The Institute for Historical Study Newsletter

Volume VI, No. 3 May-June, 1985

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nancy McCauley and Agnes Peterson organized a lunch meeting at the Stanford Faculty Club in April in an effort to plan some local programming for Peninsula members. Nancy had polled all area members about their preferences for programs, and the lunch meeting enabled the fourteen of us to discuss them. Agnes and Elena Danielson talked about some of the archival treasures in the Hoover Library, a topic that riveted the group. Recently discovered is a diary of the Russian Revolution, written by a man of French extraction who compared the Russian leaders to their French Revolutionary counterparts. Agnes is studying a letter from a group of Socialist-Pacifist women in Ohio, written to offer moral support to Rosa Luxemburg when she was in prison during the First World War. Clearly, it is time for an orientation to the Hoover Library.

There are enough members on the Peninsula to sustain several programs per year there, especially if we reach out to Stanford and to the Center for Research on Women. It would be possible, too, to have programs in the Davis-Sacramento area. If some member would propose a work-in-progress or a roundtable discussion and would find a site, we will do the mailing. Bay Area members will come if it is on the week-end. We would like to help our members in Los Angeles, too, but someone there would have to identify other groups so as to flesh out an audience. Any volunteers? Call Mary Agnes Dougherty.

Several Institute members attended the brilliant opening of Gretta Mitchell's exhibition, "Dance for Life: the Bay Area Legacy of Isadora Duncan," at the Oakland Museum. Gretta has mounted a striking exhibition focused on activities at the Temple of Wings, that enchanting early Berkeley Romantic classical building on Buenavista that might be considered the "objective correlative" of California philosophy at the turn of the century, which emphasized outdoor life, natural movement in unrestricting garments, self-expression, and vaguely Greek ideals. The exhibit contained drawings of the original Temple, which predicted Saarinen's TWA terminal at JFK airport (I suppose because both were inspired by birds' wings), photos of Isadora dancing before the Parthenon, and Gretta's lovely photos of children dancing in the colonnade of the Temple of Wings. At the opening we witnessed Lori Bellilove dance in the style of Isadora, making the photos come to life. Gretta's dazzling multi-media show documented the transition from past to present. The Institute was the aegis under which this wonderful event was produced. (Athena was never a fiscal agent; she wore an aegis and we'll use that term.)

One of Gretta's most popular photographs from the exhibition was donated by Gretta and the Institute to the KQED auction with the idea of giving both Gretta and the Institute some publicity. Our members acted as volunteers at the auction in our newly designed, very sober tee-shirts. We are looking for new members who might like to interrupt their TV-watching to return to historical research and writing.

I just returned from the XXth International Congress of Medieval Studies where 1200 Medievalists collected at Western Michigan University to give 1000 papers. My badge had been typed without affiliation, so I wrote the Institute's name in large block letters and waited for the unwary to ask what *that* was. Along with my spiel each received a brochure or a *Newsletter,* and, at a late, lively party thrown by the American Numismatics Society, I think I signed up two new members and pushed two old promises toward some action. We do need new members. Please be sure you list the Institute when giving a paper and write the name on your badge if it is omitted. We can arm you with extra *Newsletters* and brochures, if you wish. The names and addresses you collect should be passed on to Deborah Frangquist, keeper of the mailing lists.

We can also use donations. We have kept our dues low and our budget slim, so that we do not have much of a cushion for extra mailings, dues assistance, and the inexorable rises in costs. Non-members on the mailing list will be receiving requests for donations, too, but you may notice that you have received no four-page appeal in our name from some Hollywood actress. A postcard will have to do.

—Georgia Wright

SPECIAL EVENT

VE Day Program

In an unusual investigation of political history through the medium of cinematographic evidence, Richard Raack illustrated the manipulative Soviet attitude toward the Western Allies by means of film coverage of the Fall of Berlin and the signing of the surrender of Germany. His public lecture, "The End of the War in Europe through Rose-Colored Lenses," held May 3, at San Francisco

State University under Institute auspices, argued that the distortions, transpositions, and elaborate staging of the films made during the final days of WWII, and released shortly thereafter, constitute "a significant example of disinformation at the height of the sweetness of victory." When the examination of "documentary" films reveals a constantly shuffled montage of falsely described scenes and re-enactments of historical events, the inquiring historian must ask himself about the purpose of the charade.

