

Georgia Southern University, Box 8054-1
Statesboro, GA 30460-8054
Website: <http://TheSAWH.org>
Email: sawh@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

President's Message

I hope you are all having a wonderful, productive summer! I'll use my space in the newsletter to provide news of my own, which is that I'm spending most of my waking hours researching and writing a big project on progressive southern Methodist women and the Women's Division, 1939-2000. Unlike many recent publications on Methodists in the South that focus on opposition to racial integration and other progressive measures, my work focuses on southern women who successfully pushed the national church and the National Council of Churches to adopt positions in favor of desegregation and feminism. They have received little attention from scholars, and I'm happy to write their story!

In planning for the fall, please mark your calendar for the **SHA/SAWH meeting Nov. 7-10** at the Galt House in Louisville and the SAWH annual meeting, Saturday, Nov. 9 at 4:45, at which awards recipients will be announced. The address this year will be given by Dr. Anne Sarah Rubin of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, who will discuss southern women, food scarcity and starvation during the Civil War and Reconstruction. The presidential reception follows immediately in Grand Ballroom B. I look forward to seeing everyone there!



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The executive committee and I are pleased to announce that the 2021 triennial conference will be held at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, thanks to SAWH members Amy Murrell Taylor and Melanie Goan. They will have the cooperation and assistance of faculty at nearby Transylvania University, Eastern Kentucky, Kentucky State, Centre College, Georgetown College, and Berea College. Costs to stay on campus will be very reasonable, and there are several hotels within a mile of campus for those who wish

President's Message, *continued*

to upgrade. Many, many thanks to Amy and Melanie for putting together an excellent proposal and drumming up the necessary institutional support!

We are still looking for a new institutional home and a new secretary for SAWH. On June 30, 2020, Michelle Haberland's and Georgia Southern's terms of commitment are up, and we need a replacement who will hold the position for the next five years. Anyone who is interested in taking over as secretary should talk with their institution to see if it will provide in-kind support, an intern or a grad assistant, and a course release. For more about the role and responsibilities of the secretary, see the guidelines on the website: <http://thesawh.org/about/guidelines/>. If you are interested, we can send you the previous Memo of Understanding signed with Georgia Southern for your reference. Jessica Brannon-Wranosky's term as treasurer will also end June 30, 2020, and we are looking for a new person to serve in that position until 2025. Email questions about the responsibilities of the job to Jessica.Wranosky@tamuc.edu.

-- Janet Allured
McNeese State University

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN HISTORIANS EVENTS

AT THE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

SAWH @ SHA 2019

NOVEMBER 7 – 10, 2019

Galt House Hotel | Louisville, Kentucky

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

SAWH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: 8:00AM–11:00AM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

SAWH GRADUATE STUDENT & MEMBER BREAKFAST: 8:00AM–10:00AM

SAWH ANNUAL MEETING AND ADDRESS: 4:45PM–6:30PM

SAWH RECEPTION – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ADDRESS



In 2019, the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting returns to Louisville, where the SAWH was founded—in a small room near the boiler room of the Kentucky Hotel.

We're planning a kickoff party to start our 50th anniversary year.

Let's throw a party that shows how far out of the basement our organization has climbed!

To contribute, go to <http://thesawh.org/sawh50/> or send a check with "SAWH 50th" in the memo line, payable to the SAWH to:

Michelle Haberland, Executive Secretary
Southern Association for Women Historians
Department of History
PO Box 8054-1
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, GA 30460-8054

Member News

For this issue of the newsletter, SAWH members share how they are spending their summers.

Kathryn L. Beasley's article, "Pat Nixon and her Influence on the White House Collection" was published in the *White House Quarterly's* most recent issue, *Turning Points at the White House: Great Expectations*.

On April 16, 2019, **Patricia Bell-Scott** (Professor Emerita, University of Georgia) spoke about *The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Struggle* at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Greensboro Public Library in North Carolina. On May 16, Bell-Scott joined a panel of writers at the Decatur Public Library, Decatur GA, for a talk-back following the premiere of *Breaking the Silence*, a documentary about Lillian Smith, one of the first southern white writers to speak out against segregation. Bell-Scott was interviewed for and appears in the film. See the trailer at: <https://vimeo.com/270713166>. For more information about the film, go to: <https://lilliansmithdoc.com/>.

