

ASAIL Notes

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May 1993

[mistakenly subtitled "Vol. IX, No. 3" on outside cover]

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"and I know each old utterance is like the birds,
or the
snow just said something so sweet and natural the sound
amidst the alien chatter,

the bluest of herons
on a lake with no shore."

from "Judged insane and without words," by

Dian Million

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ASAIL NOTES

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(Layout and technical support provided by **Mark Sherman**.)

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Association News

There will be several functions at the annual Modern Language Association convention in Toronto in December. Perhaps members would like to know about some of them in advance, even though the final arrangements have not yet been made.

As mentioned in the last issue of *Notes*, this year we will hold a joint meeting of the Association and the newly acknowledged Division on American Indian Literatures. Since this is an experiment, we will see how it works, and then decide if it is advisable to continue. Hopefully, the agenda of the two groups will overlap.

There will also be a reception for the Association and readings by Native authors. At the moment, Linda Hogan and Thomas King are two likely participants, but their inclusion in the program has yet to be finalized.

Last, but certainly not least, we hope to hold a reception (to be called a "Cash Bar," to conform to M.L.A. requirements) honoring A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff. The time and place have yet to be announced, but the October issue of *Notes* should contain that information.

Publications

The University of Nebraska Press has announced its 1992 North American Indian Prose Award winner. **Tsianina Lomawaima's** (Creek) *They Called It Prairie Light: The Story of Chilocco Indian School* is the third annual winner: "a vigorous and sympathetic examination of life and cultural survival at this off-reservation Indian boarding school from 1920 to 1940. After surveying some sixty alumni of the northern Oklahoma school, Lomawaima recreates and analyzes the school culture of that period--daily student life, the students' responses to the schools paramilitary organization, and the effect of the school experience on their ethnic identity."

In the last issue of *Notes*, the citation to **Louis Owen's** recent book was inadvertently omitted. *Other Destinies: Understanding the American Indian Novel* was released by the University of Oklahoma Press last Fall, and is receiving strong reviews.

From *The Society of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Newsletter*: **Leanne Hinton** and illustrator **Susan Roth** have collaborated on *Ishi's Tales of Lizard*, "a children's book that includes Hinton's translation of part of one of the Yahi texts collected by Edward Sapir in 1915."

And: *Deer Women and Elk Men: The Lakota Narratives of Ella Deloria*, Ed. **Julian Rice**, Univ of New Mexico Press, 1992; *Cry for Luck: Sacred Song and Speech Among the Yurok, Hupa, and Karok Indians of Northwestern California*, **Richard Keeling**, Univ. of California Press, 1993; *Stability and Variation in Hopi Song*, **George List**, *Memoirs of the American Philosophical Society*, Vol. 204, 1993; *The Red Record--The Wallam Olum: The Oldest Native American History*, translated and annotated by **David McCutchen**, Avery Publishing Group, 1992.

In 1992, the Native American Studies program at the University of California, Riverside published *Dear Columbus: Letters to Christopher Columbus by Contemporary Native Americans*. Edited

by **Darryl Wilson** (Pit River) and **Barry {4} Joyce**, this interesting collage contains various styles, voices and issues surrounding the Columbus legacy.

HarperCollins has re-released **Louise Erdrich's *Love Medicine***, and will, in October of this year, release a new, expanded version that will "be resequenced and enhanced by the addition of four previously unpublished chapters." The publisher's toll-free number is 1-800-242-7737.

H.C. has also released, this month, **Janet Campbell Hale's *Bloodlines: Odyssey of a Native American Woman***, a collection of autobiographical and historical essays centered around Hale's families.

Other recent books from various sources:

Gerald Vizenor's *Dead Voices*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1992; **Anna Lee Walters' *Talking Indian: Reflections on Survival and Writing***, Firebrand Books, 1992; Clifford Trafzer's *Earth Song. Sky Spirit*, Doubleday, 1993; and David Seals' sequel to *The Pow Wow Highway--Sweet Medicine*--from Orion Press, 1992; Sherman Alexie, *Old Shirts and New Skins*, Univ. of California Press, 1993; Arnold Krupat, ed. *New Voices in Native American Literary Criticism*, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1993; David Neel, *Our Chiefs and Elders: Words and Photographs of Native Leaders*, Univ. of British Columbia Press, 1992.

Other recent or forthcoming works, without verification, elaboration: **Paula Gunn Alien, *Voice of the Turtle***, **Kim Blaeser, *Gerald Vizenor, Thomas King, *Green Grass, Running Water****.

