



# ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Summer 1982

## PACIFIC ISLANDS ETHNIC GROUPS STUDIED AT U. of HAWAII



L-R Cast and friends of *Local People: An Oral History Experience*: Vera Donaghy, Jesus Cayaban, Jesusa Rone, Richard Ching, Florence Takara, Mildred Ching, Johnny Villanueva, Yuki Takara.

## ETHNIC STUDIES PROGRAM YIELDS NEW BOOK AND TOURING DRAMA

The Ethnic Studies Oral History Project (ESOHP) at the University of Hawaii-Manoa is rapidly becoming one of the leading research centers of its kind. With its focus on the various ethnic populations of these Pacific islands, the Honolulu-based ESOHP has found innovative applications for its oral history collection.

With combined funding from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the Hawaii Committee for the Humanities, ESOHP is the sponsor of *Local People: An Oral History Experience*, a new play based on the lives and times of native Hawaiians and immigrants. The drama, written and produced by Tremaine Tamayose, a local playwright, combines excerpts of oral memoirs with actual experiences of adult cast members, who are local senior citizens.

Students from Farmington High School play the roles of their grandchildren. Settings include the sugar plantation area of Waialua-Haleiwa, the taro-growing community of Waipi'o Valley, and the island of Kauai during the 1924 Filipino strike. The theatrical production featuring comedy, tragedy, music, and dance is being presented free throughout the summer in a four-island tour with seven performances on Oahu. Discussions on island social history with historians and other resource persons follow each performance.

Publication of a major book comprises a second achievement of the university's ESOHP. *Uchinanchu: A History of Okinawans in Hawaii*, an impressive volume exhibiting research since 1979, is the result of a cooperative effort between the United

Okinawan Association and ESOHP. The book's objectives are four: (1) to provide English-language historical materials for third- and fourth-generation Okinawans, (2) to publish compiled histories of Okinawan organizations in Hawaii, (3) to preserve personal experiences of Okinawan Issei, and (4) to promote better understanding among Hawaii's various ethnic groups. State funding (\$20,000) assisted ESOHP which also relied on volunteer efforts. Life history narratives derived from oral history research comprise a major section of the book, since ESOHP soon learned that traditional source materials on Okinawan Issei were lacking in Hawaii.

Immigration of Okinawan people to Hawaii started with twenty-six workers in 1900 and grew to the present level of forty thousand. *Ochinanchu* is the first full-scale academic endeavor to provide, in English language, Okinawan history to younger Hawaiians of Okinawan descent. A cross section of the community is represented in ESOHP's study of labor, religion, culture, business, agriculture, government, and ethnic organizations.

The State Legislature of Hawaii recently expanded ESOHP's scope by directing its staff to compile, publish, and maintain an index of all Hawaii-related oral history materials. The first edition of the index was released in June and will be subsequently revised. The index includes oral history collections held by individuals and public and private organizations and will be distributed to Hawaii's regional public libraries, the University of Hawaii system, and the State Archives. Contact: Chad Taniguchi or Gale Yamada, U. of Hawaii-Manoa, Ethnic Studies Oral History Project, East-West 4, Room 3D, Honolulu, HI 96822.

The *Bibliography on Oral History*, rev. ed., 1975, compiled by Manfred Waserman and published by the OHA, is out of print.

1982 OHA WORKSHOP, COLLOQUIUM OCT. 7-10, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

John A.  
Neuenschwander



In my initial Presidential column last fall, I discussed at some length the future of oral history. Perhaps it is only fitting that in this, my final column, I continue looking ahead. The subject of this piece, however, is not the field of oral history in general, but rather the future shape of the Oral History Association itself.

Since its creation in 1966 the OHA has compiled an enviable record of service and leadership. Today, it stands as the only national organization concerned directly with the application of professional standards to the collection, preservation, dissemination, and use of oral testimony. The many and varied services that the association provides are well known to members and hardly need recounting here. New endeavors like the anthology that Willa Baum of the University of California-Berkeley and David Dunaway of New Mexico State University are compiling in cooperation with the OHA, the Microfilming Corporation of America's directory of oral history programs that will be available in October, and the association's bid for a 1983 National Humanities Summer Institute attest to our continued energy and creativity. Despite our past successes and current initiatives, we cannot blissfully assume that the OHA as presently constituted is fully equipped to meet all the challenges that the future is certain to hold. The first step in examining both the present and possible future roles of the OHA was taken last fall with the creation of a Long Range Planning Committee. Elizabeth Mason, Vice-President/President-Elect of the association, agreed to chair the five-member committee composed of Chita Fry, Bernie Galm, Waddy Moore, and Don Ritchie. This committee was specifically asked to study and report on the following general propositions:

1. Organization and structure—Should the governance structure of the association be modified or dramatically overhauled? Is there a need for a full-time executive secretary?
2. Publications—Is there a need for the association to expand its publication efforts? If there is, what types of publications should be added?

3. Membership—What should be the optimum size of the association and should membership be open to anyone who can pay the dues? What additional services might be offered to the membership?
4. Accreditation—Should the association attempt to certify programs, etc.?
5. Workshop and Colloquium—Should the association continue to offer a workshop and if so, in its present form and in tandem with the Colloquium? Does the Colloquium need to be revamped or overhauled?

The committee's first report to Council will be in San Antonio, next October. While its findings and recommendations will only be advisory, the work of the Long Range Planning Committee will enable the OHA to consider changes in both organization and function from an informed perspective.