Sidney Bland is working with Preservation Society of Charleston planners for their Centennial next year. His biography of founder Susan Pringle Frost is still highly regarded by the Society. The College of Charleston archivist has requested his Frost research materials be permanently housed there, alongside Charleston Historical Society collections.

Angela Boswell's *Women in Texas History*, published by Texas A&M University Press, has won two more awards: the Liz Carpenter Award for the Best Scholarly Book on the History of Women and Texas (Texas State Historical Association) and the Lone Star Book Award for the Best Book in Texas History (Central Texas Historical Association).

Shennette M. Garrett-Scott was promoted to Associate Professor of History and American Studies at the University of Mississippi and she also published a book! *Banking on Freedom: Black Women in U.S. Finance Before the New Deal* was published by Columbia University Press in May 2019.

Joan M. Johnson and Leslie Harris have been working with the Frances Willard House on *Truth Telling: A Community History Project and Digital Exhibit*, a community history project that explores the conflict between WCTU President Frances Willard and journalist and activist Ida B. Wells. The project includes a digital exhibit of original archival sources, now available at www.willardandwells.org. Read more about the project in the Announcements section of this newsletter.

Member News, *continued*

Lu Ann Jones continues to work as a staff historian with the Park History Program, National Park Service, Washington, DC. In June she conducted a workshop, *If These Walls Could Talk: Successfully Creating and Using Oral Histories in the Preservation of Traditional Resources*, in collaboration with the Western Center for Historic Preservation at Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. In July she gave a paper, "The Labour of U.S. National Park Service Rangers," at the annual conference of the British Oral History Society, Swansea, Wales. In April she received the Pogue Award from OHMAR (Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region); the annual award recognizes "outstanding and continuing contributions to oral history."

Cherisse Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University (ASTATE) is revising her manuscript "*Better Living By Their Own Bootstraps: Black Women's Activism in Rural Arkansas, 1913-1965*" and working with the ASTATE Summer Institute.

Kelly Kenington and Melissa Milewski co-edited a new forum in *Slavery & Abolition* that appeared in the June 2019 issue. The forum is titled "Slavery, Freedom, and Law in the Civil War Era."

Miki Pfeffer will be proofing and indexing the forthcoming book, *A New Orleans Author in Mark Twain's Court: Letters from Grace King's New England Sojourns*. Look for it in LSU Press's catalog in November.

Patricia V. Veasey, an SAWH member and an independent scholar, recently published a biography of Catharine Stratton Ladd, a Southern 19th century woman whose life story had been overlooked and lost. *A Relentless Spirit, Catharine Ladd, Southern Educator, Entrepreneur, and Author, 1808-1899* (Floating Leaf Press: Charlotte, NC, 2019) can be purchased from the Culture and Heritage Museums, 4621 Mt. Gallant Rd., Rock Hill, SC 29732, Attention: Mark Cockerille, Retail Manager, MCockerille@chmuseums.org, 803-329-2121 or 803-909-7589.

Melissa Walker (Heyday Coaching) is busy working with academic clients on career issues, and she is gearing up for a series of fall workshops with colleges and universities. If you want to get her newsletter, just drop her an email at heydaycoaching@gmail.com.

Remember to visit www.TheSAWH.org
to renew your membership and continue supporting
the many good works of
the Southern Association for Women Historians.

Member News, *continued*

What I'm up to this Summer -- Joan C. Browning

This summer I am again immersed in questions of biography and autobiography. What is public about public figures? What is public about private people? When is the personal political? When is the personal private? Who decides -- the person or historians and writers? These issues are not new to me, or to many. "Privacy" was my subject line in these SAWH postings from 1997 that are lurking my *Deep in Our Hearts* project pile.

H-SAWH 11 February 1997. Book Review of *Southern Belle Through Letters*. Review of Carol Bleser, ed. *Tokens of Affection: The Letters of a Planter's Daughter in the Old South*. Sarah E. Garner of Mercer University's review begins: "On 7 March 1824, sixteen-year old Maria Bryan wrote her recently married sister, Julia Ann Bryan Cumming. She promised to correspond frequently as long as her sister respected her simple request. 'No living mortal must see one of my letters,' Maria warned. 'I request you as a particular favour to burn them as soon as they are read.' We can be grateful that despite Maria's repeated instructions, Julia failed to heed her sister's conditions. We are even more fortunate that Carol Bleser has edited the 167 extant letters in *Tokens of Affection*, the inaugural work in the series *Southern Voices from the Past: Women's Letters Diaries and Writings*, from the University of Georgia Press."

