

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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PROFILE



FORREST C. POGUE ORAL HISTORY PIONEER

Forrest Carlisle Pogue, director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute for Historical Research of the Smithsonian Institution, has been an oral historian for more than three decades. A most honored historian, he ranks as a pioneer in historical methodology.

Pogue was born in Eddyville, Kentucky, in 1912. He graduated cum laude from Murray State College in 1931, took an M.A. in history at the University of Kentucky the following year, and began teaching at Western Kentucky College, Bowling Green, in 1933 at the age of twenty-one. Pogue was an American Exchange Fellow at the University of Paris, 1937-38, and received a Ph.D. from Clark University (Worcester, Massachusetts) in 1939. He taught history at Murray State until 1942.

During World War II, Pogue made his mark in oral history as a combat historian, earning the Bronze Star and the Croix de Guerre of France for on-the-scene interviewing from the Normandy

invasion to V-E Day. From 1945 to 1952, he was a civilian historian for the U.S. Army. Directed to write a history of Eisenhower's European headquarters, SHAEF, Pogue interviewed more than 100 former Allied military and political leaders. This research led to his first book, *The Supreme Command* (1954).

Pogue's work on the life and career of George C. Marshall represents one of the most exhaustive biographical research efforts to come out of World War II and the postwar period. In 1956 Pogue began directing the work of the Marshall Research Library in Lexington, Virginia, and in 1964 that of the Marshall Research Foundation in Arlington, Virginia. He tape-recorded interviews with 175 of Marshall's associates and more than forty hours with the general. Pogue's research led to the publication of the acclaimed *George C. Marshall: Education of a General, 1880-1939* (1963); *Ordeal and Hope, 1939-1942* (1966); and

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TOLAND AND SCHEER COLLOQUIUM SPEAKERS

Those dining in the ballroom of the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego the evenings of October 21 and 22, will find the after-dinner fare to be diverse. Friday night the Twelfth National Colloquium on Oral History will feature an address by John Toland, biographer of Adolph Hitler; Saturday night will spotlight Robert Scheer, self-styled radical journalist.

John Toland is a native of Wisconsin and a 1936 graduate of Williams College (Massachusetts). A specialist in military history, he received the Pulitzer Prize for *The Rising Sun* and much acclaim for *The Last Hundred Days*. Toland's latest study in two volumes, *Adolph Hitler* (see Spring 1977, *Newsletter*), is an exhaustive and revealing Hitler biography.

What sets Toland's work apart is the insight obtained through interviews with many of Hitler's former associates. Toland gained the confidence of former Nazis and others who gave him previously unpublished testimony concerning

Colloquium continued page 3



Photo: Alex Gotfryd

John Toland

FROM THE PRESIDENT

William Wyatt



Membership recruitment is a frequently discussed topic among the officer corps of the Oral History Association, and the existence of an associational membership recruitment program, designed to function on a region-by-region basis, attests to the importance attributed to the quest for new members. Important as it may be to regularize an organization's recruitment methodologies—as we are seeking to do with our regional recruitment network—an association such as the OHA still must rely heavily upon the personal solicitations of individual members in effectively expanding its membership base.

Although there have been fluctuations in the level of individual memberships during the past several years, the roughly 1,000 persons presently enrolled represent a level of support that the Association feels that it can count upon—and needs—to maintain a viable and forward-looking national program. With the addition of library, institutional, student, and life membership support, OHA has fashioned a solid financial structure that should enable it to remain in the forefront of oral history programming across the country.

Despite the fact that the OHA has built a significant roster of members over the span of a few short years, there are many active practitioners of oral history who do not belong to the Association. A number of these individuals have a passing acquaintance with OHA, and some of them have recently been apprised of associational activities and opportunities through the outreach effort of our region-wide recruitment arm. What often makes the difference, however, in bringing these people across the threshold of associational involvement and commitment is a personal word from you, a colleague in the field willing to attest to the value and worth of an OHA membership. The next time that you have an opportunity to say a personal word, on behalf of the Association, to someone who can benefit from membership in it . . . please do. It could signal the beginning of a great relationship for both them and the OHA.

KENTUCKY BICENTENNIAL ORAL HISTORY COMMISSION

In March 1976 the Kentucky legislature passed a bill creating as an agency of the state government the Kentucky Bicentennial Oral History Commission. The commission's purpose: to promote and coordinate the work of existing oral history programs and to initiate new ones. To this end the General Assembly appropriated \$50,000 for the commission's use during 1976-78; additional funding presumably will be voted by succeeding legislatures.

