



NEWSLETTER

Is Wright Right or Wrong? Another "Fair Use" Case for the Courts

by John A. Neuenschwander

A series of court decisions beginning with *Harper & Rowe, Publishers, Inc. v. Nation Enterprises*, 471 U.S. 539 (1985) and culminating most recently in *New Era Publications International APS v. Henry Holt & Co.*, 84 F. 2d 659 (2d Cir. 1989) has caused many scholars to think twice before quoting or even closely paraphrasing from unpublished letters, diaries and journals. The collective message of these cases is that the defense of "fair use" has become a virtual non-entity when it comes to using unpublished sources. Although several bills have been introduced into the current session of Congress to remove or lower this scholarly roadblock, the recent decision in the case of *Wright v. Warner Books, Inc.* 748 F. Supp. 105 (S.D.N.Y. 1990) suggests that some much-needed balance may in fact be forthcoming from the courts.

In 1988, Warner Books published a biography entitled, *Richard Wright: Daemonic Genius*. This scholarly biography of one of America's greatest black writers was written by Margaret Walker. Although Wright died in 1960, his widow brought suit claiming that Walker's use of various unpublished letters, essays and journals infringed upon the copyright interests she inherited from her late husband.

The central issue in this case, as in those that had come before involving such notables as Gerald Ford, J.D. Salinger and L. Ron Hubbard, was simply, did Margaret Walker "fairly use" Wright's unpublished materials in the preparation of the biography? To resolve this question, the District Court was required to relate the evidence to the four "fair use" factors as set out in 17 U.S.C. Sec. 107:

- "(1.) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for non-profit, educational purposes;
- (2.) The nature of the copyrighted works;
- (3.) The amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyright work as a whole; and
- (4.) The effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work."

What is significant about the case is the way in which the Court chose to apply these four "fair use" factors. Healthy scepticism about the inviolability of unpublished sources and hard-headed realism regarding future harm to copyright in-

terests in unpublished materials is readily apparent in this decision.

The first factor, purpose and character of the use, was seen by the District Court as clearly favoring Warner Books. Walker's book was unquestionably a work of scholarship and criticism which, according to Section 107 of the Copyright Act, entitles it to a presumption of protection from any infringement action.

Factor two, nature of the copyrighted work, naturally prompted the most attention from both parties and the Court. For it was here that the precedents established in previous cases seemed to initially favor Wright's widow:

Harper & Rowe, 471 U.S. at 564: "The scope of fair use is narrow with respect to unpublished works."

Salinger v. Random House, Inc., 811 Fed. 2d 90 (2d Cir. 1987): Unpublished works "normally enjoy complete protection against copying any protected expression."

The District Court in *Wright*, however, refused to mechanically apply these precedents. Seizing upon the word "normally" as used by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in *Salinger*, the Court here interpreted this to mean that whenever infringement of unpublished materials is alleged, case-by-case examination is called for.

Walker's overall usage of Wright's letters and journals was seen by the Court as being fundamentally historical in nature. She used the facts found in Wright's materials but refrained from any serious expression borrowing. This was accomplished through minimal quotation and careful paraphrasing. As the Court noted,

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Fair Use Legislation Update

Work has resumed in Congress on the legislation to clear up the issue of what constitutes "fair use" of unpublished copyrighted material, reports our advocate in Washington, Page Putnam Miller of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History. The problems with the copyright legislation appear to be the result of opposition from the computer industry, she says. Two separate strategies are now under way to overcome this opposition. A coalition of writers, publishers, and scholars (including the NCCPH) is working on new language for the bill in order to avoid some of the pitfalls experienced during the last session, when it was prevented from getting out of committee.

Report from the 1990 Annual Business Meeting

President Lila Goff convened the annual business meeting of the Oral History Association on the last morning of the annual meeting in Cambridge, November 11, 1990. Goff thanked Salem State College for its support of the meeting and observed that the increasing number of publishers exhibiting at OHA meetings was indicative of the prevalence of oral history research. She reviewed the work that had gone into revising the *Oral History Principles, Standards, and Evaluation Guidelines* and expressed concern over the financial status of the association, suggesting that 1991 be devoted to examining how best to bring benefits and charges to members more in line with each other. Goff announced that the Committee on Teaching, having completed its goals, had been disbanded, a decision which prompted several members to request a reconsideration of the council's decision. When Martha Ross and Barry Lanman pointed out that the committee could make further contributions Goff suggested that interested members submit proposals recommending activities, leadership, and membership for a reconstituted committee.

