oral History Program announces publication of "Hang Tough! Grant Sawyer: An Activist in the Governor's Mansion." Sawyer served two turbulent terms as Nevada's governor from 1959-1966, and the book documents many of the issues he took on in his career, including his efforts to regulate casino gambling and the bizarre events leading to the revocation of entertainer Frank Sinatra's gaming license. For information, call 1-800-227-4551.

Pa. Journal Focus is Oral History

"Oral History in Pennsylvania" is the subject of a special theme issue of Pennsylvania History, the journal of the Pennsylvania Historical Association. Edited by Linda Shopes, OHA Council member, the issue includes a review of oral history collections and articles about various projects and uses of oral history in various settings. For information, write or call: Friends of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, P.O. Box 11466, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1466. Telephone 717-783-2618.

Cal State Jewish Interviews Completed

The Oral History Program of California State University at Fullerton announces completion of interviews dealing with the Jewish community in Shanghai, China, before and during World War II and with Austrian and German Jewish refugees who fled Europe to Shanghai because the International Settlement government there admitted stateless persons.

For information, call or write: Oral History Program, California State University, P.O. Box 34080, Fullerton, CA 92634-9480. Telephone: 714-773-3580.

Personal Notes

Historian **Spencer Crew**, who OHA members will recall served as program chair for the 1988 OHA conference in Baltimore, has been appointed director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. Crew joined the Smithsonian staff in 1981 and had been acting director since late 1992. Crew's research on the migration of African Americans into northern cities and the development of African-American communities in the 20th century is the basis of "Field to Factory: Afro-American Migration 1915-1940," the newest permanent exhibit that opened at the Museum of American History in 1987.

For her expertise in oral history, state and local history and museum work, OHA Council member **Linda Shopes** has been appointed to a three-year term on the editorial board of *The Public Historian*, the journal of the National Council of Public History.

OHA member **Jean Tucker** of Paonia, Colo., was named 1994 distinguished alumna at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colo. Tucker retired two years ago after 21 years as a public affairs officer for the Library of Congress.

Oral Historians To Gather in NYC From Around World

More than 150 oral historians from 41 nations are expected to participate in the Ninth International Conference on Oral History scheduled for Oct. 18-23 in New York City.

Hosted by the Columbia University Oral History Research Office, the conference begins with day-long workshops in three languages followed by five days filled with presentations of research results and discussions of oral history in various nations.

Conference organizer Ronald J. Grele, a past OHA president, said six OHA members are scheduled to present the full-day workshops:

- Donald Ritchie, associate historian of the U.S. Senate and a past OHA president, and Anne Ritchie, oral historian at the National Gallery of Art, will present the English language workshop;

- Richard Lohead of the Canadian National Archives and

Gilbert Commeault of the Province of Manitoba Archives will present the French language workshop;

- Rina Benmayor of the Hunter College Center for Puerto Rican Studies and Carlos Vasquez of the University of New Mexico's Center for Southwest Research will present the Spanish language workshop.

Grele said the conference was scheduled to make it convenient for international visitors to remain in the United States to attend the OHA annual conference in Albuquerque, N.M. Institutions interested in inviting an international visitor to be a guest speaker during the period between the two conferences, and who can provide transportation and lodging, should call Grele at 212-854-2273.

The conference registration fee is \$75 for participants and \$100 for attendees. The one-day registration fee is \$40. Workshop fees are \$100. All fees are due June 1. For information on registration and lodging, write to: Oral History Office, Box 20, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.

New Prices, Discounts For OHA Pamphlets

The OHA Council approved at its mid-winter meeting new prices and member discounts for the OHA's popular pamphlet series.

The following pamphlets are \$8 each:

- "Using Oral History in Community History Projects;"

- "Oral History and the Law," Second Edition;

- "Oral History in the Secondary School Classroom."

Copies of "Oral History Evaluation Guidelines" are \$5 each.

OHA members also are eligible for a 10 percent discount for bulk orders of 10 or more. State and regional groups are eligible for a 20 percent discount for bulk orders of 25 or more.

Make checks payable to the Oral History Association, and send them to Jan Barnhart, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 3968, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3968.

The Oral History Association Newsletter (ISSN:0474-3253) is published three times yearly by the Oral History Association for its members and subscribers. **Copy deadlines are: Dec. 1, April 1 and Aug. 1.**

Address membership, change of address, subscription and delivery inquiries to: Jan Barnhart, Oral History Association, P.O. Box 3968, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3968

Editor: Mary Kay Quinlan, 3023 S. Columbus St., Arlington, VA 22206.

Copyright 1994 Oral History Association, Incorporated

**Oral History Association
Newsletter
P.O. Box 3968
Albuquerque, NM 87190-3968**

Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jefferson City, Mo.
PERMIT NO. 210