

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN HISTORIANS

NEWSLETTER

A Listing of the 2006 SAWH Executive Council is on P. 3.

Winter 2010

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President's Message

Happy Valentine's Day, SAWH members! Our newsletter is a bit late getting out this winter because our usually dutiful Executive Secretary Megan Shockley took an eleventh-hour two-week vacation in the hospital in New Jersey. She is all patched up and her usual frighteningly organized self now, and has, as ever, produced order out of chaos for the SAWH. I thank her for keeping me on track with the work of the organization.

In November, many of our members enjoyed three days of sun and unseasonably warm weather in Louisville, KY for the 2009 SHA meeting. The SAWH lecture and reception was a roaring success, as usual. Many thanks to Rebecca Sharpless, who packed the house with her lecture on "Idella Parker, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, and Autobiography at Cross Creek," and to SHA local arrangements committee chair Emily Bingham, whose encyclopedic knowledge of her hometown made organizing the SAWH reception and book sale a breeze. Thanks also to Cate Fosl for gathering all the books at the Anne Braden Institute, and to Rob Fergus, Alyssa Honnette, Andi Knecht, Anna Krome-Lukens, Katy Smith and Catherine Fitzgerald Wyatt for setting up the books and staffing the sale. We netted more than \$600. A special shout-out to Catherine Clinton, who not only sold many books but initiated a one-woman membership campaign and signed up a slew of unsuspecting revelers.

I would like now to raise a rather delicate topic, and take a moment to talk about our organization's finances. The SAWH has total assets of about \$175,000. Everything the organization does, from award prizes to support the executive secretary, is paid for through interest earned on our principal and the revenue generated by yearly payment of membership dues. Our operating budget has averaged around \$6,000 per year (in non-conference years). That budget has increased recently because of a decrease in institutional support for the executive secretary. When Michele Gillespie was the ES, Wake Forest covered nearly all our administrative costs. Converse covered most when Melissa Walker was ES. But as the economy tightened, so did discretionary spending at universities. Clemson covered some of our costs when Megan Shockley was ES, but East Stroudsburg State is not in a position to subsidize the office for Shannon Frystak. This is not a tragedy, because the office should not be linked to a home institution's capacity to underwrite it in any case. But the fact is that we now pay almost the entire cost of

administrative assistance for the executive secretary. Thanks to prudent investment strategy, the SAWH has not experienced a significant drop-off in assets. However, our budget has come under pressure from two sources. First, our CDs are earning significantly lower interest rates than they did in the past, which has resulted in a lower yield/reduced income. Second, there has been a slight decline in membership, which means our dues receipts are down. At the same time, the percentage of members who have chosen to make a one-time life membership payment has risen. We find ourselves in the uncomfortable situation of having to spend more just to stay even while losing income: a position that mirrors, I am sure, the position that many of our members have found themselves in the past two years.

To secure the future financial health of our organization, I will ask the Executive Council when it meets in November to revise our dues structure, because it is currently unable to fund the work of the organization. The SAWH has always been marvelously inexpensive, and it is a priority of everyone to keep it affordable and non-exclusive. Our current dues are \$25 for regular members, \$10 for students, and \$250 for a life membership. Let me give some comparative data for other historical organizations:

Southern Historical Association:

Annual member: \$40
5-year member: \$160 (a savings of \$40)
Student member: \$10
Life member: \$600 (equals 15 years of regular member dues)
Retired member: \$25

Organization of American Historians:

Student: \$35
Educator: \$50
Retired: \$50
Contributory: \$250
Salary-based: \$85-\$130 for mid-range salary
No life membership

American Society for Legal History:

Dues are salary-based, ranging from \$60 for a salary of below \$50,000 to \$125 for \$150,000 and above (law professors). A life membership in the ASLH is \$2000.

The SAWH's regular member dues are too low to support us, but the real culprit in our dues structure is our life membership. Here's a question:

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Q: How do you know when your life memberships are priced too low?

A: When graduate students are signing up for them.

