

THE INSTITUTE FOR HISTORICAL STUDY

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NEWSLETTER

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THE INSTITUTE is affiliated with the National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS) and with the American Historical Association (AHA)

The NEWSLETTER is sent to all Institute members, as well as colleges and university libraries and other interested scholars. The Institute appreciates all tax-deductible contributions made by non-members who wish to remain on our mailing list.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Annual Meeting on February 25 featured summaries of the activities for the past year, as is reported elsewhere in this Newsletter. The many meetings of study groups and of the general membership attest to the vitality of our organization. All this activity also depends on the many volunteer efforts of our members. We can congratulate ourselves! The election at the Annual Meeting confirmed the choices of the nominating committee, with **Peter Mellini** joining the Board. **Perri Hale's** term on the board has ended; we thank her for all her hard work during her term.

From the beginning of the Institute, we have tried to have an event open to the public which furthers general understanding and appreciation of history. The 1906 Earthquake Centennial program in April is our public event for this year. The evening features members **Joanne Lafler** and **Malcolm Barker**, and is co-sponsored by the San Francisco Public Library.

Another aspect of the Institute's efforts to support history is our membership in the National Coalition for History. This non-profit organization (formerly the National Coordinating Council for the Promotion of History) has been doing good things for history and the humanities on the national level. The Coalition lobbies for funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities, for history education funds, for interpretive services at national parks and historic sites, for extension of the Freedom of Information Act and against more secrecy in government. The NCH publishes a weekly "Washington Update" via email, which alerts readers to bills before Congress, administration actions, and other news concerning history and the humanities. The Institute's web site has a link to the NCH.

On May 13, Institute members will have an opportunity to learn of the resources of the J. Porter Shaw Maritime Library, which focuses on sail and steam along the Pacific Coast and the Pacific basin since 1520. It is part of the Maritime San Francisco National Historical Park. Specific details are forthcoming.

Ellen Huppert

WORK-IN-PROGRESS – Ellen Huppert

Ellen Huppert read her paper “Singing for Their Supper: A Michigan Family’s Southern Tour in 1851-1852,” to Institute members on February 15 at the home of Nancy Zinn in San Francisco. Ellen has been invited to present her research on the family of Barton Stout Taylor, her great-grandfather, at the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association conference in March. The audience at the WIP very much enjoyed this intimate and unusual glimpse into one family’s daily life and travels through the South. They gave Ellen valuable feedback and suggestions.

The story of the Taylor family is truly remarkable for its singular documentation of what life in mid - 19th century America demanded of each individual. Dr. Barton Stout Taylor, the *pater familias*, took his wife and two children, one of them a nine-month old girl, plus a hired helpmate on an extended tour of the South where they made a living giving musical performances along the way. Barton Taylor had given up a medical practice to become a Methodist preacher. When he was diagnosed with tuberculosis, a common and lethal ailment at the time, and lacking the means to treat or control the disease by going to a more temperate climate abroad or to take an ocean voyage, he settled on going to the southern part of the United States. His wife, Marietta, insisted that she and the children join him. It was she who suggested that they could give singing concerts to support themselves. Marietta, by no means a professional singer, had experience singing in church and with choral groups, enough to entertain audiences along the way.

The family traveled about 2500 miles in a two-horse carriage during a time span of seven months. This was not a trip taken for pleasure or education! Marietta’s diary testifies to the poor road conditions in rural America in 1851-52. Unpaved roads, crossing rivers by ferry, sometimes being nearly swept away, fording rivers in dangerously high water, were common adventures. The family mostly stayed in simple inns along the way, sometimes in private residences like farmhouses. These accommodations often provided not so welcome experiences: wind blowing in through holes in walls and cracks in floors, rats scurrying around, and the

ubiquitous bedbugs, which they considered a worse plague than the rats on the floor. Then there were mishaps and dangers on the road, for instance, when on one occasion, unbeknownst to them, they were directed to an area considered a nest of robbers. “You are the first Yankees that ever went into that woods and came out alive,” according to the landlord of a guesthouse they reached eventually.