## NOMINEES NAMED FOR CONSIDERATION AT OHA FALL MEETING

Waddy W. Moore (U. Central Ark.), chairman of the OHA nominating committee, has announced the slate of candidates for office to be considered at the annual business meeting in San Antonio, Texas, October 10. Cullom Davis (Sangamon State U.) is the candidate for vice president/president-elect. Nominees for two, three-year terms and one, one-year term to join holdover Ronald J. Grele (Columbia U.) on the Council are: John J. Fox, Jr. (Salem State C.), Joel Gardner (Louisiana State Archives), Samuel B. Hand (U. of Vermont), Donald A. Ritchie (U.S. Senate Historical Office), and Bruce M. Stave (U. of Conn.-Storrs).

Under the OHA constitution, Elizabeth B. Mason (Columbia U.) is expected to become the association's president for 1982-1983 following her year as vice president/president-elect.

## 1982 COLLOQUIUM PROGRAM CHANGES

Colloquium program chairman John J. Fox, Jr. (Salem State C.) has announced the following changes for the OHA meeting scheduled for October 7-10, 1982 in San Antonio, Texas:

On Friday, October 8, the early afternoon concurrent session will be entitled **PERSONAL STATEMENTS THROUGH LIFE HISTORIES**. Speakers and their titles are Stephen Arkin, "Composing the South: Literary Interview as Form"; Lucy Fisher, "Oral History and Sociology: Methodological Incongruities"; and Antonio T. Diaz-Royo, "Transformations and Maneuverings in Ethnobiographies."

In the late Friday afternoon concurrent session on **ORAL HISTORY IN ACADEMIA: INTERVIEWING ECONOMISTS AND HISTORIANS**, Earlene Craver will

present "The Migration of European Economists to the United States in the 1920s and 1930s: The Oral History Record." Friday evening's speech by James R. Bennett will be entitled "Human Values in Oral History." On Sunday morning, October 10, Kim Lady (Kentucky Oral History Commission) will join the session entitled **STATE AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS ROUND TABLE**. Sunday's plenary session, **ORAL HISTORY: THE INTERNATIONAL SETTING**, will include Richard Lohead (Public Archives of Canada).

Two spelling corrections are needed on Saturday, October 9, concurrent session on **MEXICAN WORKERS IN THE SOUTHWEST: THE TWENTIETH CENTURY**, which will feature papers by Guadalupe Castillo and Devra Weber.

September  
20-24

**American Association for State and  
Local History  
Atlantic Oral History Assn. Conf.**

Hartford, CN  
St. Johns, N.F.

24-26  
October  
7-10

**Oral History Association  
Society of American Archivists  
Western History Association**

San Antonio, TX  
Boston  
Phoenix

19-22  
20-22

November  
6

**Southwest Oral History Association  
workshop**

TBA

6

**Oral History in the  
Mid-Atlantic Region**

Arlington, VA

December  
27-29

**American Historical Association**

New York City



## FOX RECEIVES NEA/OH 1982 KANTOR AWARD

At its April meeting in Concord, New Hampshire, the New England Association of Oral History (NEA/OH) presented its 1982 Harvey A. Kantor Memorial Award for Significant Work in Oral History to John J. Fox (Salem State C.). Fox was honored for his efforts in 1974 to found NEA/OH, the first state or regional oral history association in the U.S.; for his five-year service as NEA/OH's first president; and his editorship of its newsletter from its inception.

Fox has also been active in the OHA, serving as chairman of various committees and, currently, as book review editor of *The Oral History Review*, and program chairman of the 1982 Colloquium to be held in San Antonio, Texas, October 7-10. He is a contributor to the *International Journal of Oral History*.

The Kantor award, the first of its kind, memorializes Harvey A. Kantor, a founding member of NEA/OH, and was first presented at the 1977 spring meeting to Bruce M. Stave (U. of Connecticut-Storrs). Other recipients are: William W. Moss (JFK Library), Edward D. Ives (U. of Maine-Orono), Charles T. Morrissey (*Vermont Life* magazine), and Louis M. Starr, posthumously (Columbia U.).

## CALL FOR REVIEWERS

The *Oral History Review* is compiling a list of potential reviewers. To be considered, send qualifications and state area of specialization to: John J. Fox, Book Review Editor/*OHR*, Dept. of History, Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970.

## HANSEN ANNOUNCES NEW FEATURES FOR OHA REVIEW

A new department in the association's annual *Oral History Review* (*OHR*) will report on the uses of oral history in non-print media. Lyn Goldfarb (Service Employees Intl. Union) will head the new feature, planned as a companion piece to John J. Fox's (Salem State C.) book review section.

Arthur A. Hansen, editor of *OHR*, also announces that Henry G. Stenberg (Salem State C.) is compiling for *OHR* an updated bibliography of significant recent publications about and using oral history. Write: Goldfarb, 2020 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006; Stenberg, Box 720, Marblehead, MA 01945.

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS MEET

More than 200 participants representing county, local, and special-purpose historical organizations throughout Minnesota met at St. Paul in April. Willa K. Baum, (U. of Calif.-Berkeley) delivered the keynote speech and served as conference adviser to leaders of various oral history projects in the state. Among the projects are those operated by the Friends of the Minneapolis Public Library; General Mills, Inc.; Control Data Corp.; and the Iron Range Historical Society. The meeting is sponsored annually by the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) and is supplemented by regional workshops. Contact: James E. Fogerty, MHS, 1500 Mississippi St., St. Paul, MN 55101.



Ronald J. Grele

## GRELE MOVES TO COLUMBIA

On July 1, 1982, Ronald J. Grele became director of the Oral History Research Office (OHRO) at Columbia University. As head of the world's largest oral history program, he succeeds Louis M. Starr, who died in 1980. Acting Director Elizabeth B. Mason has returned to the post of OHRO's associate director.

Holder of the Ph.D. in American history from Rutgers University, Grele served the John F. Kennedy Oral History Project and the Ford Foundation's project on its history. He launched the first ongoing oral history research at the New Jersey Historical Commission and was a contributing interviewer for the Former Members of Congress Oral History Program. Grele is the founding editor of the *International Journal of Oral History* and has frequently served as a consultant to oral history projects. Grele moves to Columbia from the directorship of the Oral History Program at the University of California-Los Angeles.

