

The Institute for Historical Study Newsletter

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Summer 1990

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Having just returned from an interesting and intriguing presentation by Victor Walsh of his work-in-progress on the writings of pre-Gold Rush overland immigrants [Ed. note: to be discussed in detail in the next issue], I am reminded of the importance of such sessions to the Institute and to our members. Scholars have the opportunity to present their work—in any phase of its development—to sympathetic yet critical audiences, and to receive commentary and helpful suggestions. Members and friends who attend these sessions have opportunities to expand existing knowledge or to learn something altogether new.

We have sponsored about 100 of these sessions over the last ten years, and they will continue to be a primary focus of the Institute. To give you a sense of the range of our members' interests: at a July meeting Ann Pinson will discuss households in Iceland; and in August, Jack Boas will talk about children's diaries from Nazi concentration camps. You will receive postcards with details about time and place. Members who would like to present their work at meetings in the fall should contact me in the evening, (415) 451-8682. And be sure to let me know how we can support your scholarly work in other ways.

Institute members will soon receive a copy of the annual financial report, along with the 1990-91 budget as adopted by the board of directors. You will note that our chief source of revenue is dues and donations. We urge you not only to pay your dues but to contribute whatever additional amounts you can afford. We also welcome the continuing support of our many non-member friends who receive the *Newsletter* and invitations to meetings.

—Lorrie O'Dell

TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

On Saturday, March 31, 62,000 Paul McCartney fans streamed into Berkeley for a concert in Memorial Stadium. Fighting their way through traffic jams and crowded BART trains, forty-five members and guests attended a banquet at the beautiful Hillside Club,

celebrating the tenth anniversary of The Institute for Historical Study. We hadn't intended the occasion to be quite so historic!

Following the social hour and a delicious dinner, President Lorrie O'Dell introduced the speakers, whose task it would be to tell us where we had come from, what we have accomplished, and what we can look forward to.

Prefacing her remarks by noting her nervousness at the prospect of relating "how it all started" in a room full of historians—"questions of origins being notoriously tricky, and eyewitness accounts of events being under suspicion at least since the time of Thucydides," Francesca Miller proceeded to fill in a number of important details about the founding of the Institute.

There was, first, the fateful encounter at the AHA meeting in December of 1978, when Penny Kanner introduced Paula Gillett and Francesca to Dorothy Helley and Marjorie Lightman, who had successfully launched the New York Institute for Research in History in 1976. A few months later, at a luncheon meeting, specific plans were laid for an organizational meeting to be held in Berkeley in October, to which scholars from all over California would be invited.

That meeting, however, "was nearly the end of us," for an argument developed "as to whether our still non-existent organization should rightfully be located in northern California or southern California." In the event, the chief impetus for organization emanated from northern California, and the first board of directors was elected in San Francisco in February 1980.

Founding the organization was only half the battle. Lacing her remarks with humorous asides, Francesca recounted the serious business of a search for institutional identity. ". . . the basic problem was that we did not know how to describe ourselves. We were trying to create something new. It is important to remember that when we first came together, many of us did not yet think of ourselves as independent historians; that came later. We came together because we were scholars engaged in the study and writing and discussion of history." In the late 1970s it was becoming clear that they would not be able to carry out that task as they had originally intended—from within the academy.

The search for identity involved rejecting the model of the Institute for Research in History, with its academic standards for membership and publication requirements, in favor of something more "Western" and inclusive. Not only were our members spread all over the greater Bay Area (with a sprinkling in other parts of the state), but they came from a variety of backgrounds. "Paula Gillett, our first president, was conducting a seminar on public history at Berkeley and brought a wealth of information on funding and state bodies such as the California Council for the Humanities, which at the time was seeking guidance for new programs in public history. Ellen Huppert, our second president, was involved in scholarly and educational projects in San Francisco. Lorrie O'Dell, our current president, knew librarians and archivists with active research and writing interests. Diane Pritchard had helped develop the Living History projects at Sutter Fort and Fort Ross. Jules Becker brought links to journalists, and a business perspective. Peter Mellini enthusiastically joined in with projects beyond the scope that his academic institution could support."