Can we even imagine what life on the road in a two-horse carriage must have been like for Marietta, who was nursing her baby? Yet, the baby survived, learned to walk and sing on the road. The servant girl traveling with them helped with daily chores. Marietta’s diary did not address how they kept their six-year old son, Augustus, entertained during the long hours in the carriage. Eventually, Augustus was provided with a tambourine and learned to sing a few songs, and was drafted into the family enterprise. Having a young boy participate in the performances increased interest in their group.

During the time of the Taylor family travels, many professional entertainers were found on the road, among them troupes of actors, opera companies and singers. Indeed, family groups making their living as traveling entertainers were not uncommon, as were individual entertainers. Jenny Lind, the famous “Swedish nightingale,” was probably the most famous example of such a venture. Marietta Taylor proudly records in her diary that an audience member compared her singing to that of Jenny Lind. A great compliment!

The family eventually returned to Michigan. While Barton Taylor seemingly recovered from his “weak lung” disease that had sent them traveling south, living for another 46 years, his wife Marietta succumbed to it by the age 30. Such is the irony of life: success for the one, and failure for the other. What a story!

Monica Clyde

Good Night and Good Luck

On December 18, ten people gathered at the home of Peter and **Ellen Huppert** to discuss the movie, *Good Night and Good Luck*. It was a stimulating experience to talk about how Hollywood has interpreted McCarthyism, and how the principles of political conflict remain with us today.

Joanne Lafler recalled that the spirit of fear was huge in those days! Her mother instructed her what to say to any stranger who might come to the door asking questions. **Jules Becker** was living in Chicago when the Hollywood 10 came through town. Being in media himself at the time, he reminded us what a BIG thing Edward R. Murrow did by exposing McCarthy.

According to **Lyn Reese**, IHS member, **Jean Wilkinson** and her husband were members of the Communist party, and they both lost their teaching jobs due to the anticommunist uproar played upon by McCarthy. **Lyn** also recommended a book on the subject by Gerda Lerner: *Fireweed: A Political Autobiography*. **Henry Cohen** told us a story about McCarthy supposedly having a meal with a Jesuit priest and lamenting that he wanted to make a major contribution to the world. The priest suggested he go after the Communists who had infiltrated the government. Which he did.

Admittedly, the closest I came to McCarthy's campaign was having a teacher for one year in high school who was an avowed atheist and with whom my brother and I enjoyed arguing about religion. At year's end, the school board fired our teacher "for being a Communist."

What sort of contribution did McCarthy make? Did he make a difference in the course of US history? Maybe! But perhaps he's made us a bit more watchful of that spirit of inquisition which will always be with us. At least the impact was sufficient to give a group of historians something stimulating to talk about on a Sunday afternoon and go on pondering for a long while.

Ethel Herr

The California Round Table held its quarterly meeting at the home of Jules Becker on January 14. **Joanne Lafler** gave a presentation on "How Does One Become King of Telegraph Hill?" based on her research for a biography of Harry Lafler (1878-1935). The answer in his case, she said, was 1) know the right people, 2) be the right kind of person, and 3) be living at the right time. He was called "King of Telegraph Hill" because he owned property there on which he built five cottages beginning in 1906. This Lafler Compound became something of a literary/artistic colony.

Knowing the "right people" included Lafler's friendships with George Sterling, Jack London, and other writers. Lafler, a poet, had a prestigious role among local writers as literary editor of the *Argonaut* starting in 1903. Through Sterling he met Frank Havens and "Borax" Smith, who were partners in various real estate and transportation ventures. Lafler was able to acquire the land on Telegraph Hill in 1906 with the aid of Havens. His plan was to build simple, unpainted wood houses. This relatively new idea probably came by way of his acquaintance with Reverend Joseph Worcester, an early advocate of "building with nature." Around the same time he launched a small magazine, *The Blue Mule*, with underwriting from Smith. The heyday of the Lafler Compound was from about 1917 to 1925, while Harry Lafler was married to Mary Ford. They lived in the "Upper House" and hosted Sunday gatherings with lots of wine, some intellectual and political discussion, and an occasional excess of rowdiness. A poetry club met at the compound, and the first reading of Robinson Jeffers' "The Tower Beyond Tragedy" was held there.

Joanne also gave some background on Telegraph Hill and passed out a number of interesting illustrations. In photographs from the 1880s, the hill was topped by a large "German Castle" and a quarry was dug into the east side. Another illustration showed an elaborate complex of grand buildings on Telegraph Hill, as envisioned in Daniel Burnham's plan for San Francisco.