Membership of the commission, which plays an advisory role, consists of representatives of institutions involved in oral history, along with interested state citizens. Policy-making decisions are made by an eight-member executive committee.

The commission, appointed by the governor, has divided oral history projects in the state into two classifications. Level One consists of scholarly programs carried out by recognized institutions using professional historians with backgrounds in oral history. The commission's goal is to better coordinate the activities of these institutions. Grants have been offered to encourage research in Kentucky public higher education, government and politics, literary figures,

and black studies. A union catalogue of existing memoirs is planned.

Level Two consists of community oral history projects created by the commission through the existing system of public libraries, with organization under the supervision of the state librarian. After all-day oral history workshops were held in each of three districts, each district library head conducted similar workshops for county librarians within the district. County librarians then organized local committees to plan and carry out the county oral history projects. Manuals and equipment were supplied the libraries by the Department of Library and Archives. Three cities in the state were designated as duplicating centers. For each interview generated by a county library, one copy is deposited in the state library, one copy is returned to the county library, and a third is given the interviewee.

At last report, local oral history committees were functioning in seventy of Kentucky's 120 counties. As of January 1977, these had deposited in the state library more than 200 taped interviews.

For further information: Barbara Williams, Executive Secretary, Kentucky Bicentennial Oral History Commission, Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40601.

KENTUCKY REGIONAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS



CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP

A revision of the OHA constitution and bylaws adopted at Ottawa last fall brings the association into line with other professional bodies across the nation. Two important changes advanced by Charles T. Morrissey's committee and presented by William W. Moss, were passed by the membership and concern the leadership of the association and its elections.

Under the revised OHA document the Council selects an executive secretary

who, as a nonvoting member of that body, replaces the offices of secretary and treasurer.

The new constitutional provisions also provide for an elected, six-member, two-year-term nominating committee. While nominees for elected offices are selected by the committee, additional candidates may be nominated from the floor by any member. A copy of the revision may be requested from the executive secretary.

BLACK STUDIES AT DUKE

Fourteen history graduate students and two professors are involved in the efforts of the Duke University Oral History Program to right what they consider an historiographical wrong. Eleven of the students at the Durham, North Carolina, school are black, eight are women; they are led by Lawrence C. Goodwyn and William H. Chafe, codirectors of the program, both long sensitive to the problems in elitist history. In an article in the February, 1977 *Duke Alumni Register*, Peggy Payne noted that Goodwyn and Chafe have for some time wanted to help "develop a history of the South that included a black perspective." Studies at Duke concentrate heavily on civil rights and race relations using a topically specific rather than life-study approach to interviewing. With the doctoral students conducting the bulk of the interview research, the Duke program demonstrates poignantly the value of oral history, augmenting the standard works most often produced by well-educated, usually upper middle-class, white males.

COUNTRY MUSIC FOUNDATION

After three years of operation, the Oral History Project of the Country Music Foundation in Nashville, Tennessee, has collected over 120 interviews with people involved in all facets of country music: performers, businessmen, record producers, booking agents, and songwriters. The budget of the program comes from admission fees to the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Director Douglas B. Green has done virtually all interviewing and transcribing, though donations of interviews by journalists, researchers and scholars have been accepted. According to Green, "Country music has been vastly under-documented, and as an effort to make up for this deficiency, the CMF was foresighted enough to implement this project while many of the music's recording pioneers are still living."

MISSOURI VALLEY HISTORY CONFERENCE WANTS PAPERS

The twenty-first annual Missouri Valley History Conference to be held March 9-11, 1978, in Omaha, Nebraska, will examine quantification, psychohistory, teaching methodology, research tools and techniques, and interdisciplinary studies as well as the traditional topic and area studies. Proposals should be submitted by August 15, 1977, to Jacqueline St John, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68101.

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Organizer of Victory, 1943-1945 (1973). Pogue has written or coauthored several other books on U.S. military history and published numerous articles. He is at work on a fourth volume on Marshall.

Pogue left his Marshall research positions in 1974 to take his present post in the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology. He is also president of the advisory committee of the U.S. Senate Historical Office, a consultant to the *Dictionary of American Biography*, and a member of the Kentucky Oral History Commission. An active member of the Oral History Association, Pogue was the association's 1970-71 president.

Many honors in the historical profession and in the field of higher education have come to Pogue. He has received awards for his publications, two distinguished alumnus awards, and three honorary doctorates. Unique recognition for his career came in February 1975 when Murray State University named its oral history program the Forrest Carlisle Pogue Oral History Institute of the College of Humanistic Studies.