Executive Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary Richard Smith reported that membership benefits cost \$38 per member in 1989, but that average membership dues had been only \$29, making the costs of membership benefits \$10,000 more than income from dues. He suggested several remedies for this dilemma: increasing subsidized memberships to a rate closer to actual cost, reducing benefits to match income from dues, increasing registration fees for annual meetings, and/or increasing membership recruitment. At current levels, dues and costs would balance if the OHA membership increased to 2,000. Membership as of November 1, 1990, stood at 1,136 (46 life members, 108 institutional, 384 library, and 598 individual), with an average of 15 percent of new members not renewing.

State and Regional Committee Report

Kim Lady Smith, council liaison to the committee, reported that all state and regional organizations had accepted affiliate status with the OHA, with the exception of the Wyoming Oral History and Folklore Association.

Publications Committee Report

Laurie Mercier, council liaison, reported that the sales of the two special issues of *The Oral History Review* had

been very good and that the review was working diligently toward getting back on schedule. Pamphlet series editor Jessie Embry resigned her position but the seven titles for the pamphlet series had been approved and a new editor would be named soon. Mercier noted that the committee intended to spend more time on marketing and distribution of OHA publications, particularly by encouraging members to set up a table exhibit at other professional organization meetings. The Museum Studies Program at Baylor University is working with the OHA to develop such an exhibit. Mercier asked members to contact the executive secretary's office for materials which could be made available for display and that members contact the publications committee with suggestions for marketing and/or proposals for new publications. In order to save money and to be environmentally responsible, the newsletter will be printed on recycled paper in the future.

International Committee Report

Carl Ryan, chair, pointed out that the committee's primary goal was to increase international attendance at annual meetings and that they felt that they had accomplished that goal fairly successfully last year. He reported that the IIE program that had allowed OHA to bring foreign students to meetings had been discontinued, "the funding cut off by peace," he added. The council voted to continue to waive, on a selective basis, annual meeting registration fees for foreign students and scholars. Ryant noted that the committee was reaching out to oral historians in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, and Latin America.

Multiculturality Committee

Alfredteen Harrison, committee member, presented the report drafted by committee cochair Rina Benmayor. The committee recommended that the OHA establish a fund to provide financial assistance to people of color and students to attend annual meetings. The fund could be built through voluntary contributions solicited as part of annual membership renewal, scholarships from regional and national foundations, and contributions from regional universities. This last proposal would also provide graduate students access to greater participation in the meetings. The committee also recommended that the OHA constitution be amended so that nominations and voting procedures ensured that there would

always be multicultural representation in OHA offices and committees. The national survey of oral history work with ethnic/racial minorities had received only nine responses to date.

Membership Committee Report

Jim Fogerty, chair, announced that in 1991 the committee's attempt to encourage new members through personal contact with others in their region was proving successful. The committee is working with the publications committee and Baylor on the traveling display kit of OHA literature and membership information. The committee is working with the multiculturality committee on how to coordinate recruitment efforts.

Fund Raising and Endowment Committee Report

Tom Charlton, council liaison, announced that the OHA endowment has risen to \$9,713 and that the endowment committee's name had been changed to reflect its new responsibility for all OHA fund-raising.

Nominating Committee Report

Don Ritchie, chair, reported that 261 mail ballots were received in the 1990 elections and the outcome was: Terry Birdwhistell for vice president/president elect, Jo Blatti for council, and Fern Ingersoll, Ron Marcello, and Lynwood Montell for the nominating committee. Sharon Boswell was elected chair of the nominating committee for 1991. Members were urged to submit suggestions for nominations to the committee.

New Business

In other business, Rebecca Sharpless announced that a women's caucus had formed and requested that members interested in planning activities for the 1991 meeting contact her. Ron Grele introduced a resolution, which was approved unanimously, calling the association to pause for a moment of silent reflection on the birth of "a new political and social order, the real beginning of the existential angst and social carnage of the twentieth century," begun fiftysomething years ago that day in Boston when Charlie Morrissey entered the world.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, Goff passed the gavel to incoming president Thomas L. Charlton, who thanked her for her leadership during the past year and then invited everyone to next

year's meeting in Salt Lake City.

The 1990 annual meeting concluded with an evaluation session headed by Martha Ross. In response to confusion over policy, the council has passed a ruling that presenters at annual meetings (not including chairs or commentators) cannot participate in two consecutive annual meetings. The meeting was brought to a close with a tribute by Hugh (Brother Blue) Hill, who pointed out that he had attended two concurrent sessions, one on foreign service wives and another on Communist Party members, and it had occurred to him that if the wall which separated the two sessions had crumbled, we would have found that these two seemingly at-odds groups were essentially talking about the same thing. Martha Ross pointed out that that was because both sessions represented the documentation of previously undocumented stories, and Rebecca Sharpless added that it shows that the need for oral history research occurs at all layers of society.

Wright Right?