Richard traced this "disinformation" through the cinematographic representation of the fall of the Reichstag, the climactic scene of the Soviet film, "The Battle of Berlin," produced in numerous versions for international distribution in the late 40's. The first scene shows artillery bombardment accompanied by the commentator's voice (in Richard's simultaneous interpretation):

> "Berlin. The battle for the Reichstag. . . Hitler's Chancellory has already fallen. . ."

"It fell two days *later,*" explained Richard, "but is reversed here." He explained the hagiographic purpose of the distortion by pointing to Generalissimo Stalin's public order to his generals, "Take Berlin and plant the flag of victory on the Reichstag!" Although Hitler's Chancellery, the ancillary target, was the supreme headquarters of the Nazi government, the Reichstag represented the final victory as the fulfillment of Stalin's will.

Next, the Reichstag building is shown. We watch the steps of the building; small groups of armed soldiers dart forward in halting, irregular runs; each disappears into a door. Then a couple of crouching soldiers come up, carrying a large flag. We switch to the roof; a group of six or so soldiers are standing near the sculpture of Victory. The music swells; the flag flies. This reviewer felt a moment of great exhilaration. The final defeat of the fascist world-order has been accomplished. Three times the narrator repeats the words of Marshall Stalin.

Richard Raack gave three reasons to support his conclusion that we had in fact watched a reconstruction and not the real event. The arguments were simple: at 8:15 p.m. Middle European time, the purported time of the flag raising, it was too dark for camera equipment to record what is shown in the film. The sky in the film was perfectly clear, with no fires burning or shells bursting. There were cars and trucks driving in the streets below. Furthermore, only two veterans were decorated as the ones who placed the flag, two men honored at Russian celebrations nowadays, a fact which conflicts with the scene in the film showing six or more people tying the flag to the sculpture.

Richard continued, showing dozens of invented incidents, inversions of facts, and intriguing lacunae. In one film, showing General Zhukov accepting the surrender of German generals, his name was never even mentioned, having fallen out of favor with Krushchev. In the middle of the American version of the Battle of Berlin, a scene of fraternization between American and Soviet troops along the Elbe River is inserted, with complete disregard for chronology or story line.

The mass of cinematographic distortions provide evidence, Richard concluded, of the attitude among Soviet leaders towards the West. Distrustful of foreigners,

Putting the flag of victory on the Reichstag, allegedly April 30, 1945, one of 4 (faked) scenes of the moment of victory. (from the Soviet film, "The Battle of Berlin," 1945 version)

Marshall Zhukov "in the trenches" before Berlin. (from the 1945 version of the film) Though the picture appeared in the later 1967 version, there was no mention of his name because he had fallen out of favor.

scornful of any historic obligation to truthfulness, and obsessed by a desire to maximize benefits to Soviet purposes, Stalin and his lieutenants revealed in their "documentaries" their hostility to any meaningful postwar cooperation. Richard acknowledged that film coverage of military events by the West was shaded also, but emphasized the strongly manipulative character of all Soviet productions.

The film evidence is only a part of a large body of data Richard, professor of history at Cal State Hayward, has collected showing Soviet dishonesty at the beginning of the Cold War. He will document this in a forthcoming book, which he hopes will correct the errors of wishful thinking on the part of Western revisionist historians. Equally important, the show demonstrated the desirability of historians' participation in cinematographic retrospectives of the most destructive of modern conflicts.

—Michael Meo

DIALOGUE

What's Women's History Worth?

We, the members of your Newsletter's editorial board, have been wondering how you, the membership-at-large, tend to perceive gender-related issues in historical research. This month we do so aloud, through the contribution that follows, inviting frank and uninhibited debate in these pages. We open the lists eager to hear, in particular, from the men of the Institute and in the belief that our diverse, independent and wide-ranging audience may well enter the fray fresher than many another, fatigued and scarred by acrimonious faculty battles.

In response to our question: "What has been, or could be, the contribution of women's studies to the larger discipline of history?" we received this initial commentary from Kathleen Casey, former Interim Director of Women's Studies at UCLA:

"As one whose professional academic life once revolved almost entirely around women's history, I confess to having bothered to ask myself whether I was being accepted into the profession, or not. I was interested in the subject, and that was enough.

On mature reflection now, and at some distance from the issue, I can perceive two inextricably connected reasons why the majority of historians have not flocked to talk with practitioners of women's history. We are highly specialized, and we lack basic texts.