Approximately a third of our members are currently life members (212 out of 625). This poses budgetary challenges in the present, and threatens the financial solvency of the organization in the future. Life memberships mortgage future revenue for short-term present revenue. You will notice that the OAH does not offer them. The only way to make a life membership benefit the organization is to price it rather high (as the ASLH has done). Our life membership is simply too inexpensive. A life membership in the SHA costs the equivalent of 15 years of regular membership. Ours costs ten.

2010 is the 40th anniversary of the SAWH. In honor of that anniversary, I propose raising our regular member dues to \$40 per year. (Some celebration!) At the same time, I propose introducing an intermediate 6-year dues category that would cost \$200 (for a savings of \$40). Finally, I suggest we raise the price of a life membership to \$600, payable in two installments. Should the Executive Council ratify this proposal in November, our dues structure would look like this:

Regular Member:	\$40
Five-Year Member:	\$200
Student Member:	\$10
Life Member:	\$600

There is an alternative to raising the dues, and that is to raise funds. I consulted with many wise women about the desirability of doing this, especially in light of our 40th anniversary, and in the end I decided against it. This is why: a fund-raising campaign would require enormous effort on the part of many people. Suppose we succeeded splendidly, and raised \$100,000 for our endowment. This would produce between \$2,500 and \$5,000 of annual revenue for us: on the low end, not enough even to cover the increased cost of supporting the executive secretary, much less add to the coffers of our prizes. Alternately, if we raise our regular dues by \$15, we would raise \$6,500 immediately (approximately 480 regular members x \$15). With more money, of course, we could improve the things we do, and perhaps do some new things. We could support our prizes more generously, particularly the new mid-career fellowship. We could hire someone to design a website that showcases the organization and provides easier access to all the wonderful web products we offer, such as the mentoring toolkit. As delightful as it would be to expand our endowment, our real need is additional operating funds. Reforming the dues structure will shore up the financial security of the SAWH so that the organization founded forty years ago in Louisville will be in good operating order for the coming generations of southern women scholars and scholars of southern women.

Life members with tender consciences may feel guilty that their life membership cost much less than the new ones. There is an easy remedy to that, of course: anyone who wants to can donate the \$350 difference in cost between the old life

memberships and the new ones. This charitable donation can be earmarked for either general revenue or the endowment, or targeted even more specifically towards individual prizes. My salary has not been frozen (other parts of me cannot say the same, on this frigid Chicago day!), so this is what I will do. I encourage others to consider this too, as circumstances allow.

I know that times are hard in the academy now; that “furlough” has ceased to apply exclusively to the military, and many have taken pay cuts or lost their jobs outright. The SAWH has managed to make it to this point without asking our members to dig into their pockets because our leaders, especially Laura Edwards and Megan Shockley, anticipated the budget losses of last year and this year, and planned accordingly. But our dues structure is a permanent problem for us and must be addressed. It is better to do it now than wait for a crisis.

When the cost of something rises, it is natural (and, we hear, rational) to consider its benefit. What does the SAWH do for us? Here is what it was founded to do:

- (1) to advance the status of women in the historical profession in the South;
- (2) to provide communication among women historians regarding issues of professional concern;
- (3) to stimulate interest in the study of southern history and women’s history; and
- (4) to publicize and promote issues of concern to the SAWH membership.

I cannot enumerate here all the successes of the past 40 years. I like to think—and we can ask the founders at Charlotte in November—that the organization has succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. The SAWH has made a huge difference in the profession at many different levels, some of it through studies such as the Status of Women in the Profession, some of it through showcasing and rewarding top work with prizes, some of it through good old-fashioned consciousness-raising of the “they can’t do that to you!” variety. The SAWH is also about friendship. In a hypercompetitive profession, the SAWH is populated with collaborators. We edit books together, we write books together, we read each other’s work, we train each other’s students. We share syllabi, and tips for everything from how to avoid burning out on committee work to how to turn your dissertation into a book. None of this happened by chance. It happened because of the energy and perseverance of a group of visionary women tired of being treated like second-class citizens. As students of history, we know that revolutions do not inevitably move forward. If the Executive Council agrees to my request and a new dues structure is put in place, I hope that we all will remember how the organization has changed the profession as well as our own lives.