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"I conclude, without much difficulty, that Walker has used the letters not to recreate Wright's creative expression but simply to establish facts necessary to her biography"

Having thus survived the difficult second factor, Walker and Warner Books also prevailed on factor three (amount used) but still had to navigate past the fourth and final factor, effect on the market. The Second Circuit in *Salinger* had held that a biographer's publication of rather minimal quotations taken from the author's letters had a very dilatory effect on the future market potential of these letters. Nevertheless, the Court in *Warner* did not entertain a similar opinion. The factual use of Wright's letters and journals by Walker and the failure of his widow to bring forth any evidence of future harm, led the Court to conclude that factor four favored the defendant.

The Court, in *Warner*, also recognized that the four "fair use" factors set out in Section 107 were not meant to be exclusive. One additional factor courts were always free to consider is whether the copyright holder came to court with clean hands. In other words, did Wright's widow act in complete good faith in bringing this action?

Not entirely, was the conclusion of the District Court. An authorized biography of Wright published in 1973 also quoted from the same unpublished letters used by

Oral History and the Elderly in Minnesota

The following articles, which suggest ways in which oral history can be used with the elderly, are reprinted from the December 1990 issue of *OHAM News*, the newsletter of the Oral History Association of Minnesota, edited by Jim Fogerty.

AARP Focuses On Oral History

Recognizing the therapeutic value of oral history and story-telling, particularly among the elderly, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has established a reminiscence program. The program sponsors interviewer training throughout the country and publishes a guide to help volunteers elicit life stories through the use of memory cues and sensory markers. To order a free booklet entitled *Reminiscence: Reaching Back, Moving Forward*, write to the AARP, Fulfillment Series, 1909 K Street Northwest, Washington, D.C. 20049. Please include the brochure number — PF4101 (488), D13186 — with your request.

Oral History And The Elderly

In 1989, psychology professors Howard Thorsheim and Bruce Roberts of Saint Olaf College published a guidebook for clergy and others who work with older people entitled *Reminiscing Together*. As a December, 1989 issue of the *OHAM News* noted, the guidebook stressed the importance of maintaining good memory function as one ages, particularly through the use of oral history and "story-sharing." The original guide has now been expanded and updated into *Reminiscing Together: Ways To Help Us Keep Men-*

tally Fit As We Grow Older, published as part of the Prime Time series from CompCare Publishers. Available at local bookstores, the publication emphasizes ways to share life stories with friends, to improve short and long-term memory, and to use the senses to stimulate memory and story-telling. For further information, please contact Thorsheim, Department of Psychology, Saint Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057, (507) 663-3142.

Partnership Produces Oral History Project

As the December, 1989 issue of the *OHAM News* noted, two volunteers from the Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP) of Minneapolis had begun an oral history project to examine the lives of Minneapolis senior citizens. The project has since been expanded to include a unique partnership among RSVP, KFAI public radio, and the Minnesota Historical Society. Interviewers O. Donald Smith and William Wade received their original oral history training from MHS and now conduct interviews which are both edited for weekly broadcast on KFAI and sent in raw form to MHS, where selected interviews are transcribed and placed in the institution's permanent collections. Interviews have included accounts of desegregating the hotels and restaurants of Minneapolis, surviving a prisoner of war camp in World War II, and caring for the hungry and homeless as a full-time community volunteer. For further information, please contact Margaret Robertson at MHS, (612) 296-6980.

Walker. No lawsuit for copyright infringement emanating from this usage, however, was ever filed by Wright's widow.

The decision in *Wright v. Warner Books, Inc.*, as discussed here, represents a limited victory for scholars and publishers. The Court's "user friendly" application of the "use at great risk" precedent set by the line of cases beginning with *Harper & Rowe* does not by itself signal a wholesale movement away from this doctrine. Although the holding in *Wright* seems to provide some protection to scholars for strictly factual use of unpublished sources, the decision is hardly a ringing endorsement of scholars' rights. An added concern is that the decision is currently on appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. This is the same

Circuit that decided both *Salinger* and *New Era I*. Whether this Court will look kindly upon the District Court's "user friendly" approach is open to question.

Closer to home, millions of pages of transcripts and tens of thousands of tapes currently sit on the shelves of oral history archives and collections across the country. Like the letters of J.D. Salinger and Richard Wright, they are classifiable as unpublished materials and afforded copyright protection at least until the year 2003. While most of the copyrights for these unpublished oral history materials are held by academic and public institutions which actively encourage scholarly use, a future lawsuit for unfair use is not such a far-fetched notion given the current state of the law.

"Thirtysomething"

The work of the Oral History Association is moving smoothly, and we seem to be on track to have another fine conference next fall when OHA turns twenty-five and heads toward the close of its third decade. Yes, friends, OHA will be thirtysomething during the nineties. My wish for all of us is that we will take time to reflect about what our association has accomplished even as we constantly seek renewal of purpose. I am personally proud to have been a part of OHA for four-fifths of its history.