Justifiably anxious to make sure our preserve was not fobbed off as a fad, we labored to hone our theoretical frameworks, our publication standards, our forensic excellence. We succeeded all too well. We gained respect—from a safe distance. We created the prestigious Berkshire Conference and the journal *Signs*. We "dialogued" earnestly, meticulously, amongst ourselves. And as our stock rose, we became another establishment to which entry without accepted credentials was hard even for women, let alone for men. After the first few heady years of the late 1960s and early 1970s of free-for-all exploration, it took a lot of nerve and muscle to assault the

perimeters of our developing territories. This was not just due to feelings that the "Other" did not have the proper sensibilities to tackle "Our" issues (although, granted, some such sentiments were prevalent, too). What we let unfold was really nothing new—just the same old history of professionalism running its course.

Perish the thought that "untrained" faculty be allowed to offer courses "about women"! "Let them try their hand...that's academic freedom," cried some. "But their theoretical background may be all wrong," protested others. "They'll be hacking away at open doors. What a drag to have to fill in background for newcomers, time and time again...!" You should have heard the outcry in a graduate women's history program that shall be nameless.

Perhaps we could change all that in an institution such as our own, of necessity more relaxed, more open about interdisciplinary exchanges and less defensive about out territory; we don't really have any. But suppose: our mellow approach works, and fellow historians break down our doors, pack our study circles...what introductory texts do we hand them to read? In women's history, there's no quick fix for the beginner.

In a decade and a half we have not been able to bring ourselves to the point of producing one single, complete, widely accepted narrative overview of American or European women's history, let alone a survey text on gender-based world history. Is it because we quake at the thought of woman-handling any hardy soul bent on synthesizing the growing mass of new factual material? Is it because our historiography is confused when it's not dogmatic, our hagiography depressingly iterative? Come now, these are not new problems! Let us spur our Institute forth to fulfill its manifest destiny as creator of the first and classic *History of Gendered Civilization.*"

—Kathleen Casey

CONFERENCE REPORTS

Western Association of Women Historians

The 17th annual conference of the Western Association of Women Historians took place at Mills College in Oakland, May 11-12. The Institute played a major role in both the organization of the event and its content. Lorrie O'Dell coordinated every detail of the event in her capacity as Program Chair, assisted by Joanne Lafler and Deborah Frangquist. Ellen Huppert and Francesca Miller served on the Program Committee chaired by Georgiana Davidson. Robert O'Dell assisted with program design.

Institute members chaired 13 out of 32 sessions: Judith Babbitts, Georgiana Davidson, Bonnie Ford, Joanna Gillespie, Elizabeth Griego, Grace Hawes, Ellen Huppert, Penny Kanner, Frances Keller, Phyllis Peet, Agnes Peterson, Lyn Reese, and Gail Sheridan.

Institute panelists were: Judith Albert, Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum, Sandria Freitag, Carole Hicke, Ann Marie Koller, Alison Lingo, Bogna Lorence-Kot, Nancy McCauley, Francesca Miller, Sylvia Sun Minnick, and Margaretta Mitchell.

Commentators were: Jane Bernard-Powers, Kathleen Casey, Ann Hagerman Johnson, Joanne Lafler, Grace Larsen, Joan Moon, Sylvia Meyers and Pat Sanders.

The conference program was distinguished by the presence of Jane DeHart Matthews, Director of Women's Studies and Professor of History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Joan Hoff Wilson, president of the Organization of American Historians; Grant Goodman, Professor of History at the University of Kansas, and Patricia Baillargeion, former personal secretary to Eleanor Roosevelt at the United Nations Association.

We can touch only briefly on a few of the many outstanding presentations. One unusual contribution was an oral history demonstration in form of a taped interview with Claire Giannini Hoffman, daughter of A. P. Giannini, founder of the Bank of America. Her commanding presence manifested not only talent and authority, but also an understanding of the hardship of a woman's life of her generation and a celebration of work and a life full of engagement. The taped recording of this oral history presentation will be made generally available once a suitable and permanent public location is found to house it. Frances Richardson Keller welcomes suggestions for an appropriate university library or archival collection.

Karen Offen and Judith Albert presented two interrelated papers contributing to a definition of feminism. Historical and sociological in its focus and methodology, Offen's paper, entitled "Toward an Historical Definition of Feminism," focused upon the changing meaning of feminism over time and the contradictory strands of feminism which have co-existed during the same period.