With best wishes for the spring—

Jane Dailey
dailey@uchicago.edu

New Members:

Lauren Acker, University of California-Los Angeles
Katherine Bakerek, North Carolina State University
Betsy Beasley, Yale University
Sarah Brown, Florida Atlantic University
Sarah Deutsch, Duke University
Laura Hepp Bradshaw, North Carolina State University
Tammy Ingram, Agnes Scott College
Watson Jennison, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Susanna Lee, North Carolina State University
Elizabeth Paige Meszaros, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Taylor Patterson, University of Florida
Bradley Proctor, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Honor Sachs, Southern Connecticut State University
Mark Stanley, University of North Texas
Tricia Sung, Independent Scholar
Kimberly E. Taft, North Carolina State University
Caitlin Verboon, Yale University
Brian Ward, University of Manchester

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Web Site: <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~sawh>
Membership is \$25 per year for regular members, and \$10 per year for graduate students, retirees, and independent scholars. A lifetime membership is available for \$250, payable in quarterly installments. The SAWH especially welcomes as members women and men who are interested in southern history and/or women's history, as well as all women historians in any field who live in the South.

If you would like to become a member or know of someone who would like to be a member of this dynamic organization, just fill out the enclosed membership form and mail it in with your check made payable to SAWH.

SAWH Executive Committee

President

Jane Dailey, University of Chicago
dailey@uchicago.edu

First Vice President

Sally McMillen, Davidson College
Smcmillen@davidson.edu

Second Vice President

Beverly G. Bond, University of Memphis
bgbond@memphis.edu

Past President

Melissa Walker, Converse College
Melissa.walker@converse.edu

Secretary

Megan Shockley, Clemson University
mshockl@clemson.edu

Treasurer

Lee Ann Caldwell, Augusta State University
lcaldwel@aug.edu

Incoming Secretary (as of July 1, 2010)

Shannon Frystak, East Stroudsburg University
sfrystak@po-box.esu.edu

Executive Council Members

Elna Green (2010), San Jose State University
egreen@sjsu.edu

Kris Lindenmeyer (2011), University of Maryland-Baltimore County
lindenme@umbc.edu

Daina Berry (2012), University of Texas
drb@mail.utexas.edu

Graduate Student Representative

Allison Fredette, University of Florida
afredette@ufl.edu

Announcements:

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: ANNE FIROR SCOTT MID-CAREER FELLOWSHIP

Established by the Southern Association of Women Historians in 2007, the Anne Firor Scott Mid-Career Fellowship honors the work of this path breaking scholar of southern women's history. The fellowship will provide assistance to scholars who are past the first stage of their careers, and are working on a second book or equivalent project in southern and/or gender history. Mid-career scholars are those who have achieved associate professor status, those who have taught at least 5 years, established public historians, and published independent scholars.

Eligibility Guidelines:

1. The Anne Scott Mid-Career Fellowship (\$2,000) will be awarded every two years and will last one calendar year from the time of the award.
2. Applicants must be SAWH members who have received the PhD or equivalent terminal degree within the past 10 years (not before 2000).
3. Applicant's project must focus on southern or gender history and should be intended to produce a second book or equivalent project that will make a significant contribution to one or both of those fields.
4. Historians working at colleges and universities, particularly teaching institutions, independent scholars, and public historians are encouraged to apply.
5. The Scott Fellowship cannot be used to revise a dissertation for publication.