If you will grant me one further bit of nostalgia, I am frequently reminded of the tenth national oral history colloquium held in 1975 in the Appalachians at the beautiful Grove Park Inn, near Asheville, North Carolina. Sam Proctor was OHA president that year, and he trusted me to work with him as program chair as we thought about the theme "Oral History Comes of Age." It is not that region's beauty or the workshop, plenary-session speakers, or the papers delivered on the panels at Asheville that I like to remember. I vividly recall the excitement created by the presentations of Dean Rusk, Merle Miller (!), Theodore Rosengarten, the late Walter Rundell, Jr., and many others. What strikes me most about that conference today is the substantial growth and maturation that OHA has continued to experience since 1975 and the widespread acceptance that oral historians now enjoy. If oral history was "of age" in 1975, certainly it is approaching, if it has not already reached, the prime of life, with even finer days ahead.

Today, the association is a far more complex organization than it was in 1975. Good relations continue to grow between OHA and the state- and regional-level organizations; many of us eagerly await the results of their new status as "affiliates" of OHA. At the national level, OHA is an active member of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, an indication of our commitment to larger concerns which affect scholarship and some evidence that other organizations now turn to OHA from time to time for advice. Within OHA itself, the committee structure seems to be working, and the officers continue to seek "new blood" to bring into leadership positions tomorrow's OHA council members and future presidents. Many of you have noticed and commented on the recent multicultural emphases in the association, a reflection, I think, of global concerns and a desire to



make OHA responsible for achieving the ambitious goals it has adopted. This should not be only the objective of the association's Committee on Multiculturality; it should clearly be an integral part of OHA's mission—for both today and the future.

I can report to you that two other mid-year activities of the association have been completed and are ready for your attention. The Nominating Committee has completed its constitutional assignment and has a promising slate of nominees for us to consider in the mail-ballot election. The 1991 Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee are very close to having everything ready for OHA's 25th Annual Meeting, 10-13 October 1991, at Snowbird, Utah. Not since 1974, when we met at Jackson Lake Lodge, have we

journeyed to the Rockies, and OHA is in for a special treat this year!

On a seemingly more mundane note, I need to report to you that OHA's constitution and bylaws are currently being scrutinized by the council. We have been advised by our association attorney, Norman Silber of New York, that there are several sections of our basic documents which need revision. This is also a necessary part of the constant renewal of OHA and will help bring the association into line with the laws of incorporation in the State of New York, where OHA was chartered in 1967. At its recent mid-winter meeting, your elected officers began the process of suggesting constitution and bylaws changes brought to our attention by Mr. Silber (who is also an OHA member!), and you will learn more about this between now and the Snowbird meeting in October. My hope is that these changes can be accomplished in a timely fashion.

Every now and then it is good to remind ourselves that OHA is successful largely because of the dedication of its many friends who volunteer their services and ask for very little recognition. In the case of OHA, it is safe to say that we more than get by with a little (sometimes a lot!) help from our friends.

State & Regional News

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region presented its prestigious **Forrest C. Pogue Award** for contributions to oral history to **John S. Schuchman** at its fall conference held October 19 in Reston, Virginia. Schuchman is a pioneer in developing techniques for videotaping interviews with deaf interviewees. The hearing son of deaf parents, he devised a system which uses a single camera to produce a split-screen image which includes both sign language and vocal interpretation of an interview. Schuchman is author of *Hollywood Speaks: Deafness and the Film Entertainment Industry*, Professor of History at Gallaudet University, and an active member of both OHA and OHMAR, where he has served as treasurer for five years.

The selection committee for the Pogue Award is comprised of all past OHMAR presidents, which includes Marie Allen, Sara Collins, Patricia

Cooper, Mary Jo Deering, Benis Frank, Pamela Henson, Barry Lanham, Donald Ritchie, Martha Ross, David Seaman, Linda Shopes, and Bruce Wilson.

Martha Ross has completed a three-year term as editor of the OHMAR Newsletter. Don Ritchie, of the U.S. Senate Historical Office, will edit the summer issue, and Pamela Henson, of the Smithsonian Archives, will edit the fall issue. In 1992 John Schuchman will begin a three-year term as editor of the newsletter. Andrea Hammer, of St. Mary's College of Maryland, succeeds James Adomanis, of the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Public Schools, as Book Review Editor.

Oral History in Ohio held its annual meeting April 12-13 at the University of Cincinnati's East Campus. On Friday, the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center hosted a reception, followed by

The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress is sponsoring a project on Italian-Americans in the American West. The purpose of the project is to identify the traditions that have united Italian-Americans and the ways they have adapted to the particular landscape of the West. Primarily through interviews with Italian-American families, research teams are investigating topics such as agriculture, foodways, and occupations. Project director David Taylor and his team hope that the project will result in a book and an exhibition, as part of the Library of Congress's commemoration of the Columbus Quincentenary. For more information, see article by James Hardin in the winter 1991 issue of the *Folklife Center News*.