Ron Grele has long been a leader in the OHA, participating in many of the association's workshops and colloquiums. He is currently a member of the Executive Council, having earlier served a one-year term.



Paseo del Rio (River Walk) in downtown San Antonio, Texas, located a few steps from the Menger Hotel, site of the Seventeenth National Colloquium on Oral History, October 7-10.

## 1983 PROGRAM CALL

Proposals for topics, papers, speakers, and sessions for the OHA Workshop and Colloquium to be held in Seattle, Washington, Sept. 28-October 1, 1983, are welcome. Suggestions may be sent to Elizabeth B. Mason, Box 20, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027; (212) 280-2273.



## BRITISH ORAL HISTORY SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

By Harry Goldman, Florida State University

The British Oral History Society's annual conference took place at the University of Hull March 26-28, 1982. The imaginative and broad-spectrumed program was organized by John Saville, chairman of the Economic and Social History Department, University of Hull. Over three hundred people were at the convention center, many of whom spoke fluent French and were served expensive bottles of French wine at meals. My feelings of inferiority vanished when I learned that we were sharing the conference center with the French Society. Despite my efforts to mingle, I was never served wine, only tea!

"Local Radio and Local History," was the title of the opening session Friday evening. A couple named Mollie and John Weekes told of their efforts to capture North Humberside and South Humberside's (Hull's surround area) history by interviewing locals. Their trips to South Humberside were long and tedious because of a lengthy boat trip across the river Humber. Now, however, the world's longest suspension bridge turns that trip into as easy as going from Brooklyn to Staten Island. Mollie and John Weekes had such success with their oral histories that the local radio station gave them time for a program each week. They played some tapes but the regional dialect was so foreign to my ears that I couldn't understand most of it.

Saturday had five sessions starting at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 10 p.m., stopping only for lunch, dinner and, of course, tea.

Fred Lindop of London's Thames Poly-

technic began the morning with "Work, Community and Trade Unionism: London Lightermen." This, I feel, was one of the more interesting sessions and provided an opportunity for the audience to listen to his tapes of dockworkers and their trials and tribulations with unionism. John Saville followed with a live interview of one of Hull's leading dockers. It was interesting to watch Saville make his guest feel at ease and yet subtly ask penetrating questions.

The remaining sessions were devoted to radical politics in the 1930s and 1940s. David Reid, a reference librarian in Stockport, spoke on "Ellen Wilkinson: The Making of a Biography," and Richard Kisch, a journalist and author, told about "The Cairo Parliament and Radical Politics in the British Army During the Second World War." The only American on the program, after dinner I gave a multimedia presentation featuring slides and music from the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union's radical musical revue of 1937—*Pins and Needles*. *Pins and Needles* turns out to have had a very considerable influence in Britain, especially on Unity Theatre.

Sunday's sessions focused on women's work. Marion Kozak, a research worker, spoke on "Child Bearing and Child Rearing in East London in the 1930s." The last speaker was a last minute fill-in who held the session "Labour Women on Tynende."

Next year's annual conference will be held at Brighton. Please contact Andy Durr, 235 Ditchling Road, Brighton, England, if you would like to contribute to this conference in any way.

## NEIGHBORS EXPLORE BLACK SOUTHERN PAST

Jackson, Mississippi, is the scene of oral history research on a neighborhood listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Farish Street Historic District is the subject of A Neighborhood Discovering, a two-year effort to help the people of the Farish Street area discover their historic value as a Southern black community. The project chronology extends from 1880 to 1950. Sponsored by the Marino Branch YWCA, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Jackson State University, with \$100,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the project is directed by Alferdteen Harrison (Jackson State U.).

Nine community residents attended the initial workshop to introduce oral history methodology. These interviewers, in all age ranges, have done at least two interviews with neighbors on their special experiences. Participants are also gathering memorabilia and photographs to be used in an exhibit next spring; oral history will be used to interpret the display.

All interviews are being transcribed. Originals will be deposited at Jackson State, and copies will be placed in Jackson's Smith Robertson Cultural Center, which is a restoration of an early black public school. Write: Marino Branch YWCA, 527 N. Farish St., Jackson, MS 39202.

## NEWEST REGIONAL GROUP ELECTS OFFICERS, PLANS FOR GROWTH

The first annual meeting of the Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA) was held at San Diego in April. A workshop, held at the same time and in conjunction with the Society of California Archivists, was well attended. Faculty included Stephen Stern (UCLA), Sharon S. Goldsmith (Calif. State C.-Bakersfield), Ronald C. Larson (Wrather Intl. Entertainment), Stephen A. Colston (San Diego State U.), Enid H. Douglass (Claremont Graduate School), Shirley E. Stephenson (Calif. State U.-Fullerton), William L. Cumiford (Calif. State U.-Fullerton), Arthur A. Hansen (Calif. State U.-Fullerton), G. Wesley Johnson (*Public Historian*), and Ronald J. Grele (UCLA).

New officers elected at the business meeting are: Stephenson, president; Marian A. Johnson, vice president (U. of Calif.-Santa Barbara); Goldsmith, secretary; Maurice Hodgen, treasurer (Loma Linda U.); and Larson, council.

SOHA plans call for two workshops plus an annual meeting each year. The 1982 fall workshop will be November 6 in the Riverside-Redlands area. Brooke Larson Garlock is 1982-83 program chairman.

## HOOSIERS HOLD THIRD STATEWIDE WORKSHOP

The Indiana Oral History Roundtable sponsored the third annual Statewide Oral History Workshop at the Indiana State Library in Indianapolis May 7-8. Special participants were Barbara Allen (U. of Notre Dame), coauthor of *From Memory to History: Using Oral Sources in Local Historical Research* (1981); Eleanor Arnold (Ill. Extension Homemakers Assn.); and Ronald E. Marcello (N. Texas State U.).