Application Process:

1. **Five copies** of the application packet must be submitted **via email in PDF or .doc files** by June 1, 2010 to:

Chair, Beverly Bond, bgbond@memphis.edu

Peter Wallenstein, wallens@vt.edu

Michele Gillespie, gillesmk@wfu.edu

2. The application packet must include:
 - 500-word narrative description of the project
 - Budget
 - List of sources and amounts all funds/grants (including leave time) applied for and/or secured to support this research project.
 - CV (limit to three single-spaced pages)

- One (1) page bibliography of major secondary sources
- Contact information (including email addresses) for three (3) references

Within six months of the completion of this fellowship, the recipient must submit a report to the Anne Scott Fellowship committee describing his/her achievements. The recipient will also present his/her findings at an informal brownbag session at the next SAWH conference immediately following completion of the fellowship period.

OAH Women's Luncheon

Once again the SAWH will be helping to sponsor the OAH Committee on Women's Luncheon. Graduate students may request free tickets by emailing

womenscommitteeah@gmail.com by March 12.

The Southern Association for Women Historians invites submissions for the 2010 A. Elizabeth Taylor article prize. To be eligible, entries must be written in English, but the competition is not restricted to works published in the US.

The **A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize** of \$500 is awarded annually for the best article published during the preceding year in the field of southern women's history, broadly construed. Articles published in journals and anthologies between **January 1 and December 31, 2009** are eligible. Editors, scholars, and authors are invited to nominate eligible articles for the prize.

To Nominate a Publication:

One copy of each entry must be mailed to the following committee members no later than **May 1, 2010**.

Joan M. Johnson, Chair
2322 Hastings Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

Danielle McGuire
10754 Talbot Ave.
Huntington Woods, MI
48070

Amy Murrell Taylor
Department of History
145 Social Sciences
University at Albany, SUNY
1400 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12222

Megan Shockley
Department of History
126 Hardin Hall
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634

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Announcements, Continued:

SAWH Book Prizes:

The Southern Association for Women Historians invites submissions for its annual book prizes. To be eligible, entries must be written in English, but the competition is not restricted to works published in the U.S.

The Julia Cherry Spruill Prize of \$750 is awarded for the best published book in southern women's history, broadly construed. **The Willie Lee Rose Prize** of \$750 is awarded for the best book on any topic in southern history authored by a woman (or women). For both of these prizes, only monographs are eligible. Books with a copyright date of 2009 are eligible for the prizes.

To nominate a book for a publication prize, please mail ONE copy to each committee member listed below by May 1, 2010:

Spruill Prize:

Anne Rubin, Chair
History Department
UMBC
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, MD 21250

Kirstin Wood
5915 SW 79th St.
South Miami, FL33143

Karen Leathem
Louisiana State Museum
PO Box 2448
New Orleans, LA 70176

Megan Shockley
Department of History
126 Hardin Hall
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634

Rose Prize:

Diane Sommerville, Chair
Department of History
Binghamton University
Library Tower 816
POB 6000
Binghamton, NY 19302

Megan Shockley
Department of History
126 Hardin Hall
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634

Lisa Lindquist Dorr
Department of History
Box 870212
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Melanie Shell-Weiss
707 St. Johns Road
Baltimore, MD 21210

The SAWH would like to congratulate its 2009 prize recipients:

Willie Lee Rose Prize: Susan Youngblood Ashmore, *Carry it On: The War on Poverty and the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama, 1964-1972*

Julia Cherry Spruill Prize: Kate Dossett, *Bridging Race Divides: Black Nationalism, Feminism and Integration 1896-1935*

A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize: Kathleen Du Val, "Indian Indian Intermarriage and Métissage in Colonial Louisiana," *William and Mary Quarterly*

Berkshires Conference Call for Papers

"GENERATIONS: Exploring Race, Sexuality, and Labor across Time and Space"

June 9-12, 2011, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Proposals due March 1, 2010

The Berkshire Conference of Women's Historians is holding its next conference at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst on June 9-12, 2011.