Karen concentrated on two strands of feminism which are most important to present-day discourse: Anglo-American and French feminist traditions. Anglo-American feminism draws its ideas and ideals from the radical individualist tradition which stresses individual and legal rights over the needs and claims of the group.

In contrast, the French tradition, which Offen calls relational feminism, stresses equality in difference between the sexes regarding biological function and social role. This tradition draws its strength from the centrality of the family to French thought and the French economy.

Notwithstanding the apparent differences, Karen pointed out that there are three criteria basic to both strands of feminism: 1. recognition of the validity of female experience and an acknowledgement of the values women state as theirs as opposed to men; 2. awareness of institutionalized injustice toward women as a group by men as a group; 3. advocate the elimination of that injustice. Applying these criteria we can come to an understanding of feminism in cultures outside our own and "reintegrate individualistic claims into a relational framework."

Judith Albert's paper, entitled "Toward a Philosophical Definition of Feminism," looked at the philosophical underpinnings of feminist arguments past and present in an attempt to come to grips with the polarity between the sexes. Her presentation focused upon individual perceptions of several women thinkers and writers. After a brief course in past feminist philosophy considering the views of Christine de Pisan, Mary Wollstonecraft, Margaret Fuller, and Simone de Beauvoir, Albert turned to the more recent ideas of Nancy Chodorow and Helene Cixoux.

Cixoux, a post-structuralist thinker, emphasizes the importance of language in creating sexuality. Women write themselves into being. Feminism for Cixoux is a synthesis of self and language.

Chodorow, a post-Freudian thinker, attempts to prove that from the very start biology is influenced by social patterns reinforcing systems in which women mother. Change would come by changing the primary mothering figure from female to male.

During the discussion period which followed, it was agreed that there can never be a single definition of feminism. Feminism is many different things, and yet there is a common strand running through all its manifestations past and present. And finally, there emerged the need to define feminism in terms of its practical application in particular instances.

Unlike the Berkshire conference, whose sessions sometimes are disturbingly confrontational, the WAWH conference radiated the warmth of regard felt by panelists for each other and for their subjects. Following a decade of debate as agitated and acerbic as any elsewhere, our particularly fortunate situation appears to have guided us toward a mature appreciation of the value of "gentle persuasion."

Sessions with a divergent approach, notably those looking at Latin-American and late medieval European women sharpened the perception of this dominant pattern, precisely because such women were and are so manifestly in another place altogether.

—Kathleen Casey and Alison Lingo

Biographers Meet in Stanford

The Biographers' Symposium, sponsored by the Associates of Stanford University Libraries, convened April 20 on the Stanford University Campus. It was a spirited and only occasionally frustrating affair. Frustrating was having to decide among so many interesting seminars for the two morning and one afternoon sessions.

I heard Jim and Sybil Stockdale describe how they wrote *In Love and War*, the story of their war-time marriage and long separation. Next on to David Horowitz, who gave an amazing behind-the-scenes portrait of people and events in *The Kennedys* (co-authored by Peter Collier). He charmed us with his quick wit, careful research and the ability to elicit minute but significant details and long-kept secrets simply by asking the right questions at the right time.

Then came the animated (and somewhat overpriced) luncheon, redeemed by 'Bobby' Lewis, who talked about his autobiographical diary reflecting his 50 years as teacher, actor and Broadway director.

For the third seminar I picked Tennessee Williams' biographer, Donald Spoto, another lucky choice. Without glossing over the misery and squalor of Williams' last years, Spoto concentrated on his subject's earlier accomplishments and the tremendous impact he had on the American theater.

Fortunately some of the authors I had to miss, took part in the next event: a panel discussion. I was particularly gratified when some of the panelists answered the question inevitably asked of biographers: "But how can you *know* when you weren't there?" They answered simply and authoritatively: "Because I do know . . ."

This last event finished, everyone left for a wine/cheese and book-signing reception.

—Ilse Sternberger

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

April, 1985

Angie Debo is an indomitable woman who can serve as a model to independent scholars. At a work-in-progress held April 14 at the home of Mary Agnes Dougherty, Glenna Matthews introduced Debo to Institute members and friends. A taped interview, some printed materials, and most importantly, Glenna's account of how she came to discover and document the work of this remarkable woman, made Angie Debo come alive.