Indiana University's newly created Center on History-Making in America is working closely with Indiana's Oral History Research Center, directed by John Bodnar, to plan a national survey of American attitudes and habits regarding history, which will be composed of individualized studies with an oral history component.

In the last issue, we congratulated the Museum of Modern Art and Lincoln Center for being the first major oral history projects to obtain NEH funding in years.

Vivian Perlis of Yale University has reminded us that their Oral History, American Music, now in its 20th year, has received several major grants from NEH, the last for the years 1986-89. Perlis, who is coauthor of the Aaron Copland biographies, directs the Yale program, which is a major repository of source material on American composers.

The Center for Field Research is offering grants from \$10,000 to \$150,000 to fund oral history and folklore field research projects for 1992. Proposals are reviewed monthly and should be received one year in advance of anticipated field dates. The CFR also recommends projects to the funding organization Earthwatch, which provides researchers with volunteers screened according to the project's needs. Contact Program Officer Catherine J. Schlager, Center for Field Research, 680 Mt. Auburn Street, Box 403, Watertown, Massachusetts 02172; 617/926-8200; FAX 617/926-8532.

Call for Papers

The VII International Oral History Conference will be held 25-28 February 1993 in Siena, Italy. The title of the conference, "Memory and Multiculturalism" reflects the growing interest among oral

historians in migrations and cultural contacts, as well as contemporary social trends towards multiculturalism on the one hand and towards forms of nationalism and localism on the other. The conference will deal with the use of oral sources in the study of subjects such as territorial mobility, geographical distribution of power, dynamics between areas, gender interaction, generational relationships and cultural transmission between generations, and nationalism from patriotism to neoracism. While oral sources are central, the use of multiple sources and interdisciplinary methods will also be encouraged. One-page proposals in English or French should be sent by **31 October 1991** to Valeria Di Piazza, Dipartimento di Filosofia e Scienze Sociali, Università degli Studi Siena, Via Roma 47- 53100 Siena, Italy; FAX 577.222668.

The Oral History Association will hold its 1992 Annual Meeting 15-18 October 1992, at the Stouffer Tower City Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. Proposals for papers, panels, media presentations, or entire sessions should be sent by 1 December 1991, to Dr. Donna M. DeBlasio, Program Chair, Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, P.O. Box 533, Youngstown, Ohio 44501; 216/743-5934.

dinner and the OHIO business meeting. On Saturday, sessions and workshops were held in the morning, followed by a buffet lunch with a keynote address by OHA President Tom Charlton. In the afternoon, participants walked off lunch with a tour of Cincinnati's historic Over the Rhine district.

Oral History Association of Minnesota has begun a practice of opening its board of directors meetings to all OHAM members, with the idea of providing more opportunities for sharing ideas and experiences. The last meeting included a special performance by board member Marilyn McGriff. Following the meeting and a box lunch, McGriff performed the story of Hannah, a Minnesota farm woman from the 1920s and one of the series of historically-based vignettes from her statewide tour, "Walk in Her Shoes." After the performance, the whole group

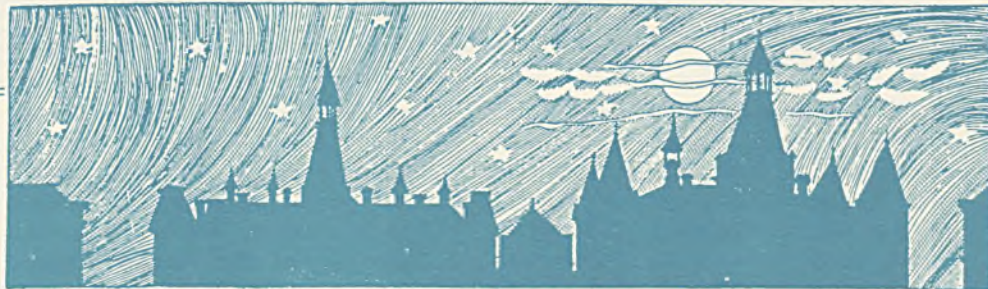
discussed the role of oral history in the theater.

At last year's **Southwest Oral History Association** spring conference, an advanced oral history seminar was held. Organized by SOHA President Tom King, the seminar was a "first-ever" for the group and turned out to be lively and well attended. King pointed out that oral history, because of its collaborative and collective nature, must involve an interviewer in issues of historiography. Art Hansen provided an overview of oral history and cultural context and the issues involved in a "culturally-informed approach." Sherna Berger Gluck discussed the impact of the interviewer on the consciousness of the narrator, retaining authenticity in using the interview in written accounts, and advocacy versus objectivity.