Ann Harlow

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Morning Session

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Institute was held on February 25 at the Dimond Branch of the Oakland Public Library. President **Ellen Huppert** called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and welcomed the approximately 25 members and guests who attended.

First on the agenda was the treasurer's report, presented by **Joanne Lafler**. Since the Institute's fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31, the figures she announced were incomplete for the year. Also, dues for 2006 are still being received. Joanne was pleased to announce that over \$1,000 was received in donations due both to the letter sent to members last December and the monies collected with dues renewals. The organizations total assets are \$23,634. The annual financial report will be sent to members after March 31.

As membership chair, **Edee Piness** reported that there are 97 current members. Over the year, two members (**Lorette Goldberg** and **Larry Kramer**) passed away, and four new members were admitted: **Dolores Cordell**, **Susan Morris**, **Tom Snyder**, and **Jacqueline Pels** -- who was introduced at the meeting. **Edee** reported that the grants committee had awarded grants of \$500 each to five members in support of their various projects: **Anne Homan**, **Steven Levi**, **Jeanne McDonnell**, **Maria Sakovich**, and **Margaretta Mitchell**. The committee consisted of **Edee**, **Monica Clyde**, and **Jules Becker**.

Monica Clyde, who coordinates the Institute's Work-in-Progress presentations, reported on the five meetings that were held this past year: **Maria Sakovich** conducted a tour of her exhibit at the Richmond Museum of History; **Peter Mellini** reported on: "The Women of Punch"; **Frances Richardson Keller** discussed the new edition of the Anna Julia Cooper work that she had translated; **Kathleen Casey** presented work on her autobiography, *Dry Fruit*; and **Ellen Huppert** talked about her family history study, "Singing For Their Supper." The next Work-in-Progress is scheduled for March 26, with a presentation by **Judith Strong Albert**. Volunteers were solicited for future sessions, as well as members willing to act as hosts.

Reports from the Institute's study groups were then presented. **Joanne Lafler** reported for the History-Play Readers. Over the course of the year, the group read six plays, and the group is now finishing *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* by August Wilson. The group will be attending a performance of Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean* at the American Conservatory Theatre on March 5. **Jules Becker** spoke for the California Round Table, which meets four times a year and offers presentations of current research relating to the history of California and the West. This past year, **Monica Clyde**, **Ann Harlow**, and **Joanne Lafler** gave presentations. On May 6, **Malcolm Barker** will talk about the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. **Lorrie O'Dell** outlined the various presentations of the Medieval History Study Group, which ranged from medieval food (with samples served), court entertainment, the Peasant's War of 1387, the tombs of St. Denis Cathedral, and medieval traveling. In **Jeanne McDonnell's** absence, the Biography Group's report was presented by **Joanne Lafler**. The group's seven members, who are actively writing biographies, present pieces of their work at the meeting for comment and discussion. All agree that the support received from the group has been invaluable.

The "Media" staff was then called on to reported on the NEWSLETTER, our e-mail lists, and our web site. As editor, **Lorrie O'Dell** explained the changes she had made to the newsletter and the additional features, such as the short essays. She encouraged all members to submit information for publication. However, since the newsletter is published only four times a year, it cannot be used for announcements. That service is done by e-mail. According to **Lorrie**, about 85 names are on the e-mail list. Besides the Work-in-Progress announcements, e-mail is used to send information on interesting web sites, locations of various archives, upcoming programs and conferences, call for papers, and any other information of interest to the membership. **John Rusk**, our webmaster, reported that our site receives between 35 and 40 hits a day, with interest in playwrights and Juana Briones leading the list. Also, there are links to other sites, particularly the personal web sites of various members. **John** will be happy to add a link to any member's site.

Afternoon Session – ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Ellen announced two upcoming Institute programs: on Wednesday, April 19, the Institute will be presenting a program with the San Francisco Public Library on the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, with presentations by **Malcolm Barker** and **Joanne Lafler**; on May 13, the members will be invited to tour the J. Porter Shaw Maritime Library at Fort Mason.

Finally, before the meeting broke for lunch, the election for the new Board of Directors was held: **Ellen Huppert**, **Peter Mellini**, **Gretta Mitchell**, and **Edee Piness** were elected to two year terms; **Jules Becker**, **Ann Harlow**, **Ellen Huppert**, **Lorrie O'Dell**, and **Nancy Zinn** were elected to the 2007 Nominating Committee.