COLLOQUIUM SPEAKERS

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the dictator, allowing them to read and edit what the book had to say about them. In his address to the OHA, Toland will relate what oral history means for biographical research.

A writer who makes other uses of interviewing is Bronx native Robert Scheer. Veteran of Vietnam-era activist journalism, Scheer was an editor of *Ramparts* for five years, a contributor to *Rolling Stone*, and is a special assignments staff writer for the *Los Angeles Times*. At the Colloquium Scheer will discuss mass media interviewing, its methods and influence, a topic he addresses with authority.

Scheer is credited with uncovering, in an interview for *Playboy*, the complexities of California's Jerry Brown. Another of Scheer's *Playboy* interviews prompted lively discussion, that with presidential candidate Jimmy Carter. Material in Scheer's interview with Bill and Emily Harris in *New Times*, was used as evidence in the trial of Patricia Hearst.

These two speakers represent a repast of chronicles and information to please the most discriminating oral historian.

The Oral History Review 1977 will include a revised oral history bibliography compiled by John J. Fox (Salem State College).

1977 CALENDAR

- September 27-30
American Association for
State and Local History
Charleston, South Carolina
- October 4-7
Society of American Archivists
Salt Lake City, Utah
- October 12-15
Western History Association
Portland, Oregon
- October 12-16
National Trust for
Historic Preservation
Mobile, Alabama
- October 20-23
12th National Workshop
and Colloquium
Oral History Association
San Diego, California
- November 9-12
Southern Historical Association
New Orleans, Louisiana
- December 28-30
American Historical
Association
Dallas, Texas

OHA WORKSHOP SESSIONS TO BE TAPED FOR SALE

The OHA Council at its midwinter meeting decided to tape all sessions of the 1977 and 1978 national workshops and turn them over to the Committee on Regional Workshops and Teaching for use in preparing oral history kits to be sold or otherwise made available to agencies starting new programs or interested individuals. Before any tape is used it will be evaluated for content and quality of recording. Release forms will be secured from each workshop faculty member before the presentation is used in any manner.

CITADEL BEGINS OH ON WAR AND SOCIETY

The Department of History at The Citadel, military college of South Carolina, has established an Oral History Program in War and Society. Interviews conducted to date have concerned the conduct of World War II, remembered by American and British military leaders including Generals Mark W. Clark and Sir John Hackett. Plans are to extend study into social, political, and intellectual aspects of war. For further information: John W. Gordon, Department of History, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409.

WIGGINTON AND FOXFIRE SET FAST PACE FOR ORAL HISTORIANS

Over the past eleven years the term "foxfire" has come to mean innovation. In combining oral history methods, folklore studies, and secondary education, Eliot Wigginton and his students in Rabun Gap, Georgia, have stayed on the cutting edge of creativity. Their celebrated efforts have done as much for oral history as it has done for them. Foxfire continues to create.

As publication of *The Foxfire Book* approaches two million copies, *Foxfire 4* is on the presses; the fifth of the volumes compiling articles from the quarterly *Foxfire* magazine goes to the publisher in August. A community-owned publishing house, the Foxfire Press, has been established for the work of students and others concerned with preservation of Appalachian culture. Already published is an oral history of the Tallulah Falls railroad, *Memories of a Mountain Shortline*; a book on mountain religion is in production.

Foxfire students are producing programs broadcast over cable television in Rabun County. Shows of folk interest

and those featuring local figures have aired, while interview programs have dealt with contemporary and historical issues. A course in traditional music trains students in field collection techniques; one in record production gives students marketable skills while preserving elements of Appalachian folklife.

Interest generated by *Foxfire* in mountain craftsmanship has led to a program in furniture production. Exact copies of traditional hardwood pieces are handmade by students supervised by area craftsmen. Wigginton's philosophy, that students given the chance can produce, continues to lead in new directions. Foxfire is expanding into environmental studies and elementary school collaborative projects, photography, and bookkeeping instruction. Activities available to the students of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School not only provide creative avenues, they train students vocationally and build the economy of the area by developing locally-owned small industry, made possible by the imagination and innovation of Foxfire.



Minyard Connor watching himself after videotaped interview in his ginseng patch.



Grannie Carrie and grandsons (left to right) Jeff Reeves, Kirk Patterson, Tommy Ramey, Shayne Beck, taken at interview for Vol. II, #2, *Foxfire*.