May 2-4. Joint meeting of the Northwest Oral History Association and the Southwest Oral History Association in Reno, Nevada. Theme will focus on contemporary developments in western regions of North America within an historical perspective. Includes an all-day introductory workshop conducted by Sylvia Arden and Margot Knight, eight panel sessions, two film showings and off-site session tours to the Pyramid Lake and Paiute reservation and to Virginia City. Featured speaker for the conference will be Barbara Allen, folklorist, oral historian, and chair of graduate studies with the American Studies Program at Notre Dame, who will speak on oral narratives of the West.

The Montana Historical Society's oral historian, John Terreo, conducted an oral history project with members of the Montana Army National Guard prior to the overseas departure of the 103rd Public Affairs Detachment during Operation Desert Shield.

Book Notices



Adams, Judith Porter. **Peacework: Oral Histories of Women Peace Activists.** Twayne Publishers, 1990. A new book in Twayne's Oral History Series, this one presents testimonies by 23 women in the United States who have worked for peace since the 1920s. Introductory chapters relate women's—largely undocumented—roles in the peace movement, which have ranged from silent vigils to being fire-hosed during protests, revealing the domestic impact of the Spanish Civil War, WWII, Vietnam, the arms race and the cold war. The book is the result of the Women's Peace Oral History Project (PO Box 6553, Stanford, California 94305) which was begun in 1976. In all, 108 women in the U.S. have been interviewed, and the project is ongoing. The collection is part of the Swarthmore College Peace Library.

The Annual: The Journal of the New England Association of Oral History. Salem State College, Salem, Massachusetts, Volume 3, 1989/90. This year's issue includes the following articles: "Kernels of Truth and Snowballs of Exaggeration: The Accretion Process in Oral Narratives" by Charles Morrissey, "Work Images in Oral History" by Carl Ryant, "Oral History & History Museums: Opportunities & Challenges" by Fred Calabretta, "Editing for a Community Oral History Project" by Barbara Ornstein, Reviews and Notes, and "Oral History Bibliography: A Basic Guide for Educators, Librarians, Historical Societies" by John J. Fox, who is editor of the *Annual*.

Baird, Barbara. **I Had One Too . . . An Oral History of Abortion in South Australia Before 1970.** Women's Studies Unit, Flinders University of South Australia, 1990. Funded by the South Australian Health Commission, this is a report on a research project which interviewed women and medical personnel to examine the history and experience of abortion in South Australia in the 35 years prior to its legalization in 1970.

Bodfish, Waldo, Sr. **Kusiq: An Eskimo Life History from the Arctic Coast of Alaska.** University of Alaska Press, 1991. The second in a series of oral biographies by UA Press, this book provides insights into the history and culture of life in a village on the Arctic coast of Alaska. Includes pronunciation, place and personal name, and genealogical appendices and is written in collaboration with Will Schneider, curator of oral history at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Leona Kisautaq Okakok of the North Slope Borough planning department, and James Mumigana Nageak of the Alaska Native Language Center at UA-Fairbanks.

Copland, Aaron, with Vivian Perlis. **Copland: Since 1943.** St. Martin's Press, 1989. The second volume of Aaron Copland's autobiography, co-authored by composer-oral historian Vivian Perlis, provides an in-depth study of America's greatest living composer in an unusual format drawing on oral history interviews made with Copland for the Yale Oral History, American Music Project. Also included are interviews with the composer's friends and colleagues, and historical interludes which provide the setting for his life and music. A paperback edition was released at the time of Copland's 90th birthday in November 1990, and shortly before his death in December. Volume one, *Copland: 1900 Through 1942*, is also available from St. Martin's.

Hunter, Dianna. **Breaking Hard Ground: Stories of the Minnesota Farm Advocates.** Holy Cow! Press (c/o Hunter, HCR2, Floodwood, MN 55736), 1990. Based on an oral history project funded by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, this book documents the role of the farm advocate system during the agricultural crisis of the 1980s. The interviews were first edited into a public radio series; the book contains excerpts from the interviews and photographs of the narrators along with statistical information on the farm crisis.

LaForte, Robert S. and Ronald E. Marcello. **Remembering Pearl Harbor: Eyewitness Accounts by U.S. Military Men and Women.** SR Books, 1991. "Highly recommended" by *Library Journal*, this book presents 40 oral histories of the attack at Pearl Harbor and its immediate aftermath. Culled from 350 interviews, these accounts provide, for the first time, a "full complement" of enlisted and junior officers' descriptions, from vantage points ranging from ships attacked at sea to the drydocks, to the airfields, to the suburbs of Honolulu. Each account is introduced with brief biographical sketches outlining the lives of the speakers before that December 7th and then concluded with accounts of their subsequent careers.