After lunch, **Anne Homan** and **Maria Sakovich** presented "Local History: A Conversation in Three Parts." Part One was the definition of 'local' history. A variety of books had been placed earlier on a display table, each with a number. Everyone was asked to complete a form saying whether they thought each numbered book was 'local' history or not. The point was quickly made that defining 'local' history was not easy. Discussion focused around such ideas as whether a biography could be considered local if the person's life encompassed various locales. One position was that all history is local. Another idea was that if the work was written for a local audience, it was local.

Anne Homan then read some excerpts from her upcoming history of the city of Livermore, which is focused on ordinary inhabitants of the city from the past and the present. The issue was finding the appropriate sources. One question she asked was how the town identified itself – for Livermore, it's the flagpole in the center of the main intersection in the city: a 104 foot pole with a 40 foot flag. It was 'inaugurated' in 1905 with a parade, and is still referred to as the center of town.

Maria Sakovich described her perception of local history as looking at local events against the background of major historical events or trends. Using examples from five books (Gilliam Tindall's *Celestine*; Sergei Schmemann's *Echoes of a Native*

Land; Laurel Thatcher Ulrich's *A Midwife's Tale*; Kenneth Kann's *Comrades and Chicken Farmers*; Shirley Anne Moore's *To Place Their Deeds*) plus her own work, Maria proposed that local history is "very much tied to a specific place or location, a geographic entity. . . . partly in jest, I would suggest that a good local history must have a map."

Part Two of the presentation focused on how local history is done and what sources scholars can find to be most useful. **Anne** stressed the importance of various resources such as family papers, census records, newspaper indexes, local library archives, and personal reminiscences. To show the great variety of useful sources, a list (which will be copied and circulated to members) had been posted on a board.

Maria stressed the need to go beyond the immediate story and to work with the historical background – work of other scholars, the broader canvas presented by town hall records such as tax lists, court documents, even what medical records might be available. Oral histories and personal interviews are also important, as well as the 'hidden histories' of unique subjects.

The presentation ended with Part Three, why write local history. For both **Anne** and **Maria**, the reasons were both personal and professional. **Anne** enjoyed the "emotional reward of finding little gems" that connect us with the details of the past. For **Maria**, there is the longing to reclaim the past, to reveal the hidden histories of her local subjects.

The meeting closed with an expression of great appreciation for **Anne** and **Maria**, and all those who had helped make the Annual Membership Meeting a success.

Lorrie O'Dell

GROUP REPORTS

HISTORY-PLAY READERS

Over the past three months, the History Play-Readers read three plays about Cleopatra and her Roman lovers. The first was Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*. We had the pleasure of watching parts of the delightful (if not well received at the time) 1945 film version with Vivien Leigh and Claude Rains. We then moved to Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*; however, we did not view the 1963 blockbuster with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. Finally, we read *All for Love, or A World Well Lost* by John Dryden. In this dignified late 17th century play, there is an ahistorical scene where Antony's wife Octavia confronts Cleopatra.

The group then moved precipitously from Ancient Egypt to the 20th century and read August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. The setting for the play is a recording studio in Chicago in 1927 where Ma Rainey's musicians discuss their employer and their lives. It is not so much about the blues singer herself, but rather a stunning portrait of the stresses and hardships of life for Blacks in that era. Wilson set himself the monumental task of illustrating the 20th century Black American experience through a cycle of ten plays, each of which is set in a different decade. On March 5, the History Play-Readers will attend an ACT performance of *Gem of the Ocean*, which, although among the last of the ten plays to be written, is set in 1904. In it, the first adult generation of free-born Blacks mixes with their once enslaved elders. Our group had intended to read the play, but it has not yet been published! After completing *Ma Rainey* at the next meeting, the group will read Edward Albee's one act play, *The Death of Bessie Smith*. Anyone interested in joining is most welcome.