REMINDER

Twelfth National Workshop and Colloquium, October 20-23, Hotel del Coronado, San Diego, California. Reservations and information: Executive Secretary, Box 13734, N.T. Station, North Texas State University, Denton, TX 76203

VOORHIS COLLECTION

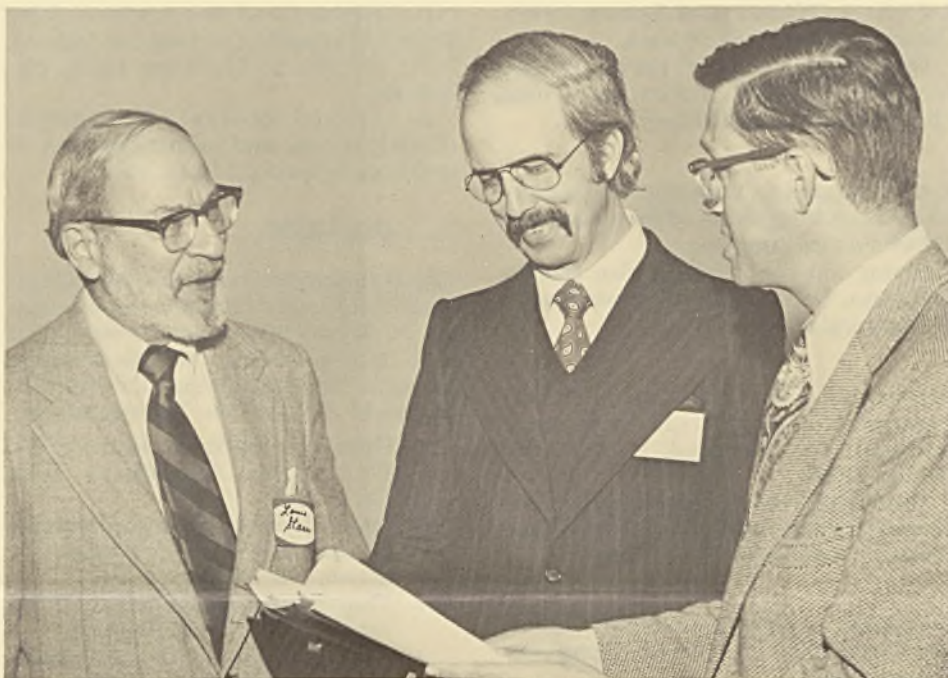
The Claremont Graduate School Oral History Program conducted a series of interviews with former Congressman H. Jerry Voorhis (California) which, with the Voorhis Papers, forms The Voorhis Collection deposited in the Special Collections of the Hannold Library, the central library serving the Claremont Colleges. The collection as a research tool in education, political studies, and economics is enhanced by the development of the oral memoirs.

FAMED RANGERS CHRONICLED

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, part of a museum-library complex dedicated to the memory and study of the Texas Rangers, has a new oral history project consisting of career-length memoirs of forty retired Rangers. Under the auspices of the Waco Parks and Recreation Department and the Moody Foundation of Galveston, interviewing began May 19, 1977, with twenty-one Rangers attending the first reunion of retired Rangers at the new Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, Waco, Texas.

LeFetra Trimble, at eighty-four the oldest retired Ranger at the reunion, said he did not know what he could say that would be of interest to historians. However, after the interview, during which the wiry veteran of West Texas border patrols gave details of Ranger operations in Texas's Big Bend region and a colorful account of a Mexican bandit raid on a Texas ranch, he admitted otherwise.

First established in 1823 as a frontier defense force, and the oldest law enforcement agency in North America, the Rangers are now a unit of the Texas Department of Public Safety. For information: Terry Mattingly, Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, P. O. Box 1370, Waco, Texas 76703.



Left to right: Louis M. Starr (Columbia University), Nolan Lushington, director of the Greenwich Library, and William W. Moss, project consultant, discuss a transcript at the symbolic ribbon cutting ceremony officially presenting the oral history volumes to the library.

GREENWICH VOLUNTEERS NEAR COMPLETION OF PROJECT

Twenty-two red-bound volumes of the Oral History of Greenwich (Connecticut), 1890-1970, containing the personal recollections of Greenwich citizens who lived through almost a century of history are now shelved in the Greenwich Library. This unique oral history project, comprising almost 600 cassettes and 250 transcripts, was funded by gifts from community organizations, private grants and donors, and aided by many volunteer workers. The library has several copies of each bound transcript for general circulation. Paperback editions of four of the interviews are for sale. The bound interviews were chosen to present

a balanced geographic or subject area and information of general interest. Names and events have been incorporated in the Local History Index of the library.