Lourie, Richard. **Russia Speaks: An Oral History from the Revolution to the Present.** Harper Collins, 1991. *Library Journal* says "Oral Histories are indispensable to most surveys of Russian Society written since the 1800s." This book, by the translator of Andrei Sakharov's *Memoirs*, contains accounts by more than 30 "survivors"

of 20th-century Soviet life. Testimonies are split up to be arranged chronologically and cover such obscure topics as the postwar crime wave in Leningrad, the invasion of Finland, and Soviet involvement in the Spanish Civil War. Interviewees range from Sakharov's mother-in-law to a White Army officer living in Massachusetts.

Norman, Elizabeth. **Women at War: The Story of Fifty Military Nurses Who Served in Vietnam.** University of Pennsylvania Press, 1990. Documents the wartime experiences and the personal lives of Army, Navy, and Air Force Nurse Corps members, including topics such as how they adapted their moral and social codes to situations which required them to be surrogate mothers, sisters, lovers and how they have come to terms with the war since. Thoroughly researched work on little known topic — government documents could not even provide the number of nurses who served in Vietnam; estimates ranged from 4,000 to 15,000.

Portelli, Alessandro. **The Death of Luigi Trastulli and Other Stories: Form and Meaning in Oral History.** State University of New York Press, 1990. A new publication in SUNY's Oral and Public History Series, this book is a collection of essays by one of Europe's most insightful oral historians. Approaching the study of oral history from an interdisciplinary and multicultural approach. Portelli examines cultural conflict and communication between social groups and classes in industrial societies, and he identifies the way individuals work to create memories in order to make sense of their lives. He also discusses the impact of fieldwork on the consciousness of the researcher and the dynamic between researcher and subject.

Ward, Alan. **A Manual of Sound Archive Administration.** Gower Publishing (Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT 05036), 1990. A step-by-step approach to setting up and maintaining a sound archive, including acquiring the material, necessary documentation, storage, equipment, and conservation programs. Author is Coordinator for the National Sound Archive in London, secretary of the British Association of Sound Collections, and Chair of the Oral History Society of Great Britain.

Wasserman, Ellen S., editor. **Oral History Index: An International Directory of Oral History Interviews.** Meckler Publishing,

1990. Expanding the scope of Meckler and McMullin's *Oral History Collections* published in 1975, this volume includes collections from Canada, Great Britain and Israel, as well as the U.S. Compiled from questionnaires sent to 1300 institutions, the directory includes 395 responses. The main section is organized alphabetically by name of the interviewee, and information for each entry varies. A subject index has been promised for future editions.



The Coalition for Western Women's History has announced a new prize for the best article published in 1990 in the field of history of women in the Trans-Mississippi West. A cash prize will be awarded at the Western History Association 1991 meeting. Articles must have been published in 1990. To submit, send three off-prints or copies of the article to Dr. Mary Murphy, Department of History and Philosophy, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717. Deadline for submissions is 1 June 1991.

John T. Mason, Jr. has recently received two prestigious awards for his latest book drawing on oral history, *The Atlantic War Remembered*. The U.S. Naval Institute named him its Book Author of the year and the U.S. Navy League awarded him the Alfred Thayer Mahan Distinguished Literature Award. Mason's two volumes, *The Pacific War Remembered* (1986) and *The Atlantic War Remembered* (1990), draw on interviews he conducted for the Columbia University Oral History Office and the U.S. Naval Institute from 1960 to 1979.

Allen Tullos of Emory University has been awarded the Southern Historical Association's 1990 Charles S. Sydnor Award for his book *Habits of Industry: White Culture and the Transformation of the Carolina Piedmont*. Presented by the Southern Historical Association, the Sydnor award is given annually for the most distinguished book in Southern history published the previous year. *Habits* is a social, historical, and cultural account of the Carolina Piedmont over the course of 150 years. Tullos, who is Assistant Professor of American Studies at Emory, focused on individuals who worked in textile mills, drawing extensively on oral history interviews with both mill owners and mill workers.