Roundtable members serving as faculty included Al Hodge (Rushville High School), Joe Goodwin (Indiana U.), Bill Kearney (Kokomo), Betty Lane (free-lance writer, Indianapolis), Lois Leamon (Brown Public Lib.), Donna DeBlasio (Indiana U.), F. Gerald Handfield and Marge Worrell (Indiana State Lib.), and Sara Laughlin (Stone Hills ALSA). Sessions focused on the basics of oral history with hands-on practice with equipment.

## LOX AND GRITS GO TOGETHER IN SOUTH

Lox and Grits: The Jewish Heritage of the Mid-South is the first in a series of projects at the Center for Southern Folklore, Inc. (CSF), Memphis, Tennessee, that will document various ethnic groups within a 150-mile radius of the city. The project seeks to remedy the myth that the South's heritage is exclusively that of blacks and whites. Funded by a \$49,338 grant from the Department of Education with additional support from the Memphis Section of the National Council of Jewish Women and the Hohenberg Foundation, the project will focus on oral histories of a varied ethnic population which includes Jewish, Italian, Greek, Lebanese, Russian, Polish, Chinese, Laotian, German, and Vietnamese peoples. Interviewers will be from the Memphis Section of the National Council of Jewish Women, directed by CSF's Riki Saltzman.



## NAVAL INSTITUTE'S CHRONICLER, JOHN T. MASON, JR., RETIRES

John T. Mason, Jr., founding director of the U.S. Naval Institute's (USNI) oral history program, retired in June. During his thirteen years at the institute, Mason developed one of the first, and now among the most extensive, oral history transcript collections in the country.

The institute's oral history holdings now include more than 125 volumes, totaling some 100,000 pages on subjects ranging from naval biographies and memoirs to cluster interviews on specific subjects including POLARIS, early naval aviation, and the WAVES. Prominent naval figures interviewed by Mason include Admirals Thomas C. Kinkaid, commander of the 7th Fleet in World War II; Arleigh Burke, chief of naval operations; Robert Dennison, commander in chief of the Atlantic Fleet during the Cuban missile crisis; Robert S. Salzer, commander of naval forces in Vietnam; Thomas H. Moorer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and naval intelligence officer and diplomatist, Capt. William Sebold. A seven-volume biography of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, compiled from interviews of more than seventy of the admiral's associates and family members, was among Mason's first oral history projects. His last, a series of interviews with Admiral Stansfield Turner, will be completed later this year.

Numerous scholars have used the USNI collection as a resource on naval subjects. Recently published biographies on Admirals Nimitz, Ernest J. King, Raymond A. Spruance, and Thomas C. Hart draw ex-



*John T. Mason, Jr.*

tensively on oral history transcripts.

An Episcopal minister with an advanced degree in history from Columbia University, Mason began taking down oral histories more than twenty years ago at the request of Allan Nevins, father of the modern oral history movement. Nevins needed someone familiar with naval affairs to record the memoirs of Admiral Robert Carney, and knew of Mason's wartime experience in the office of naval intelligence in Washington. Although he still had a parish in New Jersey, Mason undertook the task on a part-time basis. His wife Betty was then involved at Columbia's

Oral History Research Office and has continued as associate and later acting director. She is now vice president/president-elect of the OHA.

Transcripts of the USNI collection are deposited at the U.S. Naval Academy's Nimitz Library in Annapolis and at the Naval History Center in Washington, D.C., as well as at the institute. Part of the collection is available at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. A card catalog covering some 20,000 subjects gives researchers ready access to the memoirs. Information: Susan Artigiani, USNI, Annapolis, MD 21402.

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## JEWISH LIFE ON LONG ISLAND DOCUMENTED

The East End Arts Council opened its exhibit, *And We're Still Here: 100 Years of Small Town Jewish Life*, April 22 in Riverhead, N.Y. Helene Gerard (Westhampton Beach Junior H.S.) created the exhibit of sixty-five photographs and documents with captions from her manuscript, "My Father Was a Dreamer: An Oral History of Small Town Jews," for which she interviewed over 100 early permanent Jewish settlers on Long Island. Funding came from the New York State Council on the Arts, Suffolk County Office of Cultural Affairs, Friends for Long Island's Heritage, National Foundation for Jewish Culture, and individual contributors. *And We're Still Here* will tour libraries, community centers, colleges and universities, town and county offices, and synagogues throughout Suffolk County until October 27; after that it will begin a six-month tour of Nassau County.

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The Friends for Long Island's Heritage held their first annual Long Island oral history conference June 19 at the Welwyn Preserve, Glen Cove. Sixty participants came from the area and as far away as Pennsylvania. Elizabeth Mason (Columbia U.), the featured guest, spoke on "Oral History Gleanings: 1948-1982." Oral history applications and public programming were the topics of a panel: Martha Sandlin, film maker; Helene Gerard (East End Arts and Humanities Council); Bea Lemisch (Tamiment Lib.); and Bette Weidman (Queens College). Frank Breese, retired McGraw Hill editor and journalist, conducted a demonstration interview with aviation pioneer Captain William Masland. Conference coordinators were Elly Shodell (Port Washington Pub. Lib.) and Ed Smits (Nassau County Museum). The New York Council for the Humanities funded the program.

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The Port Washington Public Library offered a fifteen-session video workshop featuring oral history in June. The program was directed by Margo Cornelius and taught by Shodell and Julia Keydel.