Francesca recounted how, after many meetings and much discussion, a sense of identity emerged. Like the Institute for Research in History, the Institute for Historical Study would project intellectual integrity, but there would also be a deep commitment to the practice and discussion of history in the larger community. Another important commitment would be the support of members' scholarly work. "The Institute for Historical Study was founded with a broad mandate," Francesca concluded, "and I believe that its vitality and strength lie in its dedication to diversity and community."

Jules Becker had the awesome task of summarizing ten years of Institute accomplishments in as many minutes—or thereabouts. He began by observing that he could very nearly take up ten minutes "solely reading a list of what the Institute has done in the past ten years: for its members, for a large number of non-affiliated historians whose non-affiliation also includes being non-affiliated with the Institute, and for the public at large."

His chief contribution, he added modestly, has been the continual admonition: "Don't lose money! Be careful of financial risks!" But despite his nagging, "the other members of the Board throughout the years listened attentively and patiently—and then went out and did what they wanted—to make the Institute a thriving, energetic, event-filled organization."

Among the events were dinners—"very little involves Institute programs that doesn't include food of quality, and a lot of it"—workshops, conferences, mini-courses, public programs, and the monthly work-in-progress meetings.

Among the highlights, Jules mentioned the dinners devoted, respectively, to Polish history, Latin American history, and history and humor, and a variety of workshops on subjects such as historians in the business world, publishing, methodologies, using historical photographs, independent scholars and taxes, grants and fellowships, and "Independent Scholarship for Love and Money." There were mini-courses on American business history, black and white relations, and French Revolution historiography; public programs on subjects such as historical resources in the state capitol, "Clio and the Law," "Berlin in the Twenties," Nazi propaganda films from East German archives, and last year's multi-dimensional program on the French Revolution.

Of course, no coverage of our activities would be complete without a review of our work-in-progress sessions, of which there have been approximately 100 since the Institute was formed. "These have ranged all over the map, all over the years," including: oral history projects, the history of cuisine, the life of a nineteenth-century Polish woman, medieval tombs, early Christian texts, Fourierism in nineteenth-century America, sixteenth-century medical practices, nineteenth-century feminism, and discussions of such films as *Reds* and *Gandhi*.

Jules recalled that the very first work-in-progress session combined two different topics and speakers: Sylvia Myers's presentation of her work on the blue-stocking movement, and Ruth Friedlander's discussion of her historical play about King Saul. "Right then, we realized that a work-in-progress session only provides time for one topic!" That pattern, followed for the most part ever since, has offered the collegiality that independent scholars need and that the Institute was organized to provide.

Among other accomplishments, Jules cited the *Newsletter*, under the editorial guidance of Joanne Lafler and Monica Clyde, which has a wide circulation beyond our membership and can be considered our "public relations arm."

He concluded his review of the first decade by mentioning continuing activities such as the nineteenth-century studies group, the history play reading group, the historical fiction writers group, and the Hoover Institution roundtable, meeting regularly at times convenient to the participants and providing a historical environment that may not be available elsewhere. "But that's what the Institute for Historical Study is all about. May we all be here ten years from now to consider another ten years of accomplishment."

Rounding off the evening program with a look at what the future holds, Anne MacLachlan began by making an analogy between the Institute and the reading societies that flourished throughout northern Europe at the end of the eighteenth century. Like the

Institute, these reading societies combined the pleasures of food, drink, and conviviality with the lively exchange of ideas.

Anne believes there will always be a place for organizations such as the Institute, even if the improved academic job market of the 1990s results in the production of fewer independent scholars. "No matter what happens to the employment situation, there will continue to be a pool of highly educated individuals who have chosen to live here and, as with the current membership, will be happy to have an organization such as the Institute to join. Independent scholars will not disappear, neither will the utility of an organization where one can present one's 'works in progress' and benefit from informed criticism."

A more important concern is the need to recruit active new members. Over the past ten years, she noted, the primary responsibility for planning and managing events has devolved upon a relatively small group of members. "These individuals essentially need to clone themselves in the form of new members in order for the Institute to move into the next decade with the same energy and enthusiasm." Confident that this will happen, Anne concluded by calling for a round of applause "for those who have done so much to make all of this possible."