About 250 of the remaining interviews are transcribed but not edited, illustrated or bound. These, along with the tapes, may be used at the library but do not circulate. Copies of the transcripts may be made at the library on a per-page basis.

Additional interviews are planned to fill the gaps in the history of the community with the aim being to have sixty bound transcripts on the shelves when the project concludes.

HOLIFIELD MEMOIR COMPLETE

The creation of the 420-page memoir of retired Congressman Chester E. Holifield (12th Congressional District, Southern California) was a joint effort of the Los Angeles County Library System and the Claremont Graduate School Oral History Program. The memoir focuses on Holifield's personal background, his activities in conjunction with atomic energy, and especially his service on the Government Operations Committee. Material relating to the Atomic Energy Commission, work of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and Holifield's experiences with and opinions on atomic energy development and atomic weaponry are included.

AMERICAN HISTORIANS EXPLORE ORAL HISTORY

"An Exploration in Oral History" was conducted at the 70th Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians April 8 in Atlanta. Instead of the traditional paper, James T. Patterson of Brown University and Bruce M. Stave of the University of Connecticut interviewed for the session 1968 Colloquium speaker James MacGregor Burns on the relationships among scholarship, politics, and history. Duke University oral history doctoral student Marsha Darling represented the method on another session, "New Approaches to Teaching State History."

BOOK NOTICES

Brass Bands & New Orleans Jazz. By William J. Schafer with Richard B. Allen. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, June 1977. Photos. Appendixes. Notes. \$12.50 hardcover, \$6.95 paperback)

Tulane University's Jazz Archive oral biographies of former members of New Orleans brass and jazz bands. Details American small-town, brass band tradition.

Tales of the Elders. By Carol Ann Bales. (Chicago: Follett, 1977. Illus. \$6.95)

Reminiscences of immigrants who entered America between 1900 and 1930.

The Battle of Boston. By John Hillson. (Des Plaines, Ill.: Pathfinder Press, 1977. \$12 cloth, \$3.95 paperback)

Exploration of past and present racism in Boston.

Blessed Is the Match: The Story of Jewish Resistance. By Marie Syrkin. (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society of America, 1947, 1977. \$4.25 paperback)

Interviews with survivors of the Holocaust. New introduction and epilogue.

Wit's End: Days and Nights of the Algonquin Round Table. By James R. Gaines. (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, October 1977. Photos)

Recollections about the group of writers who frequented the dining room of New York's Algonquin Hotel in the 1920s.

52nd Street: The Street That Never Slept. By Arnold Shaw. (Nashville: DaCapo Press, August 1977. Reprint of 1971 edition. \$5.95)

Interviews with hot and cool jazz musicians of the thirties and forties combined with narrative.

99 Days on the Yukon: An Account of What Was Seen and Heard in the Company of Charles A. Wolf, Gentleman Canoeist. By Thomas McGuire. (Anchorage: Alaska Northwest Publishing Co., July 1977. Illus. \$7.95)

Oral history from and about Alaskan Charles A. Wolf, seventy-year-old outdoorsman and canoeist.

Americans Remember the Home Front. By Roy Hoopes. (New York: Hawthorn Books, August 1977. Photos. \$12.95)

Memoirs from military wives; home-front defense workers, both volunteer and industrial; and Japanese-Americans.

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BOOKS

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Talking to Myself. By Studs Terkel. (Westminster, Md.: Pantheon, April 1977. \$10)

An interview with himself—an autobiography.

My Soul Is Rested. By Howell Raines. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, September 1977)

Recollections of Civil Rights movement in the South from 1954 bus boycott to the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Boys of Indy. By Phil Berger and Larry Bortstein. (Corwin Books, June 1977. \$8.95)

The words of race car drivers sketch a history and world of automobile racing.

Reverberations: Interviews with the World's Leading Musicians. By Robert Jacobson. (West Caldwell, N.J.: Morrow Paperbacks, 1977. 320 pp. \$3.95)

A series of interviews with Stokowski, Beverly Sills, Rudolf Serkin, Segovia, Price, Nilsson, Alicia de Larrocha, Eugene Istomin, The Guarneri Quartet, Placido Domingo, Copland, Boulez, and others.

... also in print

Colman, Gould P., "Oral History as Agricultural Literature: Creativity and the Labormanagement Resource." In *Agricultural Literature: Proud Heritage—Future Promise*. Edited by Alan Fusonie and Leila Moran. (Washington: Graduate School Press, USDA, 1977. Illus. \$13.50, hardback; \$9.95, paperback.)

Symposium proceedings highlighting the achievements of 200 years of American agriculture. Paper on oral history by a past president of OHA.