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## MINNESOTA CREATES CHINESE CONNECTION

The Midwest China Oral History, Archive, and Museum Collection Project (MCOHAMCP) of the Midwest China Center, St. Paul, maintains a traveling educational display for the Upper Midwest. The exhibit features artifacts of traditional Chinese culture and art, as well as photographic and museum displays reflecting Minnesota connections with China from 1850 through 1950. MCOHAMCP welcomes donations of Chinese art and memorabilia. Contact: MCOHAMCP, 308 Gullixson Hall, 2375 Como Ave. West, St. Paul, MN 55108.



## RADICAL PRESS AND FILMS STUDIED AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

The Oral History of the American Left (OHAL), 1920-1950 project, of New York University Libraries, directed by Paul Buhle and coordinated by Dorothy Swanson and Ruth Prago, has received a one-year \$65,431 NEH grant to interview leading figures of the radical press and other radical activities in the second quarter of the twentieth century. An evaluation of independent film makers' tapes for selective accessioning to OHAL's collection will also be undertaken with Jon Bloom and Prago coordinating the work.

Begun in 1976, OHAL forms a part of the collection on American radicalism and labor history of the Tamiment Institute Library. In 1980 a special archives for oral interviews taped by independent film makers during the preliminary stages of production was created. In conjunction with these activities a film advisory board was created to assess the historical value of film makers' tapes. Besides transcribing and indexing key segments of the tapes, the grant makes it possible to record and process 100 hours of interviews, as well as publishing a guide to OHAL's holdings.

During the first three months of the new grant, Buhle will interview leaders of the foreign language radical press and cultural organizations. In consultation with OHAL's board of advisers and film advisory board, the staff will select 500 hours of interviews to be processed during the following six months. Contact: Buhle, NYU, Elmer Holmes Bobst Library, 70 Washington Square S., New York, NY 10012.

## IOWA AFL-CIO DOCUMENTS OWN HISTORY

Mark L. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (IFLAF-L-CIO), reports that interviews with more than 900 respondents have been completed by the Iowa Labor History Oral Project (ILHOP). Roberta Till-Retz (U. of Iowa) directs the work.

Ninety percent of the memoirs have been transcribed and are housed at the Iowa Historical Society in Iowa City. Completed interviews have limited accessibility through the advisory committee of ILHOP. The project concludes in February 1983 and will form the research base for an Iowa history of organized labor. Contact: Till-Retz, Labor Center, 24 Phillips Hall, U. of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242; or Smith, IFLAF-L-CIO, 2000 Walker Street, Suite A, Des Moines, Iowa 50317.

## NEW JERSEY BLACKS DOCUMENT THEIR PAST

A significant collection of material on black history has been gathered in New Jersey. Early in the 1960s a group of lay historians, the Afro-American Committee (AAC), began to cooperate with the New Jersey Historical Society (NJHS) and the New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC) in preserving the history of the state's blacks. AAC sparked the interest of the NJHS and NJHC in documenting black history and launched an emphasis on oral history research. One notable result of their efforts was *New Jersey and the Negro*, a bibliography published by the New Jersey Library Association in 1967.

In 1979 a small group of young black historians at New Jersey colleges and universities founded the New Jersey Black Oral History Workshop (NJBOHW) under the direction of NJHS. The objectives of the NJBOHW are to enhance the education of black New Jersey students through an intercollegiate oral history program and to complement existing documentation with a group of memoirs dealing with the private lives of New Jersey blacks between

the World Wars.

Topics related to the great migration of blacks from the South between 1916 and the Depression. They included the common experiences of the migrants, such as diminishing job opportunities after World War I, poor housing conditions, hostility from the established community, and the threat of entrapment within emerging black ghettos.

In the first three years of the workshop's existence, over fifty tapes were collected by student interviewers at Rutgers, Kean College, Jersey City State College, Essex County College, and Seton Hall University. Other projects inspired by the workshop's activities include symposiums, a student guide to local black history, museum exhibits, and journal articles. Perhaps the most important accomplishment of the workshop is the undergirding of a practical network among black historians in the state.

Information: Clement Price, Department of History, Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, NJ 07102.

## DOWN-EASTERS HOLD SPRING CONFERENCE

The New England Association of Oral History (NEA/OH) and the New Hampshire Historical Society (NHHS) cosponsored a conference on Oral History and Ethnic Groups at Concord in April. The day-long meeting was designed for teachers in public and private schools but was open to interested persons. Particular emphasis was on Franco-American studies, also examining Italian-Americans and Holocaust survivors. Participants included R. Stuart Wallace (NHHS); Louis D. Silveri (Assumption C.); E. John B. Allen (Plymouth State C.), chairman; Robert Perrault (Assn. Canado-Americaine); Richard Sweterlitsch (U. of Vermont); Dana Kline (U. of Conn-Storrs); Julien Olivier (Natl. Materials Development Center for French and Creole); Gary Samson (U. of New Hampshire); and Peter Haebler (Merrimack Valley C.).

## MONTANA GROUPS HOST WORKSHOPS

The Montana Oral History Association presented eight workshops around the state during April and May. Cosponsors were: the Tri-County Historical Society, Anaconda; Park County Museum Association, Livingston; the Glacier National Park Natural History Association, Kalispell; Box Elder Public Schools, Box Elder; Musselshell Valley Historical Museum, Roundup; Custer Battlefield at that locale; Glasgow City-County Library, Glasgow; and Frontier Gateway Museum and Glendive Public Library, Glendive. The workshops usually encompassed a Friday evening and most of the following Saturday. Topics were an overview of oral history and its uses: interviewing techniques, how to do an interview, and local and family history.

## IRANIAN STUDIES ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED

The Foundation for Iranian Studies (FIS), Washington, D.C., has established an oral history program. The staff plans interviews with 200 Iranians concerning events of the past fifty years, concentrating on economics, politics, international relations, and the status of women. Amin Alimard coordinates the program.