The formal program having ended, members stayed for a while to chat informally before heading home—well before the exodus from Memorial Stadium. Paul McCartney's fans may be greater in number, but they are no more dedicated than those of us who came to Berkeley to celebrate the Institute for Historical Study.

—Joanne Lafler

KUDOS TO GEORGIA WRIGHT

This issue of the *Newsletter* might well be called the "Georgia Wright" issue. First, we are happy to announce that she is the winner of the Institute's second annual grant-in-aid to support a member's research. This year the grant, drawn from interest on our endowment, came to \$500, a sum that will enable Georgia to carry out the work on her video project, "The Vaults of Vézelay."

She plans to spend the month of October in France, supervising the filming of the historically and architecturally significant abbey church. The finished project will include a curriculum guide and will be aimed at both high school and college/university art history and Western Civilization courses. Georgia has applied for other grants to cover the enormous expenses of the project, but grants or no grants, she is determined to complete it. Thanks are due to the members of the San Diego Independent Scholars who

judged the applications for this year's grant. The excellence of all of the projects made the judges' decision difficult.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that in recognition of her work on the 1989 exhibit, "Views of the French Revolution," Georgia was nominated by the French Consulate of San Francisco for the *Palme Académiques*. You may now address her as "Sir," for the award, granted by the French Government in May, makes her a *Chevalier des Palmes Académiques*.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

Alison Lingo

At the home of Lorrie O'Dell, in April, Alison Lingo read a paper-in-progress that she will present at the 17th International Congress of Historical Sciences/International Federation for Research in Women's History, to be held in Madrid this August. Her paper, titled "The Woman's Voice: the Self and the Civilizing Process," discusses a new emphasis on rules governing manners, mores, and dress in fifteenth- and especially sixteenth-century Europe. These rules were popularized in handbooks, such as Erasmus's *Manners for Boys* (1530), which dwelt upon the behavior and dress appropriate for boys as distinct from girls. Castiglione's *Courtier* (1528) is concerned not only with the education of a gentleman but with the manners that were essential in an era in which forks and handkerchiefs were first introduced. He also limned the gentlewoman, whose most prized qualities were beauty, chastity, and a sweet demeanor.

Christine de Pisan's *Treasure of the City of Ladies* (1405) served as a guide to women on the subject of dress, which Pisan felt was becoming too extravagant, flaunting what should be modest, and she called for good manners, soft speech, a fair countenance, and chastity. A woman's honor was equated with her chastity, while a man's lay in his courage.

Alison has used insights from Norbert Elias's *The Civilizing Process* (1939) and extended them into her reading of women's memoirs and writings, looking for a new self-consciousness about the subordinate role of women and for the impact of the rulebooks. She has examined three women's memoirs of the sixteenth century: a woman's memoir of her husband; a moral tale about passionate love and its unhappy course; and a chronicle of court intrigue in which the writer portrays herself as forgiving her husband's affairs and sacrificing herself for the good of France and the peace of the court (not mentioning her own affairs, of course). The three women seem to struggle to adapt themselves to the mirror of manners held up to them, but they present their own experience with

confidence, even when it is fashioned into a cautionary tale.

—Georgia Wright

Georgia Wright

At the home of John Brunn, in April, Georgia Wright talked about her work on the eighteenth-century French pamphleteer, Antoine Estienne. While organizing the exhibition, "Views of the French Revolution," at the UC Berkeley library last summer, she had come across "Complaints and Grievances of the Women of Les Halles and the Markets of Paris." Written in *poissard*, the language of the markets and quais of Paris, this *cahier de doléances* attacks the privileges and institutions of the nobility and clergy in so lively a fashion that Georgia—better known to most of us as a specialist in Gothic sculpture—became fascinated with it and its author.

The first stages in her work on Estienne have been a translation of the marketwomen's *cahier* into cockney English, with her collaborator Edward Markee, and a paper presented at the Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies meeting in February. What she needs now is advice on how to turn this material into a biography of Estienne, himself a fascinating character whose politics appear to have changed with the times.