Glenna Matthews taught for seven years at Oklahoma State University, and it was there that she first encountered references to Debo, a native daughter of the state. She visited Debo at her family home in the tiny town of Marshall, where she has lived most of her life. Debo was at first reluctant to be taped, claiming that at the age of 90 and more, her memory was too poor. Yet Glenna persisted, spurred on by Debo's clear recollection of the master's thesis she had written over fifty years earlier. The result is 27 hours of oral history tapes now deposited in the Oklahoma State Library. A film based on her life and work was shown at conferences of both the Organization of American Historians and the Council of Public History in April. The lead article in the forthcoming OAH Newsletter, co-authored by Glenna, will be further recognition of Debo's accomplishments.

The work that Glenna has been instrumental in documenting is a remarkable accomplishment: Debo has published nine books, most of them on the history of the Indians of the Southwest, plus many articles and book

reviews, all listed in a bibliography published in 1984 by the Oklahoma State Library. This list of publications would do credit to an academic historian enjoying the institutional support accompanying such a position. Yet Debo never held a permanent college position; in fact she lost her job working with secondary school teachers when her book, *The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic,* won the Dunning Prize.

Debo's life was spent finding the means to carry out her research and writing. Born in Kansas in 1890, she moved to Oklahoma with her parents in a covered wagon in 1899. Her taped account of early days in the Territory reflects both her vivid memory of that time and her historical sense of what was characteristic and significant for all pioneer life. When Debo was growing up, there was no high school education available in Oklahoma. She conquered that problem by taking whatever courses were available one year, then teaching for a year or two, and again returning to high school when further courses became available.

Completing high school at age 23, Debo went on to college at the University of Oklahoma. Her success there led her to look for a suitable graduate school, and she chose the University of Chicago. Debo's M.A. Thesis on isolationism in the early Republic was published. Although her instructors believed her to be one of their most talented students, she was unable to find a college teaching position. Instead she went to Texas to teach secondary teachers.

Eventually she returned to graduate school in Oklahoma with the intention to study international relations. Instead she found a mentor in Edward Everett Dale, a student of Turner, who suggested that she explore the archival material on the Indians in the area. That led to her life-long work on Indian history, which included books documenting the mistreatment of Indians by white settlers. In her 80's, Debo's interest was transformed into activism on behalf of Native American rights. In that role she helped write the Alaska Native Rights Act.

How was Debo able to accomplish so much with so little institutional support? Glenna Matthews pointed out the support Debo has always enjoyed from her local community, which has shown unflagging admiration and affection for her accomplishments. She supported herself in part by receiving grants of various kinds, including work on the Federal Writers' Project in the 30's, and occasional teaching assignments. Glenna suggests that Debo was perhaps fortunate in not having pursued a traditional academic career with its demands and stresses which women of her generation inevitably felt. Throughout her life Debo has maintained an optimistic attitude.

A particularly fitting tribute was accorded to Debo this spring when her portrait was unveiled in the Oklahoma Capitol building, the first woman to be so honored. It is to Glenna Matthews' credit that she was instrumental in bringing due recognition to this remarkable woman.

—Ellen Huppert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congress of Latin American Jewish Studies

The ninth Congress of Jewish Studies will take place in Jerusalem August 4–12, 1985. This is the first time that the prestigious Congress has designated sessions specifically for Latin American Studies.

Yechiel Szeintuch, professor of Yiddish at Hebrew University and chair of the arrangements committee, writes that some 50 researchers from around the world are expected to participate in the Latin American Sessions. They will be coming from countries around the world as far apart as Chile and Poland, Israel and the United States.

Further information on the conference may be obtained by writing to Yechiel Szeintuch, c/o Ninth World Congress of Jewish Studies, The Hebrew University, Givat Ram, Jerusalem 91903, Israel.

Need for Manuscripts

Wyndham Hall Press seeks short manuscripts for its *Scholastic Monograph Series,* designed primarily for the short-run publication of specialized titles in the humanities in the range of 40–125 pages. For guidelines contact the Series Editor, Wyndham Hall Press, P.O. Box 877, Bristol, Illinois 46507.