Elizabeth Mason (Columbia U.) conducted a four-day workshop on interviewing and

transcribing at FIS headquarters in June. Participants were Alimard, Ahmed Gho-reichi, Ahmed Kianpour, Sepehr Zabih, Fereshteh Noorai, Sima Dabir-Ashtiani, Kambiz Mahmoudi, Homayoun Majd, Behrouz Nikzat, Mansour Ekhtiar, and Hossein Ziai. Address: Suite 670, 4801 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016.



## D.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY ESTABLISHES ORAL RESEARCH CENTER

The District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL), with the help of a grant from the District of Columbia Humanities Council, is establishing the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) to serve as a clearing house and repository for oral history throughout the city. The center will conduct workshops, prepare how-to publications, and encourage projects on undocumented areas of the District's history. Plans also include maintaining a list of interviewers to match with potential interviewees.

The center is located in the Washingtonian Division of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library and has also been designated the repository for transcripts from the Jewish Historical Society. The goal of the OHRC is to establish policies for collection, development, storage, and public use, which will establish the center as an integral part of the DCPL. Roxanna Deane is project director; Marcia Greenlee is chief consultant. Write: Deane, 901 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001 (202) 727-1213.

## SENIORS CREATE DRAMAS FROM OWN ORAL HISTORIES

In January, Teachers & Writers Collaborative published the latest book in its Artists & Elders Project series, *A Stage for Memory: Life History Plays by Older Adults*. Author Susan Perlstein tells how she led a group of older women from the Hodson Senior Center in the South Bronx to share their life stories and to transform their reminiscences into plays. Perlstein, director of Elders Share the Arts, has taught creative drama workshops through the Bronx Council on the Arts and through Teachers and Writers Artists & Elders Project. She also conducts staff training programs for professionals who teach arts to older adults. She has spoken on the uses of oral history in creating plays at the New York State Human Services Conference and at Brookdale Center on Aging, where she presently teaches.

## GRANTS

### ELLA LYMAN CABOT TRUST [Boston]:

Thordis Simonsen, \$3,920 for oral history and photographic study of a Peloponnesian village in transition.

### FIRST INTERSTATE BANK OF ARIZONA:

Kristina Minister, \$30,678 to establish an oral history collection of twenty-five elder Arizonans.

MARTHA BAIRD ROCKEFELLER FUND FOR MUSIC, INC.: Yale School of Music, \$31,000 for videotaping eight composers.

### MISSISSIPPI COMMITTEE FOR THE HUMANITIES:

Madison County-Canton Public Library, \$32,000 for oral history and photographic study of socio-economic change in a rural Mississippi county.

### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES:

Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles, \$45,541 for indexing interviews collected by the Asian American Studies Center.

New York Univ., \$65,431 for The Oral History of the American Left, 1920-1950.

Univ. of Texas Research Institute, \$500 for Military Nurses in WWII: An Oral History.

The Detroit Institute of Arts to supplement information on the development of the institute.

Douglas S. Butterworth (U. of Illinois), \$37,000 to support research of isolated rural settlements of Spanish speakers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas for a book-length ethnohistory.

Lynn E. Dwyer (Tennessee State U.), \$4,966 for social history of Columbia reservoir area.

John Gerassi (Research for Social Change, Miami, Fla.), \$24,000 for research for narrative history of American volunteers in the Spanish Civil War.

Patricia King (Radcliffe C.), \$50,000 for oral histories from the first three generations of women in executive and judicial branches of the federal government.

Dennis M. Ogawa (Japanese American Research Center-Honolulu) \$68,972 to study the internment of Japanese Americans in Hawaii during WWII.

Patricia J. Willard (Los Angeles), \$55,059 for research and manuscript on Duke Ellington.

## BOOK NOTICES

Cox, Richard J., and Sullivan, Larry E., eds. *Research Collections of the Maryland Historical Society: Historical and Genealogical Manuscripts and Oral History Interviews*. Museum and Library of Maryland His., Maryland His. Soc.; 201 W. Monument St.; Baltimore, MD 21201; 1981. 354 pp. Index. \$22.

Davidson, James West, and Lytle, Mark Hamilton. *After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection*. N.Y.: Knopf, 1982. 436 pp. Illus. Maps. Bibliog. Index. \$19.50. Chapter 7, "The View from the Bottom Rail" deals with oral history and Black liberty. Chapter 13, "Instant Watergate," deals with validity of oral evidence.

Kyvig, David E., and Marty, Myron A. *Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You*. American Association for State and Local History, 708 Berry Rd., Nashville, TN 37204, April 1982.

Chapter entitled "Oral Documents."

Metcalf, Fay D., and Downey, Matthew T. *Using Local History in the Classroom*. American Assoc. for State and Local History; 708 Berry Rd.; Nashville, TN 37204, 1982. 284 pp. Illus. \$17.50.

Anderson, Charles R. *Vietnam: The Other War*. Presidio Pr.; 31 Pamaron Wy.; Novato, CA 94947; 1982. 224 pp. Illus. \$13.95.

Banks, Lynne Reid. *Torn Country: An Oral History of the Israeli War of Independence*. New York: Franklin Watts, June 1982.

Boatright, Mody C., and Owens, William A. *Tales from the Derrick Floor: A People's History of the Oil Industry*. Lincoln: U. of Nebraska Pr., 1970. Rpt. 1982. \$18.95, \$6.50.

Caro, Robert A. *The Path to Power*. Vol. 1: *The Years of Lyndon Johnson*. N.Y.: Knopf, 1982.

Cassanelli, Lee V. *The Shaping of Somali Society: Reconstructing the History of a Pastoral People, 1600-1900*. Ethnohistory Series. Philadelphia: U. of Penna. Pr., 1982. 328 pp. Illus. Maps. Index. Bibliog. \$25. Includes oral tradition.