The marketwomen's *cahier*, published in early May of 1789, had a radical program; his "Diogenes at the Estates General," published in June, threatened the king by asserting that he ruled at the will of the people, and was accordingly condemned by the censor; in July, Estienne was among those storming the Bastille. Estienne later became a supporter of constitutional monarchy but also managed to criticize Lafayette (a staunch supporter of the constitutional monarchy). His story eventually becomes entangled with the nasty politics of Marat and Santerre, the leader of the rabble. When Marat accused Estienne of being a paid informer for Lafayette, Estienne sued him for libel, but Marat and Santerre managed to intimidate both him and the judge, with the result that he lost the suit by failing to appear.

Estienne's last verbal cannonades were in his journal *Le Contre-Poison*, intended as an antidote to Marat's venomous *L'Ami du Peuple*. In 1792 the one-time cleric joined the Revolutionary Army. He fought at Jemappes, ascended in an observation balloon at the battle of Fleurus, and, although harrassed for years by the Jacobin representatives in the field (who had him dismissed and jailed twice), eventually rose to colonel under Napoleon. It is easy to understand how Georgia has fallen under the spell of this man of many parts.

—Joanne Lafler

LOCAL HISTORY

A Plaque for Juana Briones

Juana Briones y Tapia de Miranda (1802–1889) is one of the few women of colonial California whose English-speaking contemporaries wrote about her for her own accomplishments. Stories about women often concern an interesting wife, devoted lover, widow landowner, or "beauty," and perpetuate a view of women in connection with weddings, parties, and dances. Juana Briones's strong and engaging personality apparently made minor occasions memorable, so that many people who met her left a record that gives insight into her character and life.

The Women's Heritage Museum, a five-year project working temporarily as a museum-without-walls, began its discovery of Juana Briones through that intriguing entryway to historical inquiry, the remains of her house. Three rooms of her ranchhouse stand today in Palo Alto. The house, notable also for its successive California-style transformations, is a private home open to the public monthly on docent-led tours sponsored by the Museum. (Call 415-858-2349 for reservations and information.)

Our research on Juana Briones led us to conclude that the most historically significant part of her life was in San Francisco, during her residence on land now adjacent to Washington Square Park. There she supported her children as a rancher, selling milk and fresh food to the crews of ships in the harbor; there she was remembered for the fine tea she made for her visitors from the "good herb" that she picked on the slopes of Loma Alta (Telegraph Hill)—the wild mint that gave the name Yerba Buena to early San Francisco; and there her reputation flourished as a healer and humanitarian. Most notably, she hid sailors, giving them refuge, medical care, and employment so that they could escape the hazards of life at sea and take up residence in a country made hospitable by her concern for their welfare.

Facts and circumstantial evidence suggest that Washington Square was Juana Briones's farmland. She was the first settler of the area that came to be called North Beach, surrounding the present park. During the period of her residence, probably from 1835 to 1848, the waterfront was closer to her land than it is now and was called the "Playa de Juana Briones."

To furnish San Franciscans and visitors to Washington Square with a historical layer that confers depth and power to a place, the Women's Heritage Museum has requested the placement of a historic plaque for Juana Briones. We submitted our research to the necessary agencies: the State Office of Historic Preservation, the San Francisco Landmarks Advisory

Board, and the Department of Recreation and Parks. The SOHP and the Landmarks Advisory Board responded positively; the Department of Recreation and Parks responded negatively by a vote of four to three.

The Museum has expended more resources that it knew it had to win the approval of the Parks Department, as yet fruitlessly. We feel that is pertinent to note that nationally, only three percent of the sites on the Register of Historic Places relate to the experiences of women. Of the forty-two state historic markers in the city of San Francisco, none is specifically about a woman. Yet many women, especially Latinas, gain a new sense of belonging in San Francisco as they imagine one of their number, dead more than 100 years, worthy of eminent public notice.