Information for 1991 Membership Directory

This year's OHA membership renewal form includes a request for FAX, E-mail, and areas of interest, for inclusion in the 1991 Membership Directory. Since some of you are already paid up for 1991 and will not receive the renewal notice, we would like to request that you fill out the form below and send it directly to: **OHA, 1093 Broxton Ave., No. 720, Los Angeles, CA 90024**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone(s): _____

FAX Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Areas of Interest (please check three most pertinent to your work)

Profession		Subject Interest	
Anthropology	_____	African-American	_____
Archives	_____	Aging	_____
Criminology	_____	Agriculture	_____
Economics	_____	Art	_____
Education:		Asian-American	_____
Elementary	_____	Biography	_____
Secondary	_____	Business	_____
College	_____	Community	_____
Folklore	_____	Crime	_____
Gerontology	_____	Culture	_____
History	_____	Economics	_____
Journalism	_____	Education	_____
Library	_____	Environment	_____
Media	_____	Ethnic	_____
Museum	_____	Family	_____
Oral History	_____	Fine Arts	_____
Political Science	_____	Folklore	_____
Psychology	_____	Gay/Lesbian	_____
Publishing	_____	Government	_____
Sociology	_____	Health	_____
Storyteller	_____	Labor	_____
Tour Guide	_____	Latin America	_____
Transcription	_____	Law	_____
Other _____		Mexican-American	_____
		Military	_____
		Multiculturality	_____
		Native American	_____
		Politics	_____
		Preservation	_____
		Puerto Rico	_____
		Religion	_____
		Sports/Recreation	_____
		State/Local	_____
		Women	_____
		Other _____	

Summer Programs

San Diego State University will host a three-day workshop on oral history in the classroom 8-10 July 1991. Held on the campus, the workshop will discuss the theories, processes and practices of oral history in the classroom, along with methods for integrating oral history with cooperative learning, computer literacy, and writing across the curriculum. Practical interviewing experiences will be provided for each participant. For more information, contact George Mehaffy, School of Teacher Education, College of Education, San Diego State University, San Diego, California 92182-0139; 619/594-5777 or contact Barry Lanman at 301/455-4207 or 747-1257.

The annual **Coast-to-Coast Charles T. Morrissey Oral History Workshops** will be held again this summer in Oregon and in Vermont. For the 12th summer since 1979, Morrissey will offer an intensive oral history course at Portland State University June 24-July 5. The following week, July 8-12, he will offer a course at Cannon Beach, Oregon, entitled "Life, Family, and Community: Oral History for Writers," which will be part of PSU's Haystack program in the Arts and Sciences. For more information, call PSU's summer program at 1-800-547-8887 or 503/725-4081.

August 5-9 are the dates for Morrissey's non-credit oral history workshop at Vermont College in Montpelier. The workshop is designed for persons who wish to master oral history skills in a practical setting with group and individual instruction. For more information contact Ruth Richardson, Continuing Education, Vermont College of Norwich University,

Montpelier, VT 05602, phone 802/828-8800; or talk to Morrissey at Baylor Oral History Project, One Baylor Plaza, Houston, TX 77030; 713/798-4501 or 713/660-6458 (nights and weekends).

Portland State University is offering a special summer session to be held in New Zealand, 1-10 August 1991. Directed by Judith Fyfe, a leader in oral history in New Zealand, the program will focus on Maoritanga, the Maori way of life. For more information contact PSU Summer Session/Maori, PO Box 751, Portland, Oregon 97207; or call toll free 1-800-547-8887 or in Oregon 1-800-452-4909.



Field experience in oral history for teachers will be offered in Hawaii 8-20 August 1991. The theme of the course will be "**Pearl Harbor 1941-1991; An Oral Perspective**," and it will integrate educational and historical theory, on-site lectures and tours, and practical interviewing experience. Three graduate credits will be awarded by Loyola College, while the University of Hawaii will host many of the local activities. For more information, contact Barry A. Lanman, The Educational Center for Oral History, Catonsville Community College, 800 S. Rolling Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21228; 301/455-4207.

Opportunities

The Columbia University Oral History Research Office is seeking an assistant director. Responsibilities include research, interviewing, management, grantwriting, fundraising, some teaching, and community liaison. An M.A. in American history or related field and substantial progress toward a Ph.D. (ABD or 12 credits beyond MA) is required, as well as four years of management level experience in a recognized oral history program. Superior communications skills and experience in public history is desirable. Salary is at the assistant professor level and dependent upon credentials. Contact R.J. Grele, Oral History Research Office, Columbia University, Box 20, Butler Library, New York, NY 10027. Deadline is April 1, 1991.

Information wanted

Alistair Thomson, new editor of the "News from Abroad" section of *Oral History*, the journal of the Oral History Society of Great Britain, would be interested in hearing about significant news and items of interest to readers in GB. Their copy deadlines are November 15 and June 1, and his address is 7 St. Luke's Road, Brighton, BN2 2ZD, United Kingdom.

Wilma Slaughter of the Wellesley College Archives is looking for a **software program to index transcripts** on disk for their W.C. Hillel Foundation Oral History Project. Contact her at the Margaret Clapp Library, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181; 617/235-0320, extension 2128.

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

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

Address editorial matters to: Jaclyn Jeffrey, Editor, Oral History Association Newsletter, BU 7271, Baylor University, Waco, Texas 76798, or phone (817) 755-3437.

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