Nineteenth Century Study Group

At the last meeting of the 19th Century Study Group we discussed science and scientific thought in the 19th century focusing on theories of evolution. The group has a core of about 8 people meeting once a month at the home of Lyn Reese. Topic for the next meeting on June 23 will be the secularization of society. Call Lyn for further details: 524-0304.

New Historical Exhibit at the S.F. Jewish Community Museum

The most comprehensive pictorial exhibit ever assembled to document the history of the Jews in Germany has just opened at the San Francisco Jewish community Museum—the seventh exhibit since its founding last October. The exhibit will continue through August 25 and is so vast that several visits may be necessary to study it in depth.

Credit for it goes to Dr. Roland Klemig, Director of the Prussian Cultural Foundation's Picture Archives in Berlin. It is the follow-up to a 1979 exhibit he was asked to mount in memory of the glory of Prussia. To his surprise he found only two references to Jews, which seemed historically implausible. With the assistance of his wife

he started researching and discovered thousands of documents, some dating back to the early 13th century. "The single most impressive image," says Helaine Fortgang, the Museum's Director, "is the visual revelation that persecution of the Jews, usually associated solely with Hitler, was the rule throughout this 1000-year period."

The museum, located at 121 Steuart at the beginning of Market Street, is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the exception of Saturdays and Jewish holidays, and is free to the public.

—Ilse Sternberger

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Bancroft Readers' Roundtable

After one postponement in May, the Institute's Bancroft-Family-Papers Research Group gave an informal presentation at the Bancroft Readers' Roundtable on June 5 at the Men's Faculty Club on the U.C. Berkeley Campus.

Sharing their experiences were Elizabeth Griego, Joanne Lafler, Pat Sanders, Monica Clyde, and Annegret Ogden, research librarian at the Bancroft library, who also functions as advisor and resource person to the group. Topics investigated by members include "Women Educators," "The Role of Religion," "Art Collecting," and "The Literary Establishment."

At the last Bancroft Readers' Roundtable in May, Bonnie Hardwick, the new Head of Manuscripts at the Bancroft, had talked informally about the difficulty of indexing the vast collections. It is a money and time consuming job that seems never to end. The importance of having good indexes, however, was a glaring need expressed by all members of the Family-Papers-Group. Without proper indexes much time was wasted groping about while examining manuscripts that rendered little useful material. The result of their experiences in using original family papers, interesting and rewarding as it could be, points to some fundamental difficulty: the question of methodology; how to proceed in a somewhat efficient and effective manner, since all of us labor somewhat under time constraints. Members of the group came to the conclusion that what they had hoped to find was often not there. It is imperative to keep an open mind in approaching a manuscript collection and be flexible in considering a topic. Often a collection might lead to a different topic than originally planned.

There are definite limitations in basing research exclusively on what might be found in family papers. The last word is not in by any means. It takes a considerable investment in time and resourcefulness to utilize family papers to one's advantage. One cannot afford to be discouraged easily.

—Monica Clyde

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Ann Marie Koller has received one of two national prizes offered by the American Theater Library Association for an outstanding contribution to theater history. She received the award in May in New York. The book for which she was honored, *The Theater Duke: Georg II of Saxe-Meiningen and the German Stage* (Stanford, 1984), was reviewed in our September-October, 1984 issue.

In Montpellier, France, on April 3, Alison Lingo discoursed in French on "Santé et beauté feminines dans la France de la Renaissance" before the Congrès National des Sociétés Savantes. Participants at the recent WAWH conference at Mills College heard the English version of her paper in a panel on "Beauty and Bones: Women and Medicine in Early Modern Europe" and, according to Alison, pressed many more questions on the topic than did the French group. Much of her research was done in Paris at the Bibliothèque Nationale this Spring.

Frances Richardson Keller will assume leadership of the CCWHP (Coordinating Committee for Women in the Historical Profession) in December. She is currently CCWHP membership committee chair as well as vice president for liaison (and past president) of the Western Association of Women Historians. The CCWHP is a national group operating through its regionals, of which WAWH is one, in association with the American Historical Association.

Michael Meo is a charter member of the newly formed History of Astronomy Luncheon and Discussion Club, meeting quarterly at the Chabot College Science Center, 4917 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. The Center houses a historic pair of American made research telescopes. Institute colleagues interested in joining the Club's present complement of about 15 people may contact Michael for more details.