Oral History. Journal of the Oral History Society. Edited by Paul R. Thompson. (Colchester, England: University of Essex). Published twice yearly: £3.00 overseas individual subscription, £3.50 overseas library subscription. To order: Miss M. J. Girling, Treasurer, Oral History Society, Department of Sociology, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ England. Back issues: Volume 1, Nos. 1-4 (1971-1973) £3.50 the set; Volume 2, Nos. 1-2 (1974) £2.25 the set; Volume 3, Nos. 1-2 (1975) £2.25 the set; Volume 4, Nos. 1-2 (1976) £2.25 the set. Offers perspectives from the 400 members of the society: social history, labor history, women's history, working class life and culture, rural culture, folklore, oral history method and processing.

Loblolly 4 (Winter and Spring 1977). Drawings, photos. \$2.00 each.

Ongoing Bicentennial project of Gary High School students in East Texas chronicles local folk history.

Foxfire magazine, 11 (Spring 1977). Edited by Eliot Wigginton. (Rabun Gap, GA 30568: Foxfire Fund, Inc.)

Drying and curing beef, turkey shoots, folk toys, bottle collecting and more through oral history.

Fire-Wheel, Vol. 1. By Laura Giffen-Campbell, et al. (Texas City, Tex.: College of the Mainland, 1977. 24 pp. Photos. FREE)

Local oral history compiled by community college students in the Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society.

Chinquapin 1 (Spring 1976). (P. O. Box 38, Douglass, TX 75943: Douglass School, 1976)

Local folklore that originated as high school bicentennial project.

"Oral History." By Louis M. Starr. Reprinted from Kent, Lancour and Daily, editors, *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science*, Vol. 20, pp. 440-463. (New York: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1977) and:

"Oral History: Soundings from the Sony Age." By Joseph Roddy. Reprinted from *RF Illustrated*, 3 (May 1977), pp. 2-7. (New York: The Rockefeller Foundation)

Reprints of both articles available for \$1.50 the pair from Oral History Research Office, Columbia University, Butler Library, New York, NY 10027.

Mehaffy, George and Thad Sitton, "Oral History: A Strategy That Works," *Social Education* 41 (May 1977): 378-81.

Suggestions and bibliography for classroom teachers seeking community projects for students.

Journal, Vol. 2, 1976-77. Ed. by Léo La Clare. (Ottawa, Ont.: Canadian Oral History Association, 1977. \$3.00) Write: Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1A 0N3

An annual publication, includes papers read at the 1976 conference of the Canadian Oral History Association, addresses, and articles.

Sound Heritage, Vol. V, Number 4. (Victoria, B.C.: Aural History, Provincial Archives of Canada, 1976. 78 pp. \$1.75)

Features families, places, and life styles on the Gulf Islands in the Straits of Georgia and Haro off the coast of British Columbia.

"Oral History and the Archives." By Ronald Filippelli. *The American Archivist*, Vol. 39, No. 4, October 1976. pp. 479-483

A critical analysis of storage, classification, and administration of oral history memoirs in archives.

... on tape

Taped highlights from the 1976 Canadian Oral History Conference are available on 60- and 90-minute cassettes. Cost is \$6 or \$8 according to length plus \$.50 per tape, handling charge. Ontario residents add 7% sales tax. Tapes available:

1. Opening remarks, Welcome by Dr. W. I. Smith, Address by Hugh Taylor (\$6)
2. Panel: Definitions and Principles of Oral History: R. Cosbey, P. Oliver, J. B. Rudnyckij (\$8)
3. Oral History and History of the Arts: C. Hill, G. Swinton (\$8)
4. Oral History and Labour-Business History: I. Abella, G. Chaison, and E. Geraghty (\$8)
5. Oral History and Military History: W. A. B. Douglas, R. Roy, J. Williams, and J. Melady (\$8)
6. Panel: Preservation of Sound Archives and Oral History: M. Forde, L. Lacourcière (\$8)

Order from: Conference Tape, 8 Woodburn Dr., Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1B 3A7.

They Chose America: Conversations with Immigrants, Vol. II: Cubans, Germans, Greeks, Hungarians, Japanese, Scandinavians. Ed. by Stuart Dworkin and Monica Lange. (Princeton, N.J.: Visual Education Corporation, 1975. Six cassette recordings. \$59.00)

JEWISH LIFE IN RURAL AMERICA DOCUMENTED BY YIVO

The Farmingdale Collection, assembled by Gertrude W. Dubrovsky and Linda Oppenheim and deposited at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, is a collection of audio tapes, tape summaries and transcriptions, videotapes, and other materials documenting the history of a farm community and reflecting Jewish life in rural America. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New Jersey Historical Commission, the collection provides rich information for scholars interested in the Jewish immigrant experience. The Jewish rural settlement in Howell Township, New Jersey, had its beginning in 1919 and lasted nearly fifty years as the Farmingdale Jewish Community. For information: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1048 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028.