In response to the review, on 11 February 1997 I posted this to the H-SAWH list: "If Maria Bryan clearly extracted a promise that none of her letters would be seen by anyone other than her sister, is it really ethical for us, now, to publish these letters? Of course, we are tempted by the trove of information they contain, but are we trespassing? This is not a passing curiosity on my part. After hearing some historians at last year's Berkshire conference, I am determined to destroy a major portion of the written matter that I have clung to all these years. Not that anyone wants to write about my life, but that it's none of anybody's business. What say ye, professional community? Joan C. Browning"

Kriste Lindenmeyer, Tennessee Technological University, responded on 12 February: "When "lay" people ask me what I do for a living, I often respond that I read dead people's mail! I think that is the historian's job. It seems to me that the person who breaks the confidence is the first one, in this case the author's sister, who did not destroy the letters. I do think it is a good idea to wait until all "private" players are dead before publishing such materials. But, that is not true for public figures. Ah, rationalization is a wonderful thing!"

And Jean A. Stuntz, Dept. of History, Univ. of North Texas, responded on 13 February 1997: "Joan Browning's question about the propriety of publishing correspondence that an author clearly did not want anyone but the intended recipient to see, is a good one. When are we professional historians and when are we gossip-mongers? My own dividing line is, when everyone involved has passed on to their reward, it is history. If it happened in this century, it is not history, it's current events."

The publication of my "autobiography of an autobiography" article, "From Memory to History: The writing of 'Shiloh Witness,' a chapter in *Deep in Our Hearts*" in (Hi)Stories of American Women: Writings and Re-writings White Women in the 1960s Freedom Movement, originally adapted from a [presentation in Toulouse, France in 2012](#), prompts this fresh consideration of these issues. Reconsideration of these issues is also in response to David Garrow's publication of lurid Federal Bureau of Investigation memos that further impugn the reputation of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., along with many of the FBI's alleged reports of sexual encounters with specifically named women, some of whom I knew. And so, for the first time in two decades, I am re-reading my files from the *Deep in Our Hearts* project, where I/we wrestled with these issues. I am reading newly discovered autobiographical writings of folks I know and books about people I know/knew.

And in the midst of all this, I am writing my presentation for the Georgiana and Max Lale Lecture at the East Texas Historical Association in October. Trying to nail down specifics about an autumn return to the Telfair County, Georgia to share, for the first time ever, at least four lectures about how I grew up in the shadow of the Talmadge Plantation to become a Freedom Rider. Continuing research and refinement of my speech in the autumn of 2020 in West Texas about West Virginia's dramatic consideration of the 19th Amendment. And occasional preaching. Otherwise, just enjoying one of my four favorite seasons.

A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize

*Extended Taylor Prize deadline, now **August 1***

The SAWH will accept additional submissions for the A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize, which is awarded annually for the best article published during the preceding year in the field of southern women's history. Articles published in journals and anthologies between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018 are eligible.

Entries must be written in English, but the competition is open to works published outside the U.S. Editors, authors, and other scholars are invited to nominate eligible articles for the prize. To nominate an article for the Taylor Prize, please submit a copy to each of the following, postmarked no later than **August 1, 2019.**

Dr. Karen Leathem, Chair
Louisiana State Museum
PO Box 2448
New Orleans, LA 70176
kleathem@crt.la.gov

Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch
History Department – Mail Stop #970
University of Toledo
2801 W. Bancroft Street
Toledo, OH 43606
apflugr@utoledo.edu

Françoise N. Hamlin
Department of Africana Studies
Brown University
Box 1904
Providence, RI 02912
francoise_hamlin@brown.edu

Please contact the SAWH executive secretary at sawh@georgiasouthern.edu with questions about SAWH prizes.