2011 marks the 15th Berkshire Conference on Women's History and the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day. The choice of "Generations" reflects this transnational intellectual, political, and organizational heritage as well as a desire to explore related questions such as:

How have women's generative experiences - from production and reproduction to creativity and alliance building - varied across time and space? How have these been appropriated and represented by contemporaries and scholars alike? What are the politics of "generation"? Who is encouraged? Who is condemned or discouraged? How has this changed over time? Is a global perspective compatible with generational (in the genealogical sense) approaches to the past that tend to reinscribe national/regional/racial boundaries? What challenges do historians of women, gender, and sexuality face as these fields and their practitioners mature?

To engender further, open-ended engagement with these and other issues, the 2011 conference will include workshops dedicated to discussing precirculated papers on questions and problems (epistemological, methodological, substantive) provoked by the notion of "Generations."

The process for submitting and vetting papers and panels has changed substantially from previous years, so please read the instructions carefully. To encourage transnational discussions, panels will be principally organized along thematic rather than national lines and therefore proposals will be vetted by a transnational group of scholars with expertise in a particular thematic, rather than geographic, field. All proposals must be directed to ONE of the following subcommittees and should be submitted electronically. Please list a second choice for the subcommittee to vet your proposal but do not submit to more than one subcommittee.

Instructions for submission will be posted on the Berkshire Conference website www.berksconference.org. Preference will be given to discussions of any topic across national boundaries and to work that addresses sexuality, race, and labor in any context, with special consideration for pre-modern (ancient, medieval, early modern) periods. However, unattached papers and proposals that fall within a single nation/region will also be given full consideration. If you have questions about the most appropriate subcommittee for your proposal or problems with electronic submission, please direct them to Jennifer Spear (jms25@sfu.ca).

Lifetime Members of the SAWH

MEMBER NEWS:

Lorri Glover (*Saint Louis University*) is the John Francis Bannon, S.J., Endowed Chair in the College of Arts and Sciences at Saint Louis University.

Elna Green (*San Jose State University*) is now the Associate Dean of the College of Humanities and Arts at San Jose State University.

Anne Kelsey (*Clemson University*) will be presenting “‘At Our Own Deliberate Speed’: School Desegregation in Beaufort County, South Carolina” as part of Clemson University’s symposium series “Crafting Community: Memory and the Making of History.”

Rose Strelau (*University of North Carolina at Pembroke*) won an American Fellowship from the American Association of University Women to enable the completion of her first book manuscript, an ethnohistory of Cherokee families.

Claire Strom (*Rollins College*) published her book *Making Catfish Bait out of Government Boys: The Fight Against Cattle Ticks and Transformation of the Yeoman South* with the University of Georgia Press.

Marcia G. Synnott (*University of South Carolina*) is keeping busy in retirement and enjoyed chairing the book exhibit at the 8th SAWH Conference at the University of South Carolina in June 2009.

Elizabeth V. Whitaker (*Independent Scholar*) presented a paper on the assimilation of Middle Eastern Christians in the South at the Tennessee Conference of Historians in September 2009.

Do you have news you’d like to share? Please email Megan Shockley at mshockl@clemson.edu.

Elizabeth Urban Alexander
Louise Anderson Allen
Catherine Allgor
American Historical Association
Thomas Appleton, Jr.
Susan Youngblood Ashmore
Leah Atkins
Eva Baham
Nancy Baird
Paula Barnes
Georgia Beale
Patricia Bell-Scott
Judith Bennett
Kathleen Berkeley
Virginia Bernhard
Daina Ramey Berry
Emily S. Bingham
Annette Cheek Bishop
Julia Blackwelder
Kay J. Blalock
Carol Bleser
Ellen Blue
Angela Boswell
Edith Brady
Patricia Brady
Betty Brandon
Michelle Brattain
Martha Jane Brazy
Brandi Brimmer
Euline Brock
Joan Browning
Carole Bucy
Valerie Pope Burns
Sarah Burns
June Burton
O. Vernon Burton
Yolanda M. Burwell
Ronald E. Butchart
Victoria Bynum
Linda Cain
Stephanie Camp
Gregg Cantrell
Stephanie Carpenter
Jo Ann Carrigan
Rosemary F. Carroll
Nupur Chaudhuri
Catherine Clinton
College of Staten Island Women’s Studies Department
Cita Cook
Florence Cooley
Janet Coryell