Mary Agnes Dougherty has been invited to make a presentation to the "Media Festival" at a national conference, "Workshop on the Recovery of Methodist Women's History at the Grassroots," sponsored by the United Methodist Church to be held at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, June 20-23. She will show two video productions, "The Deaconess Story" and "Remembering Katharine Maurer." Agnes will also discuss the research and production technique of a "grassroots" media creation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Agnes Peterson plans to discuss her investigation into the historical origins and "postal wanderings" of a February 1915 letter written by the Socialist Women's Meeting of Cashocton, Ohio, to Rosa Luxemburg, then imprisoned in Berlin. Members will receive a postcard announcing particulars about this Work-in-Progress which is scheduled for August on the peninsula.

NEW MEMBER

We would like to extend a warm welcome to *Ann Pinson,* whose application was approved by the Board at its May meeting. Ann holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from SUNY, Stony Brook, and a Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology from the U.C. School of Public Health. She has taught at Golden Gate University. She has received a number of research grants for field work in Iceland and has held postdoctoral fellowships in Alcohol Research at the U.C. School of Public Health and in Anthropology, Biomedicine, and Community Health departments at Brown University. Her historical scholarship is directed towards the study of alcoholism, the temperance movements, and alcohol production throughout Iceland's history and in 18th century Rhode Island. She has presented papers and has had numerous articles published, with one forthcoming on "Temperance, Prohibition and Politics in 19th century Iceland" in *Current Drug Problems.* Ann is also working on a book, *A Commune of the Far North: Hogar in Iceland.*

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our membership rather consistently stays at around 150 people. Normally there is an annual attrition rate of about 25 members which is countered by an addition of about the same number. As of this Spring, we have not received the usual number of applications. The membership committee, therefore, is including in this newsletter an information sheet and application form which they would like you to pass on to potential members. If you know the names of people to whom we should send an application and/or brochure, please contact Lyn Reese, Membership Chair.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Monica Clyde is editor for this issue as well as the next one. Deadline for submitting material to be included in the next *Newsletter* is July 25.

The positive feedback we received from readers regarding the inclusion of Dick Herr's "Buchenwald Letter" in our last issue is encouraging us to ask our membership to submit to the editor contributions of their own which would be suitable for our newsletter and of interest to our readership. Though we cannot guarantee that every contribution will be published, please contact Joanne Lafler if you have an idea or an item for publication in the *Newsletter.*

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1985

Georgia Wright, President
Sandria Freitag, Vice President
Deborah Frangquist, Treasurer
Mary Agnes Dougherty, Corresponding Secretary
William Bonds, Recording Secretary
Lyn Reese, Membership Chair
Jules Becker, Monica Clyde
Nancy McCauley, Lorrie O'Dell
Agnes Petersen

Editorial Board: Joanne Lafler, editor; Kathleen Casey, Alison Lingo, Ilse Sternberger, Joan Torykian, Michael Meo, Monica Clyde

The Newsletter is sent to all members. Non-members who wish to receive it and to get regular announcements of Institute events are invited to make tax deductible contributions to assist with the cost of printing and mailing.

Publication of the Newsletter is made possible through a grant from the L. J. and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation.

The Newsletter is the official publication of The Institute for Historical Study, a scholarly organization designed to promote the research, writing, and public discussion of history. Membership in the Institute is open to independent and academically affiliated scholars who are in agreement with its aims and who have a commitment to historical study. Membership inquiries should be sent to the Institute address.

The Institute for Historical Study
1791A Pine Street
San Francisco, California 94109
(415) 441-3759

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakland, CA
Permit No. 498

AN INVITATION

History hath triumphed over time,
which besides it nothing but
eternity hath triumphed over.

- Sir Walter Raleigh
Historie of the World

It's time for you to join

The Institute for Historical Study

Membership is open to independent and academically affiliated scholars who are in agreement with its aims and who have a commitment to historical study.

Your annual dues of $30.00 support:

1. This Newsletter
2. A program of public and membership oriented activities in the greater Bay Area.
3. The work of independent scholars -- including, perhaps, your own -- in many areas of history.

For more information contact Lyn Reese, Membership Chair. Dues assistance is available upon request.

☐ I want to join. Please send me application materials.

☐ I don't want to join at this time, but please accept my tax deductible contribution of $_____.

Make your check payable to: The Institute for Historical Study

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Return this slip to: Lyn Reese, Membership
The Institute for Historical Study
1791A Pine Street
San Francisco, CA 94109