The Parks commissioners objected first that Juana Briones wasn't important enough to the city of San Francisco, and later that the plaque was too big. Women's Heritage Museum supporters agree that the parks should not be cluttered, but we believe that this instance is of overriding significance. If you wish to support us in this and similar efforts, we are located at 1509 Portola Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership at \$15 includes a subscription to the quarterly NEWS.

—Jeanne McDonnell

ORAL HISTORY

Berkeley Co-op Oral History Project

The Berkeley Historical Society has undertaken an oral history project of the Consumers Cooperative of Berkeley, tracing its growth and development over a fifty year period to its recent demise. A number of the taped interviews have been transcribed and made available for research purposes through the Berkeley Public Library Swingle Collection and The Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley. Recently transcribed interviews include former Co-op Board president Margaret S. Gordon and Finnish leader Laurie Lehtin.

This summer, two new transcripts will be available. The interview of T. Wilson (Zack) Brown, former Berkeley City Councilmember and Co-op Credit Union leader, is approximately 100 pages and has photographs, an appendix, and an index. It will be available for \$10 a copy. The interview with Robert E. Treuhaft, Co-op progressive leader and left-wing lawyer, runs approximately 150 pages and includes photographs and an index. It will be available for \$15 a copy. Quantities are limited; if you would like to order a copy now, please send a check made out to the Berkeley Historical Society to Therese Pipe, Oral

History Project/Berkeley Historical Society, P.O. Box 1190, Berkeley, CA 94705-1190.

Other transcriptions and interviews in progress include Robert Neptune, George Yasukochi, Matt Crawford, Helen Nelson, and Linda Akulian.

The Berkeley Historical Society gratefully acknowledges seed money from private donors who made this work possible, particularly Lyn White, in memory of her late husband, Clinton White. Volunteer assistance is needed in editing, indexing, possible interviewing, and production. If you are interested, please call the Berkeley Historical Society at 524-9880 from 9-12 on weekdays, or Therese Pipe at 841-5493 after 6:30 p.m.

Regional Oral History Office Transcripts

The Regional Oral History Office of The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, announces the following transcriptions of oral history interviews available for study at The Bancroft Library and at the UCLA library's Department of Special Collections, or for purchase:

Organizing and Reporting on Labor in the East Bay, California, and the West, 1925-1987, the oral history of labor activist and journalist Estolv Ethan Ward (\$62 plus postage).

Making Opportunities in Vision Care, the oral history of Marvin Poston, distinguished leader of the black community and a 1939 alumnus of the UC Berkeley School of Optometry (\$39 plus postage).

William J. Monihan, Librarian and Dedicated Bookman, University of San Francisco, 1947-1988, the oral history of the Jesuit educator and longtime librarian and developer of the Gleeson Library at the University of San Francisco (\$42 plus postage).

Ian and Catherine Campbell, Geologists: Teaching, Government Service, Editing, documents the career of Catherine Campbell, which culminated as head of text-editing for the US Geological Survey, and includes accounts of the achievements of her late husband (\$49 plus postage).

Herbarium Scientist, University of California, Davis, oral history of June McCaskill, botanist and founder and fosterer of the arboretum at UC Davis (\$39 plus postage).

Dean of Students Arleigh Williams: The Free Speech Movement and the Six Years War, 1964-1970, documents the turbulent sixties from the perspective of a popular and respected administrator who served on the "front lines" (\$68 plus postage).

For information about the purchase of these transcriptions, write to the Regional Oral History Office, 486 Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 or telephone (415) 642-7395.

UPCOMING EVENT

German Unification Lectures

A lecture series, "The 'German Question' in the Twentieth Century: Unification and Unresolved Historical Issues," will be held on three Tuesday evenings: September 11, September 25, and October 2, at the Goethe Institute in San Francisco. The names of speakers and discussants for this program, cosponsored by the Institute for Historical Study and the Goethe Institute, are not available at this time; there will be a mailing with full details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New California Studies Association

A statewide California Studies Association was formed in Sacramento in February 1990 to promote the study and understanding of California history, people, land, and policies. The Association will draw together people and energies from many activities, institutions, and regions throughout the state: faculty who have been active in creating interdisciplinary California-oriented courses; policy-makers from public and private institutions; writers, poets, and playwrights; and people from many areas who are excited by the challenges of recent immigration and the recognition of California as a truly multiethnic society.