2019 SAWH Officers & Executive Council

President: Janet Allured
First Vice President: Jennifer Ritterhouse
Second Vice President: Diane Miller
Sommerville
Past President: Barbara Krauthamer
Executive Secretary: Michelle Haberland
Treasurer: Jessica Brannon-Wranosky

Executive Council Members

Cherisse Jones-Branch
Blain Roberts
Melissa McEuen
Natanya Duncan

Graduate Student Representatives

Anna Morgan Leonards
Alyssa Fahringer

If you're interested in joining this team of amazing historians in serving the SAWH, please contact Janet Allured (jallured@mcneese.edu).

2019 SAWH Standing Committees

Graduate Committee

Chair, Ann Tucker,
Ann.Tucker@ung.edu
Carol Emberton
Leslie Harris
Mandy Cooper
Melissa Blair
Erin N Bush
Kristen Epp

Membership Committee

Chair, Allison Fredette,
fredettead@appstate.edu
Blaine Roberts
LeeAnn Reynolds
Story Matkin-Rawn
Deborah Blackwell

Professional Development Committee

Chair, Christine Sears,
cs0003@uah.edu
Denise Bates
Antoinette Van Zelm
Megan Bever

Social Media Committee

Chair, Leah LaGrone Ochoa,
l.lagroneochoa@tcu.edu
Rachel Gunter (2019-20),
RGunter@collin.edu

Announcements of Interest

Truth Telling: Frances Willard and Ida B. Wells



Truth
Telling
Frances Willard
& Ida B. Wells



In the 1890s, Woman's Christian Temperance Union President Frances Willard and journalist and activist Ida B. Wells fought a war of words in the international press over Willard's lack of public support for Wells' anti-lynching campaign. At the time, Willard was a world-famous social reformer but while working to expand the WCTU, especially in the South, she used language that was demeaning and incendiary. Wells called Willard's moral

leadership into question and demanded that Willard and the WCTU join her anti-lynching campaign. Under Willard's leadership, the WCTU eventually passed resolutions opposing lynching, but Willard's language and actions complicate her legacy.

The Frances Willard House Museum and Archives recently launched *Truth Telling: Frances Willard and Ida B. Wells*, a community history project that explores this conflict. The project includes a digital exhibit of original archival sources, now available at www.willardandwells.org.

The website features a selection of primary documents organized in a "timeline" format, so visitors can follow the conflict as it developed. Each document is annotated to provide background information and make dense nineteenth-century prose easier to understand. The website also features short contextual essays on topics like woman suffrage and Reconstruction; interpretive essays from scholars and commentators who bring fresh insights into the conflict; and a bibliography to guide further reading and research.

The exhibit is appropriate for use in courses, as students can explore the primary sources and background material in order to analyze this exchange Willard and Wells and its significance in understanding the suffrage movement, the long legacy of racial conflict within the women's movement, transatlantic reform movements, the Lost Cause, and many other topics.

More information can be found at franceswillardhouse.org or via email at director@franceswillardhouse.org or phone at 847-328-7500.

Announcements of Interest, *continued*

CFP: 6th Annual African Americans in WNC & Southern Appalachia Conference October 17, 2019 to October 19, 2019

The University of North Carolina at Asheville invites proposals for panels, papers, posters, and roundtables on the African American experience in western North Carolina and Southern Appalachia. Presentations from a variety of disciplines - including sociology, history, music, anthropology, and literature - are invited. Original scholarship that sheds new light on the African Americans in Southern Appalachia is preferred. The theme of the 2019 conference is "Existence as Resistance: Expressions of Resilience." Related topics could include, but are not limited to, resistance to slavery, Jim Crow, and racism in the region; the centennial of Red Summer 1919; forced removal; a Black lens on tourism; and examples of community resilience.

The African Americans in WNC and Southern Appalachia Conference illuminates the African American experience in Southern Appalachia including history, culture, community, and enterprise. Now in its 6th year, the three-day conference seeks to eradicate incomplete and false narratives about African Americans in this region, while creating new possibilities for the future. The conference will be held on October 17, 18, and 19, 2019 at the YMI Cultural Center and on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Proposals/Abstracts, not to exceed two pages, with title of proposal/paper, presenter's name, home and institution/organization address, and email should be forwarded to Darin Waters, PhD of UNC Asheville at darin@darinwaters.com. Proposals are due Friday, August 2, with the program announced Tuesday, August 20. For more information, visit <http://aawnc.unca.edu>.