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Life Members, Continued

Lynda Crist
Carol Crowe-Carraco
Ruth Douglas Currie
Susan Curry
Jane Dailey
Christine Daniels
Mollie Davis
E. Murell Dawson
Jayne Crumpler Defiore
Dorothy DeMoss
Celeste DeRoche
Sarah Deutsch
Otha Jennifer Dixon
Harriet Doss
Judith Dykes-Hoffman
Laura Edwards
Rebecca Edwards
Glenn Eskew
Phoebe Evans
Mary J. Farmer-Kaiser
Lee Farrow
Drew Gilpin Faust
Crystal Feimster
Kristen Fischer
Beverly Fowler
Linda Frazier
Ginger Frost
Ellen Garrison
Judith Gentry
Michele Gillespie
Glenda Gilmore
M. Rose Gladney
Lorri Glover
Ginger Gould
Debra Greene
Pamela Grundy
Jacquelyn Hall
Thomas Hanchett
Robin Harris
Patricia Harrison
Wanda Hendricks
Gaye Hewitt
Nancy Hewitt
Patricia Evridge Hall
Sarah Hill
Darlene Clark Hine
Mary S. Hoffschwelle
Catherine Holmes
Ramona Houston
Pamela Hronek
Joan Huffman
Elizabeth Jacoway
Beverly Jarrett
Mary Carroll Johansen
Joan Marie Johnson
Jacqueline Jones
Lu Ann Jones
Jeanette Keith
Kathryn Kemp
Lynn Kennedy
Cindy Kierner
Doris E. King
Martha King
Wilma King
Karen Kossie-Chernyshev
Barbara Krauthamer
Tommie A. LaCavera
Linda Rochelle Lane
Suzanne Lebsock
Jean B. Lee
Kent Leslie
Gayle T. Lesser
Connie Lester
Kriste Lindemeyer
Judy Barrett Litoff
Valinda Littlefield
Christine Lutz
Karen Manners-Smith
Amy McCandless
Jeffrey McClurken
Melissa McEuen
Andrew McMichael
Sally McMillen
Neal Millikan
Jessica Millward
Carol Montgomery
Amy Feely Morsman
Gail Murray
Susan E. O'Donovan
Mary Mac Ogden
Rameth Owens
Nell Irvin Painter
Elizabeth Payne
Theda Perdue
Christie Farnham Pope
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Marlene Hunt Rickard
Sylvia Frank Rodrigue
Mary Rolinson
Jennifer Ross-Nazzal
Jacqueline Rouse
Leslie Rowland
Sue Rowland
Marilyn Roydhouse
Anne Sarah Rubin
Dorothy Salem
Barbara Schnorrenberg
Mark Schultz
Constance Schulz
Marie Jenkins Schwartz
Rebecca Sharpless
Stephanie Shaw
Barbara Silvers
Anastasia Sims
Patricia Sloan
Elaine Smith
Mary Jane Smith
Southern Historical Association
Marjorie Julian Spruill
Jane W. Squires
Carolyn Stefano
Kyes Stevens
Kristin Streater
Cecile King Striplin
Jean A. Stuntz
Martha Swain
Alice Taylor-Colbert
Elizabeth Lee Thompson
Sarah Theusen
Cheryl Thurber
Sandra Goia Treadway
Elizabeth Hayes Turner
Marie Tyler-McGraw
Minoa Uffelman
Zoe Van-Sandt
Antoinette Van Zelm
Nancy Vincent
Melissa Walker
Marilyn Ward
Emily West
Western Association of Women
Historians
Jeannie Whayne
Nancy White
Lee Ann Whites
Amy Whitworth
Sarah Wiggins
Sarah Wilkerson-Freeman
Joel Williamson
Emily Herring Wilson
Kelly Woestman
Margaret Ripley Wolfe
Betty Wood
Kirsten Wood