Chavkin, Samuel. *The Murder of Chile: Eyewitness Accounts of the Coup, the Terror, and the Resistance Today*. N.Y. Everest House, 1982. 237 pp. Photos. \$13.95.

Courlander, Harold, ed. *Hopi Voices: Recollections, Traditions, and Narratives of the Hopi Indians*. Albuquerque: U. of New Mexico Pr., 1982. \$15.95.

Ellsworth, Scott. *Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921*. Foreword by John Hope Franklin. Baton Rouge: Louisiana St. U. Pr., 1982. 224 pp. Photos. \$19.95.

Ethell, Jeffery, and Price, Alfred. *Target Berlin, Mission 250: 6 March 1944*. Boston: Jane's, 1982. 224 pp. \$19.95.

Foxfire 7: *Southern Appalachian Religious Heritage*. Edited by Keith Head and Paul Gillespie. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1982. 512 pp. Photos. \$19.95, \$9.95.

Freeman, Leslie J. *Nuclear Witnesses: Insiders Speak Out*. N.Y.: Norton, 1981. \$14.95.

Goff, Stanley; Sanders, Robert; and Smith, Clark. *Brothers: Black Soldiers in the Nam*. Edison, N.J.: Presidio Pr., 1982. \$14.95.

Goulden, Joseph C. *Jerry Wurf: Labor's Last Angry Man*. Totowa, N.J.: Atheneum Books, 1982. \$14.95.

Gray, Mike, and Rosen, Ira. *The Warning: Accident at Three Mile Island*. N.Y.: Norton, 1982. Illus. \$14.95.

Gross, Leonard. *The Last Jews in Berlin*. N.Y.: Simon & Schuster, 1982. 352 pp. \$14.95.

Grossman, Vasily, and Ehrenburg, Ilya, eds. *The Black Book*. Translated by John Glad. New York: Holocaust Library-Schocken Books, April 1982. Photos. \$19.95; \$9.95. First

published in the U.S.S.R. in 1946, then in Israel in 1980, it documents Nazi killing of 1,500,000 Soviet Jews.

Hareven, Tamara. *Family Time and Industrial Time*. N.Y.: Cambridge U. Pr., 1982. 496 pp. \$49.50, \$17.95.

More on Amoskeag.

Hayman, Ronald. *Kafka: A Biography*. N.Y.: Oxford U. Pr., 1982. 368 pp. Illus. Bibliog. Index. \$19.95.

Iglauer, Edith. *Seven Stones: A Portrait of Arthur Ericson, Architect*. Seattle: U. of Washington Pr., 1982. 120 pp. Illus. Index. \$29.95.

Isern, Thomas D. *Custom Combining on the Great Plains*. Norman: U. of Okla. Pr., 1981. \$14.95.

Jones, John Griffin, ed. *Mississippi Writers Talking*. Vol. 1. Jackson: U. of Miss. Pr., 1982. Photos. \$15. \$8.95.

From oral history program, Mississippi Department of Archives.

Kahn, Kathy. *Fruits of Our Labor*. N.Y.: Putnam, 1982. \$17.95.

Soviet workers.

Kriegsman, Sall Ann. *Modern Dance in America: The Bennington Years*. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1981. 357 pp. Illus. Bibliog. Filmog. Index. \$85.

Lasansky, Jeannette. *To Cut, Piece, & Solder: The Work of the Rural Pennsylvania Tinsmith 1778-1908*. Courthouse, Lewisburg, PA 17837: Oral Traditions Project of Union County Historical Society, 1982.

McGovern, James R. *Anatomy of a Lynching: The Killing of Claude Neal*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana St. U. Pr., 1982. 178 pp. Illus. Bibliog. Index. \$17.50.

Massey, Ellen Gray, ed. *Bittersweet Country*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1978. Out of print.

Mintz, Jerome R. *The Anarchists of Casas Viejas*. Chicago: U. of Chicago Pr., 1982. Illus. \$20.

Morgan, Anne Hodges, and Strickland, Rennard, eds. *Oklahoma Memories*. Norman: U. of Oklahoma Pr., 1981. \$16.95, \$8.95.

Morris, Eric. *Corregidor: The End of the Line*. N.Y.: Stein & Day, 1982. 528 pp. Photos. Bibliog. Index. Maps. \$19.95.

Murray, Janet Horowitz, comp. *Strong-Minded Women and Other Lost Voices from Nineteenth-Century England*. N.Y.: Pantheon, 1982. 417 pp. Illus. Bibliog. \$20.50, \$11.95.

Olien, Roger M., and Olien, Diana Davids. *Oil Booms: Social Change in Five Texas Towns*. Lincoln: U. of Nebraska Pr., 1982. \$15.95, tentative.

Oliver, Paul. *Conversations with the Blues*. N.Y.: Horizon Pr., 1982. \$8.95.

Placksin, Sally. *American Women in Jazz, 1900 to the Present: Their Words, Lives, and Music*. Chicago: Wideview-Playboy, 1982. \$18.95, \$8.50.

Purveyer, Edgar F. *Nineteen Stars*. Foreword by Forrest C. Pogue. Presidio Pr.; 31 Pamaron Wy.; Novato, CA 94947; 1981. 304 pp. \$8.95.

Patton, Eisenhower, MacArthur, Marshall as leaders.

St. Clair, Leonard L., and Govenar, Alan B. *Stoney Knows How: Life as a Tattoo Artist*. Lexington: U. Pr. of Kentucky, 1981. 192 pp. \$13.50.

Terkel, Studs. *Division Street: America*. Pantheon Village Series. N.Y.: Pantheon, 1967; reprint ed., 1982. \$5.95.

Toland, John. *Inamy: Pearl Harbor and Its Aftermath*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1982. Illus. \$17.95.