The association will be broad and inclusive. It seeks to create a new kind of community and a new dialogue for a state entering a new era. It will be interdisciplinary and will extend beyond the university to any institution, office, or studio where California inquiry and expression occur.

Annual dues are \$20 general, \$10 for students and senior citizens. As a member you will be able to participate in the forums and colloquia sponsored by the association, receive the association's forthcoming newsletter, and enjoy reduced fees at the annual California Studies conference. For further information, write to Jeff Lustig, Center for California Studies, California State University, Sacramento, CA 95819-2694.

New Journal

The University of Chicago Press announces the publication of the *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, the first issue to appear in the summer of 1990. The quarterly, refereed journal seeks to publish the best research in this newly emerging field, illuminating the history of sexuality in all its expressions, recognizing differences of class, culture, gender, race, and

sexual preference. Its scope transcends temporal and geographic boundaries, from ancient to contemporary history, from Europe and the Americas to Africa and Asia.

International scholars in the fields of history, anthropology, sociology, philosophy, classics, literature, film, art history, legal studies, and gender-related studies, will be represented. Submissions of original articles, review essays, primary sources, and book reviews should be sent to Professor John C. Fout, Editor, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, Bard College, Annandale-on-the-Hudson, New York 12504. Please send two copies of the manuscript and a self-addressed, stamped return envelope (USA only). There are no page charges. A copy of the JHS style sheet is available from the editorial office at the address above.

Special Tourism Issue

The *Annals of Tourism Research* will devote a special issue (Volume 19, Number 1, 1992) to the theme of "Pilgrimage and Tourism: The Quest in Guest." The *Annals* solicits original and innovative analyses that examine the nature of pilgrimage and tourism and that contain a theoretical framework based on example. Contributions from the social sciences, history, philosophy, and others are invited. Prospective authors should submit a 300-word abstract, together with a brief vita, to the guest editor: Valene L. Smith, Department of Anthropology, California State University, Chico, CA 95929-0400. Deadline for abstracts is August 1, 1990. Full papers should be submitted by December 1, 1990.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The last few weeks have been a busy time for Eli Leon. His article, "Cross-strip Patterning in African Textiles and African-American Quilts," won the Surface Design Association's second annual critical writing prize, which includes a cash award and publication in the *Surface Design Journal*. Then, on May 30 he was honored at a reception for the opening of his exhibit, "Who'd a Thought It: Improvisation in African-American Quilt Making," at 1300 Clay Street in Oakland's City Center. The show runs until June 16. On June 8, he presented a slide lecture on African Textiles and African-American quilts as part of a CCH-sponsored conference, "A Sense of Belonging, A Sense of Place," at the Oakland Museum.

William McPeak writes: "I find myself always feeling a bit guilty when a work-in-progress postcard arrives—being south of the stimulating and diverse work being accomplished up north." But he is representing "something of the spirit down here [Lake

Forest, California]" by publishing his work on the history of science and technology. An article, "Tycho Brahe: Grandsire of the Modern Observatory," which evolved from his study of interpretive illustrations and plates, will appear in *Astronomy* magazine in late 1990. It is heartening to know how much the Institute means to our farther-flung members. Let us hear from more of you!

Speaking of which—from Arcata, Peter Palmquist writes that his most recent book, *Shadowcatchers: A Directory of Women in California Photography Before 1901*, has been published. The culmination of nearly twenty years of accumulated data, this is the first reference of its kind, cataloguing the work of more than 850 women active in photography in California in the nineteenth century. Consisting of 272 pages and 120 illustrations, the directory was published in limited edition and is available for \$40 plus sales tax (6.25%) and \$2.50 postage from Peter E. Palmquist, 1183 Union Street, Arcata, CA 95521.