BIOGRAPHY WRITERS GROUP

Reports were received from various members of the group. **Ellen Huppert** is reworking the section about Barton Taylor's youthful politics. He expressed support for the Liberty party in 1842 and for an antislavery candidate for the national election

in 1848. The University of Iowa has expressed interest in **Autumn Stanley's** biography of Charlotte Smith, *More Hell and Fewer Dahlias*, so she is busy creating, and trying to keep up with the e-mails from one of Charlotte's descendants, who has subscribed to Ancestry.com and is busy mining it for all sorts of new tidbits. **Jeanne McDonnell** explained her system regarding visuals. She has three computer categories for the Juana Briones biography: a list of illustration captions in sequence; full chapters with captions embedded appropriately in the text; and a list of all illustrations organized by source. She also has a paper file with photocopies of illustrations. **Joanne Lafler** reports that she has discovered new information about Harry Lafler's personal and professional association with urban planner Werner Hegemann in 1913-14, which caused her to move this discussion to a later chapter. She shared some of these pages with the group. She has been in contact with the author of a recently-published book about Hegemann (talk about serendipity!), with whom she shared the transcripts of Hegemann's letters to Lafler in December 1914 and January 1915. This has been a wonderful instance of scholarly quid pro quo.

MEDIEVAL STUDY GROUP

Due to holiday travels and scheduling conflicts, the Medieval History Group has only one meeting to report over the last three months. However, it was one of our most enjoyable. Our small group of members 'traveled' to **Nancy Zinn's** home to hear her presentation on 'Medieval Travel' – the hows, whys, and wheres of people who traveled either locally or over the mountains and across the sea. Using a combination of secondary and primary sources, **Nancy** described the difficulties of movement either by land or by water. Land travelers could move no faster than either a horse or their feet could carry them. Carriages were uncomfortable and rare; those who could afford to preferred to ride either a horse or a mule. Most roads were more like paths, and their condition depended on the weather; even horses would get bogged down in the mud.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

People traveled for a variety of reasons: trips to market days; transportation of goods; pilgrimages; occasions such as weddings, christenings, and funerals; actors traveling from town to town, monks and members of the clergy; government officials, beggars, and what we would call the homeless. It was safer to travel in groups, as described in Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. Inns along the way provided accommodations, but rooms and even beds were usually shared. In unfamiliar territory, a guide could be hired; Marjorie Kempe did so when crossing the Alps. Journeying by ship, particularly to the Holy Land, was both uncomfortable and dangerous. Travelers had little space or food on the ship, the weather could be treacherous, and there was always the danger of pirates.

NEW MEMBERS

Jacqueline Pels (Jackie) is an editor and writer, with a degree in journalism from UC Berkeley, and has worked at the *San Francisco Chronicle*. While working at the paper, she began publishing books of first-person history under the imprint Hardscratch Press. Jackie is from Kenai, Alaska, and currently is working on the eighty-year history of a home for Native-American children in Alaska. She came to the Institute through former president Anne Homan, whose book on Livermore history she is editing and publishing. Jackie attended the annual meeting and was enthusiastically welcomed by the members present.

Thomas L. Snyder is a physician and surgeon who practiced in Martinez. He served as a staff medical officer on seagoing vessels, with a year in the South China Sea, as part of his military reserve service. Currently he is researching and writing on the history of the U. S. Naval Hospital at Mare Island, CA. He is also working on various aspects of U. S. Naval medicine including hospitals and the treatment of the insane in the 19th century. He has published on these subjects in medical and local journals. He comes to the Institute through Georgia Wright and the National Coalition of Independent Scholars, whose Board he has since joined.

Francesca Miller will speak at a plenary session of the Latin American Studies Association International Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 18, on "One Hundred Years of Feminism and Internationalism in the Americas." She will also participate in a workshop on the revision of the text *Capital, Power and Inequality in Latin America* (Westview Press, 1995); her chapter is "Latin American Women and the Search for Social, Political and Economic Transformation."

Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum has a book in progress: *The Future has an Ancient Heart: Legacy of the Transformation of Primordial African Migrations to All Continents*. The book is a sequel to *Dark Mother; African Origins and Godmothers* (iUniverse, 2001);. Currently, she is on sabbatical from her post at California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco where she is Professor of Philosophy and Religion in the program on Women's Spirituality. She will be in Italy doing research for her upcoming book.