Young-Bruhl, Elisabeth. *Hannah Arendt: For Love of the World*. New Haven: Yale U. Pr., 1982. 616 pp. Photos. Bibliog. \$25.

## ... also in print

Charlton, Thomas L. "Oral History and the Humanities: Theory and Application of a Remembered Past." *Federation Reports: The Journal of the State Humanities Councils* 5 (May/June 1982):5-8.

Griffin, Carl R., III; Faulkner, Alaric; and Rowe, Alberta Poole. "Coming of Age on Damariscove Island, Maine." *Northeast Folklore* 21 (1980):116 pp., entire issue.

Long, Long Ago: *Latino Issue* 1, no. 7 [n.d., ca. 1982] Suva Intermediate School; 6660 E. Suva St.; Bell Gardens, CA 90021.

Murray, Nicolette. "Changing Friends—Constant Friends." *Pennsylvania Heritage* VIII (Spring 1982).

Quakers of Chester County, Pa.

Rogers, Elizabeth Cousins, and Gilbert Dee. "Street Journalism." *Southern Exposure* 10 (March-April 1982):17-20.

Van Dyne, Larry. "Charting the Integrated Worlds of Family and Work." *Chronicle of Higher Education* 24 (16 June 1982):19, 22.

Concerns Tamara Hareven's research and writing.

Wind River Cache 1 (1982):38 pp. Lander Valley Schools; Lander, Wyoming. Twice yearly. \$2.50/issue.

Write: Charlie Patton; Lander Valley High School; P.O. Box 817; Lander, WY 82520.

## ... other publications

Dorothy Tod Films. *Warriors' Women*. n.p., 1981. Color. 27 min. Buy: \$440, 16 mm. Rent: \$45.

Wives of Vietnam veterans.



The Executive Secretary's column will return in the next issue. In the meantime, Ron Marcello has indicated that the Workshop-Colloquium packets will be in the mail toward the end of July. Please note that the preregistration deadline is 1 October 1982. For planning purposes and to reserve your place for banquet purposes (the hotel seats a maximum of 450), he urges that you preregister.

## DIRECTORS IMMORTALIZED ON TAPE AND FILM

The Oral History Program of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) chronicles directors who have no previous biographical documentation. For each director the guild interviews, it also studies a studio craftsman. The former group includes Henry King and King Vidor, who began work in 1912 and 1915, respectively; the latter, David Butler and Lesley Selander whose careers started in 1917 and 1919. More than two dozen projects have been completed by free-lance interviewers under the supervision of Guild Special Projects Officer David Shepard. The guild donates copies of edited transcripts to film research libraries in New York City, Wisconsin, and Los Angeles and upon request provides transcripts at cost. Information: Shepard, DGA, 6253 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028.

## NEWS

A legislative funding reduction in June eliminated the position of oral historian at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

The annual meeting of the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums at Cheyenne in May included a session on oral history by Joann Dodd (Pueblo Metropolitan Libraries).

Oral history theory and practice is included as an archives-related course in the archival management and historical editing masters program of New York University's graduate history department. A three-year NEH grant supported the development of the program which combines historical study with career-oriented courses and practicums. Contact: Michael Lutzker, Dept. of History, NYU, 19 University Pl., New York, NY 10003.

The Museum Archives and Record Center of The Detroit Institute of Arts is compiling an oral history of the institute's growth and development. The work began in March, funded by a one-year NEH grant and directed by Marilyn Ghausi, museum archivist. John Cicala serves as consultant. All tapes will be indexed and selected ones will be transcribed. The archives will serve as depository. Write: Ghausi, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202.

The fourth annual meeting of the Atlantic Oral History Association takes place September 23-25 at Memorial University (MU) of Newfoundland, St. John's. Co-chairmen are historian Shannon Ryan and folklorist Larry Small, both of MU. Topics of the twenty-five speakers include oral history and the following: research techniques, literature, autobiography, the media, municipal politics, minority groups, and recitation. Contact Ryan or Small, MU, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5B7.

Richard K. Lieberman of LaGuardia Community College (LCC), New York, seeks documents, photos, and interviews with anyone connected with piano manufacturing. His study focuses on experiences of piano workers in the factory and community. Contact: Lieberman or Bruce Baskind, LCC, Community History Program, 31-10 Thomson Ave., Long Island City, NY 11101.

The Oral History Association of Australia (OHAA) has a new branch in South

Queensland, according to M. Jean Teasdale. Tasmania may be the location for TOHAA's next subgroup.

David Clark (Los Angeles City Historical Soc.) offered a workshop on Methods in Oral History: Interviewing Techniques as part of the Third Annual Summer Institute of Local History, August 13-15, 1982, at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

*Undermining the Great Depression*, a twenty-five minute, 16 mm., color documentary film, is the new work of film makers Jim Likowski and Bonnie Thompson. Produced by Rainlight Films of Milwaukee, Oregon, and funded by the NEH, the film presents five Jacksonville, Oregon, people recalling how jobless Oregonians mined for gold in back yards and beneath houses and streets during the hard times of the 1930s. Interviews form the basis of the film, which also feature still and location photography of the small town near Medford. The work is also available on video cassette. Contact: Rainlight Films, 9313 SE Stanley Ave., Milwaukee, OR 97222. (503) 774-2182.

The American Association for State and Local History's new guidebook, *Using Local History in the Classroom*, is a comprehensive manual for developing and using local history in history and social studies programs. Recommended for grades seven through adult, authors Fay D. Metcalf and Matthew T. Downey, present an easy-to-read, hands-on manual for coordinating and using resources within the community. Also included are sample forms for documenting and evaluating sources and results, as well as examples of and suggestions for using the facilities and materials of any organization for educational presentations and guidance on student projects.

Oral History Association Newsletter  
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