The Oral History Association *Newsletter* is sent to members of the OHA and to institutions holding subscriptions. Annual dues: \$25 Institutional, \$10 Individual and Library, \$7.50 (nonvoting) Student, \$250 Life. Members also receive the annual *Oral History Review*.

POSITIONS

ORAL HISTORIAN knowledgeable in labor history, Iowa history, and to some degree, ethnic history. Live in or near Iowa. Send résumé to: James J. Wengert, Secretary-treasurer, AF of L-CIO, 2000 Walker, Suite A, Des Moines, IA 50317.

GRANTS

Virginia Sanchez Korrol, doctoral student and member of the History Task Force of the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, State University of New York-Stony Brook, recently received a grant from the Ford Foundation to conduct an oral history project on Puerto Rican women. Korrol's work focuses on social, cultural, and economic integration of Puerto Rican women in New York, 1920-48. Tapes and transcripts, many in both Spanish and English, will be housed in the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York City 10017.

The Rockefeller Foundation has awarded the Research Center for the Federal Theatre Project at George Mason University a \$7,000 grant to videotape those who participated in the FTP of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which ran from 1934 to 1939, providing employment for professional theatre people and generating a renaissance of the arts throughout the country. The videotapes will serve as the nucleus of a library for researchers of the period.

The Medical College of Pennsylvania's Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine has received a two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to organize, describe, and publicize the library's Special Collections on Women in Medicine. In addition to the books, archives, artifacts, and personal and manuscript collections, the Special Collections will house the tapes and transcripts resulting from the oral histories of women physicians being conducted by another project at the college. For information: Sandra Chaff, Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, Medical College of Pennsylvania, 3300 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19129.

NEWS

The University of California Extension-Berkeley, in cooperation with the Library of the California Historical Society will present a two-part seminar entitled "Preserving the Past: An Introduction to Oral History," on two Saturdays, October 1 and October 29, in San Francisco. The interval between the two sessions is intended to give participants time to initiate their own oral history projects and receive guidance in carrying them out. Gwendolyn Safier (Holy Names College-Oakland) will conduct the seminar assisted by guest speakers Paul Crowley (MEDIWEST), and Lynn Bonfield Donovan and Lucy Kendall, oral historians.

The Oral History Sound Archive of the Imperial War Museum, London, opened to public access July 1, 1977. Two major groups of tapes and transcripts are available to the public: contemporary recordings and personal narrations from World War II, and the experiences of persons involved in World War I. For information: David Lance, Department of Sound Records, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ, England.

The Oral History Program at California State University-Fullerton has initiated a transcribing service aimed at helping projects convert their tapes into type—for a price. For brochure: Tapes Into Type, Oral History Program, Room L-243, California State University, 800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92634.

The Maryland Oral History Conference, held March 26, was made possible by a grant from the Maryland Bicentennial Commission. OHMAR (Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region) was instrumental in the success of this all-day meeting at the Community College of Baltimore. Still in its organizing stages after electing its first officers last fall, OHMAR is proving to be a catalyst for oral historians in the region.

George W. Mathu, director of the Institute of African Studies, plans an oral history project on African national leaders. To be included are missionary converts, tribal chiefs, and African bishops. Mathu plans to study grassroots organizers of the Mau Mau revolt of the 1950s as well as the movement's songs of freedom. For information: George W. Mathu, Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi, P. O. Box 30197, Nairobi, Kenya.

Volunteers and staff at the Marshall Public Library (Harrison County, Texas) have recorded and videotaped a series of interviews with elderly blacks in the area. Funded by the Texas Committee for the Humanities and Public Policy (NEH), the project focuses on the preservation of pride and cohesiveness in the black community despite hindrances. Rebecca Buard was project director.

On April 7, 1977, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals ruled that voiceprints—results obtained from spectrographic analyses of tape recordings—may be admitted as evidence in court. Maryland is the sixth state to declare valid the controversial tests.

The American Jewish Committee's William E. Wiener Oral History Library recently began its eighth year of operations and in April initiated a newsletter: *News From William E. Wiener Oral History Library*. The six-page first issue pays tribute to the accomplishments of the past seven years, outlines present projects, and describes possibilities for the future.