Karen Offen reports that her two articles concerning the once-famous, now forgotten French feminist Madame Ghenia Avril de Sainte-Croix are in publication. One article came out in French and the other will be published in English. Also, the International Museum of Women's new project, which will be launched on March 8 (International Women's Day) is "Imagining Ourselves," a web-based amazing event. The accompanying book is featured in the readers' recommendations of the new March issue of O Magazine (Oprah Winfrey's mag). Check it all out at www.imow.org.

Although **Hildi Kang's** research on Korea's Queen Sindeok is reaching completion, it has been interrupted by the need to finish an earlier manuscript. *Korean Lineage Record: A Chain Across Time* has been accepted for publication by the Edwin Mellen Press of Lewiston, New York, a press that specializes in books for research libraries around the world. In order to complete the work needed on this manuscript, her status as a visiting Scholar at the Center for Korean Studies, Berkeley, has been extended for another year.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Leslie Friedman has been awarded a Senior Lectureship Fulbright. She has been invited to choreograph and teach at the National Academy of Theater and Film in Sofia, Bulgaria. She also will perform her own work in Sofia and lead a seminar for the artists of the Academy.

Jody Offer's new play, *Devil's Due*, will open at the Village Theatre in Danville on June 9, running until June 24. Not strictly a history play, it is a comedy based (very loosely!) on Faust. The central figure is Grace Delaney, who has been home with her children for 20 years, and is having trouble being taken seriously for job interviews. The Devil is being played by Conrad Cady, who played Jack Az in her previous production, *Casino!*

Jeanne McDonnell reports that on February 15, the City of Palo Alto dedicated its renovation of Juana Briones Park, which contains information about Juana and about her era. A sizable audience attended, which should help raise interest in **Jeanne's** biography. She is under contract with the University of Arizona Press, the manuscript is now undergoing peer review, and the book may take as much as a year before it is out in the world. The Institute's biography writing group has been a great help with advice and encouragement.

Gretta Mitchell reports that her new book, *The Face of Poetry*, received a good review in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and that Elysian Editions has just published a Limited Edition Print of 300 portraits. Check **Gretta's** web site for more information. (margarettamitchell.com). On April 27, the Mechanics Institute Library in San Francisco is sponsoring a reading by poets featured in the book, and **Gretta** will show slides, with a portion of the photographic exhibition on the walls.

Judith Strong Albert, Frances Richardson Keller, and Joanna Menezes are preparing a presentation for the Western Association of Women conference at Asilomar in May, titled "Putting Ourselves on Paper: Where Autobiography, Biography, Fiction in History and History in Fiction Meet." Also, two of **Judith's** book reviews are forthcoming in the *Women's Studies International*

Journal: A review of Gloria Revilla Doyle's *The Journey Not Chosen* and a joint review of Geraldine Brooks's *March*, and William Martin's *Harvard Yard*, two American history novels. **Judith** says that "Writing reviews is lots of good work, a way of procrastinating writing my own autobiography/novel."

Georgia Wright will be giving a paper entitled "Some Gothic Heads and Nuclear Science" at the Medieval Association of the Pacific meeting in March in Salt Lake City, as well as the National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS) conference in Princeton in June. She will read an expanded version of the paper at a colloquium to be held in conjunction with the exhibition "Facing the Middle Ages" at the Metropolitan Museum in October. A version of her video "Medieval Sculpture and Nuclear Science" will be shown in the gallery (the exhibit will run from this September through February of 2007). She's contributed an introduction and five entries to the section of the catalogue dedicated to the heads that have been analyzed by neutron activation by the Limestone Sculpture Provenance Project. The project has been transferred from Brookhaven National Laboratory to the Missouri University Research Reactor. Georgia's job now is to publicize the project once again, to find the art historians who could make use it, and inevitably to raise grant money.

Celeste Lipow MacLeod's book, *Multiethnic Australia: Its History and Future*, will be published by the McFarland Co., Jefferson, North Carolina and London in Spring 2006. The book shows how and why Australia, once predominantly British, opened its door to peoples from some 240 nations and places. It describes the country's multicultural policy, which encourages immigrants, and the indigenous people, to retain their traditional cultures while being loyal Australians. The last chapters place the country in the context of world events such as the rise of China, the Bali bombings and the arrival of boat refugees from Middle Eastern countries. Celeste thanks Institute members for helpful feedback on the book at Work-in-Progress sessions .