Peter Browning's latest book is the republication of a California classic, *In the Heart of the Sierras*, by James M. Hutchings. This handsome volume includes the complete text of the 1886 edition, all of the original engravings and photographs, thirty additional photographs from which thirty of the original engravings were made, the Wheeler Survey's 1883 *Topographical Map of the Yosemite Valley and Vicinity*, and a full index. It will be available in July from Great West Books, P.O. Box 1028, Lafayette, CA 94549. Hard cover is \$44.95 plus 7.25% tax and \$1.50 postage and handling; soft cover is \$29.95 plus tax, postage, and handling.

David Peal's article, "Self-help and the State: Rural Cooperatives in Imperial Germany," was published in *Central European History*, volume 21, number 3. Institute members may remember his discussion of an earlier version of this material at a work-in-progress meeting.

Karen Offen gave a slide presentation, "Women, Politics, and Iconography in the French Revolution," at the annual meeting of the Western Association of Women Historians at the Huntington Library in early May. At that conference, Joanne Lafler gave a paper on "The Will of Katherine Maynwaring: Self-Portrait of a Benefactress," and Autumn Stanley gave a paper on "Roots of Obscurity: A Nineteenth-Century Economic Feminist and Her Disappearance from History."

Kathy Luchetti's current project is a study of the influence of the westward journey, and living in the West, upon American cuisine. Along with her analysis of historical developments, Kathy will include representative recipes.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the members who joined the Institute since April.

Diane North is a PhD candidate in history and a Regents Fellow at UC Davis. In addition to California and the West—her dissertation topic is "Political and Social Controls in California During the First World War"—she is interested in the history of the British Empire. Before moving to the West Coast she worked extensively as a public historian. Her scholarly work includes the biography, *Samuel Peter Heintzelman and the Sonora Exploring and Mining Company*, a teachers' manual on American black history, and various papers. She has also produced several museum exhibits. After completing her dissertation she would like to explore other fields, including twentieth-century boom-bust communities in the West and the role of the military in the twentieth-century West. Through the Institute she looks forward to presenting her work for comment and discussion and to establishing collegial relationships.

Elaine Rosenthal received her PhD in history from the University of London, writing a dissertation on "Lineage Bonds in Fifteenth Century Florence: The Giovanni, Parenti, and Petrucci." In the fall semester of 1988 she lectured at San Francisco State University on Western Civilization to 1500. Otherwise, she has been a self-employed historical consultant/paleographer. Her publications include "The Position of Women in Renaissance Florence: Neither Autonomy nor Subjection," in *Florence and Italy. Renaissance Studies in Honor of Nicolai Rubenstein*, and "Testaments: A Note on Three Unknown Indices in the Florentine Archives," in *Renaissance Quarterly*. She is currently working on a paper, "Love, Trust, and Honor: Women and the Law in Early Modern Florence," and an untitled article on a document found in the Florentine Archives concerning a Cardinal in the Roman Curia in the early sixteenth century. She learned about the Institute from Alison Lingo and looks forward to interacting with other scholars with similar interests.

CORRECTION

In connection with her reminiscence on the Berlin Wall in the Spring 1990 issue, Ilse Sternberger writes: My apology for the typo at the beginning of the article that inadvertently postdated the event from August 12 to August 19, 1961. And half an apology for saying later that the Russians put up the wall. Of course the action was implemented by the East Germans, but everybody knew that the USSR was behind

the erection of this "Chinese Wall." After more than 3.5 million East Germans had emigrated to West Germany, and in the tense atmosphere in Berlin and elsewhere after the meeting between Kennedy and Khrushchev in Vienna in June 1961—at which Khrushchev announced a substantial strengthening of USSR forces—an act of provocation of some kind had been anticipated. But the overnight erection of the "anti-fascist protective wall" still took everyone by surprise.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Expect a change in the editor's note from now on. Since Joanne Lafler has accepted a fulltime visiting lectureship in theater history at UC Davis for 1990-91 (and probably a second year), her duties will be shared by a reorganized editorial board. Until this reorganization is in effect, you can send all material for the *Newsletter* to her at 43 Abbott Drive, Oakland, CA 94611. Deadline for the fall issue is August 30.

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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.

Direct membership inquiries to Ethel Herr,
Membership Chair, 731 Lakefair Drive,
Sunnyvale, CA 94089.

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.

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