2020 OAH Lerner-Scott Dissertation Prize Applications Due October 1, 2019

The Lerner-Scott Prize is given annually by the Organization of American Historians for the best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women's history. The prize is named for Gerda Lerner and Anne Firor Scott, both pioneers in women's history and past presidents of the OAH. A dissertation must be completed during the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, to be eligible for the 2020 Lerner-Scott Prize. The prize will be presented at the 2020 OAH Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., April 2-5. Full details are available on the [OAH website](#).

Announcements of Interest, *continued*

Call For Papers: 37th Annual Gulf South History & Humanities Conference

“On the Go in the Gulf South: A Tribute to Transportation & Tourism”
October 17-19, 2019, Pensacola Grand Hotel, Downtown Pensacola, Florida

The Gulf South History and Humanities Conference is an annual event sponsored by the Gulf South Historical Association, a consortium of Gulf South colleges and universities from the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

The 37th Annual Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, hosted by University of West Florida, welcomes all researchers and scholars to propose papers highlighting aspects of development in the Gulf South. All topics, panels, roundtables, performances, and workshops, exploring any aspects of the history, ethnography, archaeology, development, and cultures of the Gulf South and Circum-Caribbean will be considered.

The registration fee includes a Thursday evening reception, all conference sessions, and a free one-year membership in the Association. Tickets for the banquet, annual keynote address, and a courtesy cocktail reception are all included in the additional banquet fee.

Proposals for papers must be post marked by the **July 31st, 2019 submission deadline**. To submit an individual paper, send a Word document attachment containing a title, 150 word abstract, and one-page vita. To submit for any themed panels or roundtable forums, send a Word document attachment containing a title and brief (150 word) description of the theme, 150 word abstract for each paper, a one-page vita for each presenter and a suggested chair/discussant. All submissions should be sent via email to the program chair, Dr. Erin Stone, at estone@uwf.edu. Please put “2019 Gulf South Paper” in the email subject line. Or, send a hard copy to Dr. Erin Stone, c/o Department of History, Bldg. 50 Room 113, 11000 University Parkway Pensacola, FL 32514. Expect an email confirmation once your submission has been received.

Southern Association for Women Historians 2019 Membership Form

The Southern Association for Women Historians invites you to join in supporting the study of women’s history and the work of women historians. The SAWH especially welcomes as members all 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. The SAWH meets annually in conjunction with the Southern Historical Association, publishes a newsletter, awards publication prizes, and sponsors the Southern Conference on Women’s history every three years. SAWH members receive a thrice-yearly newsletter with announcements of conferences, calls for papers, and news about the organization and the research of its members. Membership is your opportunity to become a part of a valuable network. **Note: Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.**

I am a new member

I am renewing my membership

Name:	Phone:
Address:	Fax:
	E-mail:
If renewing membership, is the above address new? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
Institutional Affiliation:	
Position, rank, student status, as applicable:	
Teaching and/or research areas:	
News for SAWH Newsletter (Please print or type):	
(continue on back, if necessary)	
Prospective Members:	

<i>DUES:</i>	<i>CONTRIBUTIONS:</i>	<i>GIFT MEMBERSHIP:</i>
<input type="radio"/> \$400 Life (Payable in 4 installments in one calendar year)	\$ _____ Anne Scott Fellowship Fund	Amount \$25 ____ (Regular)
<input type="radio"/> \$25 Regular Membership	\$ _____ Julia Cherry Spruill Prize Fund	of Gift: \$10 ____ (Grad Student/Retired/ Ind. Scholar)
<input type="radio"/> \$10 Graduate Student, Retired, Independent Scholar	\$ _____ A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize Fund	This Gift Membership is For:
	\$ _____ Willie Lee Rose Prize Fund	Name: _____
	\$ _____ Graduate Student Fund	Address: _____
	\$ _____ Sustaining Life Member Donation	<u>Email address:</u> _____
	\$ _____ Founders Fund	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____		

Please mail this form with your check payable to the SAWH to: **Michelle Haberland, SAWH, Department of History, Box 8054-1, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460-8054**

**The Southern Association for
Women Historians**

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We're on the Web!

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