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Malcolm E. Barker says he has been busy for almost a year dealing with the approaching 100 year anniversary of the 1906 earthquake and fire. During that time he worked closely with two television documentaries that are due to air in April. One will be on the History Channel and the other on the National Geographic Channel. Hopefully, the latter will also be aired on PBS stations. Malcolm's 1998 book, *Three Fearful Days: San Francisco Memoirs of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire*, has recently been reissued in a limited, hardcover edition to mark the centennial. In October he gave a lecture, "Through the Eyes of the Survivors," at both Stanford University and UC Berkeley. On April 29 he will talk and show slides at Milpitas Community Library. Apparently, interest in the centennial is not limited to California. In February, **Malcolm** was one of the people interviewed by Mats Carlsson Lenart for his show on National Swedish Radio. On April 21, **Malcolm Barker** will be recognized as a Literary Laureate by the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library. At this annual gala dinner, the Friends honor a group of Bay Area authors.

On April 23, **Oscar Berland** will be giving a talk to the Bay Area Labor History Workshop titled "Aborted Revolution -- the San Francisco Labor Upsurge of 1885-1886: the Role of the International Workingmen's Association in the Formation of the San Francisco Labor Movement." Contact Oscar for information as to the location.

Ellen Huppert will present her paper "Singing for Their Supper: A Michigan Family's Southern Tour in 1851-1852" at the Nineteenth Century Studies Association conference in Salisbury, Maryland, in March. This was the paper she presented as a Work-in-Progress in January.

IN MEMORIAM

Former Institute member John Brunn died January 17, 2006. John taught for many years at Chabot College, specializing in the History of Science. The Institute sends its condolences to his family.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MORE LOCAL EARTHQUAKE PROGRAMS

1906 Earthquake and Fire Tours. In honor of the 1906 earthquake and fire centennial anniversary, special earthquake tours of the Barbary Coast Trail will be led every Saturday morning in April, 10 am to noon. Meet at the Old U.S. Mint, Fifth and Mission Streets

San Francisco is Burning: The Untold Story of the 1906 Earthquake & Fire, April 18, Main SF Library Koret Auditorium., 6 pm--8 pm. Dennis Smith, author of *San Francisco is Burning*, will discuss the 1906 earthquake and its aftermath.

The Oakland Museum of California remembers the seismic catastrophe that rocked the Bay Area 100 years ago with **Aftershock! Voices from the 1906 Earthquake and Fire**, April 1--August 13. The 4,000-square-foot exhibition, with more than 250 artifacts and photographs, is the largest in California dedicated to the centennial of the earth-shaking events of April 18, 1906.

The California Historical Society Exhibition, **Jack London and the Great Earthquake and Fire-storm of 1906**, runs until June 10. The exhibition features photographs taken by Jack and his wife Charmian in the days following the earthquake.

City Guides is offering three free walking tours with the 1906 earthquake as a theme. (The tours are free but donations are requested.)

1906--It Can't Happen Here: Sundays at 1 pm (1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays) and Mondays (2nd Mondays). Meet at the park on Market Street and Ecker (between 525 and 555 Market Street).

1906-Phoenix Rising: Wednesdays at 1 pm and Saturdays at 1 pm (1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays. Meet at Memorial Court, Fulton and Franklin.

1906--Are We There Yet?: Fridays (3rd Friday) and Saturdays (2nd, 4th, and 5th Saturdays). Meet at the Officers' Club and Visitor Center, the Presidio.

CALENDAR

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| March 26 | Work-in-Progress – Judith Strong Albert, Frances Richardson Keller, Joanna Menezes |
| April 19 | San Francisco 1906 Earthquake Program, San Francisco Public Library |
| April 23 | Work-in-Progress – Dave Rosen |
| May 6 | California Round Table – Malcolm Barker |
| May 13 | Tour of the J. Porter Shaw Maritime Library at Fort Mason. |
| June 18 | Work-in-Progress – Hildi Kang |

Members are encouraged to let us know all their news – a paper being given at a conference; a new job or position; the awarding of a grant or fellowship. Please send all material for the NEWSLETTER either by e-mail to lorrie@galleyslaves.com or to the Institute's postal address given below. Also, we welcome the opportunity to review members' newly published books. Contact **Autumn Stanley** at autumn2_dave@compuserve.com. The deadline for the next NEWSLETTER is **MAY 31**.

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