Christi Helen Voreas and Maria Katchis Boyer, through the Delphi Club of Oregon, are working on a project to preserve information about early Greek residents in Oregon. The Oregon Historical Society will be the depository. For information: Christi Helen Voreas, Meadow Park Jr. High., P. O. Box 200, Beaverton, OR 97005.

The division of State History of Utah recently established a Japanese-American Archive. Other oral history projects concern Utah women, World War I veterans, and early aeronautics in Utah.

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Program for Oral History
Baylor University, Box 228
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Thomas L. Charlton, Editor
Adelaide S. Darling, Senior Associate Editor
Judy Edquist, Associate Editor
Margaret L. S. Miller, Associate Editor
David B. Stricklin, Associate Editor

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**OHA OFFICIAL
BUSINESS**

**Ronald E.
Marcello
Executive
Secretary**



As indicated in the Colloquium program printed in the Spring issue of the *Newsletter*, there will be a period of unorganized free time during the Colloquium on Saturday afternoon. This decision resulted from considerable discussion on the part of myself, Bill Wyatt, Bernie Galm, and Jim Moss.

Since OHA will be meeting in the heart of an urban area with a multitude of sights and activities available in close proximity, including the grounds of the Hotel del Coronado, it was felt that there would be an opportunity for a truly open and freewheeling time for the conferees who wish to explore the city. San Diego has so many fascinating attractions, appealing to so many divergent tastes, that we felt the members would appreciate some concentrated time at one or two of their own choosing.

It is true that in the past the colloquia usually had organized tour-type outings, and they have generally been an enjoyable experience, mainly because of the isolated locations for the meetings. We believe that our San Diego situation is different from that perspective.

President Wyatt plans to be in San Diego in early September to help firm up the final Workshop and Colloquium planning. During his visit he will confer with the Grey Line people and other tour

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The Indiana State Library will double its oral history collection through participation in a study of the Indiana legislature. Completed interviews, plus three hundred to be conducted, will help provide source material for three historians to use in producing a multivolume history commissioned by the Indiana General Assembly. Director of Oral History F. Gerald Handfield also hosts a weekly PBS television show, *The Law Makers: Oral History*. Each thirty-minute show features one or two guests who answer questions about their youth, old time politics, and legislative experience.

Gordon Irving now directs the oral history program of the Historical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. William G. Hartley, former director, remains as special consultant while serving as research historian.

The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, from October 1975 to September 1976, conducted state Baptist oral history workshops in Missouri, California, Oregon, and Arizona to assist denominational leaders in learning research techniques. In addition, the commission assisted over one hundred churches and local church associations in instituting oral history projects, complementing the forty hours of interviews with four former SBC presidents conducted by the Nashville office. For information: A. Ronald Tonks, 127 Ninth Avenue, N., Nashville, TN 37234.

OHA Official Business continued

guide organizations concerning the costs and the availability of transportation. In addition, tourist information will be available at the registration desk.

Sister Elizabeth O'Hanlon, O.P., director of the Sinsinawa (Wisconsin) Oral History Program, is preparing the final draft of a handbook *Oral History for the Religious Archives: The Sinsinawa Collection*. The Oral History Collection of the Sinsinawa Dominican Archives, begun in 1973, focuses on the history of the Sinsinawa Dominicans, a congregation of religious women founded in 1847 in southwest Wisconsin. Because of the uncluttered nature of the group its history in many ways parallels that of the regions and people among whom its members live and work. The collection is, therefore, regarded as more than a familial deposit and the interviews are made available to all researchers under each memoirist's terms.

The Texas Catholic Historical Society held a one-day oral history workshop June 18, at St. Edward's University, Austin. Joe B. Frantz, Thomas L. Charlton, and Ronald E. Marcello served as faculty.

Yet another direction for oral history is Aine Peterson Smith's doctoral dissertation at the College of William and Mary: "An Oral History Approach to the Study of Administrators' Perceptions of Change in Three Private Liberal Arts Women's Junior Colleges: Averett, Southern Seminary, Virginia Intermont in Virginia from 1966-76." For information: Aine Peterson Smith, 304 S. Jefferson St., Lexington, VA 24450.

The third annual Oral History Institute of the University of Vermont was held June 20-July 1. Theme of the course was "Oral History as a Research and Learning Tool: Problems and Procedures." Charles Morrissey, past president of OHA and director of the George D. Aiken History Project at the university; and Amelia Roberts Fry, director of the Earl Warren Oral History Project at Berkeley, were the instructors.

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