From A.S.A.I.L. member, **Hartmut Lutz**: his department at the university continues to publish a bilingual series of minority authors, including several works by Native American authors. They include **Joseph Bruchac: *Long Memory and Other Poems*** (Vol. 1); **Melba Boyd: *Song for Maya*** (Vol. 2); **Peter Blue Cloud: *I am Turtle*** (Vol. 5); **Four Feathers: *Poems and Stories by Canadian Native Authors*** (Vol. 7); and **Lance Henson's *poems for a master beadworker*** (Vol. 9). For more information, contact: **Hartmut Lutz**, Arbeitsgruppe Nordamerika-Studien, Universität Osnabrück, Neuer Graben

{5} 40, D-4500 Osnabrück, Germany.

Hartmut has also published, in Canada, a collection of conversations with eighteen "Native authors, including Maria Campbell, Tomson Highway, Dan Moses, Basil Johnston, Jeannette Armstrong, Lee Maracle, Ruby Slipperjack, and Tom King." It is entitled *Contemporary Challenges: Conversations with Canadian Native Authors*. It was published by Fifth House, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Helen Jaskoski's essay, "Words Like Bones," on the problems of contextualizing Native American materials was published last Fall (1992) in a special issue of *CEA Critic* (Volume 55, Number 1).

The En'owkin Centre International School of Writing has released another in its fine series: Gatherings III. The current anthology includes a poem by Choctaw writer, **D.L. Birchfield**, entitled "River in a Tree."

The North American Press has recently reissued **Vine Deloria, Jr.'s *God is Red: A Native View of Religion***, in a revised edition. The Press also advertises *Promises of the Past: A History of Indian Education* by **David H. DeJong** and *Life and Death in Mohawk Country* by **Bruce Johansen**. For information, call the press at its toll free number, 1-800-992-2908.

Journals

News from Native California is a quarterly publication "with an inside view of the California Indian world, including Native contributors with articles on history, contemporary issues and creative works." Contact *News* at P.O. Box 9145, Berkeley, CA 94709.

The Duke University Press publishes *Ethnohistory: The Official Journal of the American Society for Ethnohistory*. This journal "publishes articles, review essays, and book reviews" including writings that focus on "oral histories, myths."

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For more information, contact **William O. Autry**, P.O. Box 917, Goshen, IN 46526-0917. E-mail address: Internet:4145275@mcimail.com; telex no.6504145275.

Calls

From the May 1993 P.M.L.A. (pg. 580): "Contributions are being sought for a collection of essays entitled *Staging Difference: Cultural Pluralism in American Theatre and Drama*. . . . The following topics would be most suitable: the canon and less established playwrights; margin and center--the concept of power; gender issues (feminism); minorities in American society (racial implications, class distinctions, ethnic backgrounds). . . . Send one-page proposals, along with brief vita, to the editor, **Marc Maufort**, Philologie Germanique CP 142, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 50, avenue F.D. Roosevelt, 1050 Bruxelles, Belgium. Authors whose proposals are accepted will be asked to submit full manuscripts by 28 February 1994."

Tor Books is seeking submissions for an anthology (Native Americans entitled *Tales from the Great Turtle*. Short stories should be around 5,000 words in length, and those authors accepted will receive 7.5 cents per word. To submit, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your submission, and send to: Richard Gilliam, Box 26576, Tampa, FL 33622-5676.

The Pueblo of Zuni has received a three-year grant for its Museum Project, and this includes an Archives Section. "One of the collections we would like to establish is a Manuscript collection. We are intending to keep records of newspapers, magazines, and thesis articles that have been done about Zuni. The Zuni Museum Project is doing a survey of all written materials, published or unpublished, of Zuni as future reference." If you are aware of manuscripts or references that may be of use to their project, contact **Donna Wytsalucy**, Archives Technician, Zuni Museum/Archives Project, P.O. Box 339, Zuni, NM 87327.

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July 1 is the deadline for the University of Nebraska Press annual North American Indian Prose competition. (This year's winner, by **Tsianina Lomawaima**, is noted in the "Publications" section.) Past winners include **Diane Glancy** and **Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve**. The awards are "given on the basis of literary merit, originality, and familiarity with North American Indian life. The competition invites biography, autobiography, history, literary criticism, and essays; it excludes poetry, drama, and work previously published in book form. The winner receives a cash advance of \$1000 and publication of the award-winning manuscript by the University of Nebraska Press." For competition rules, write to: North American Indian Prose Award, University of Nebraska Press, 327 Nebraska Hall, 901 North 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0520.

Ted Dreier is still looking for submissions for the anthology of traditional and contemporary Northwest American Indian literatures. Since the first report in *Notes*, he has assembled a "circle of editors, including **John Smelcer** (Alaskan Athabascan) and **Gloria Bird** (Spokane). **Don Tyree** (Cherokee) is a consulting editor." Send submissions or correspondence to: **Ted Dreier**, English Department, Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207.

The 25th Algonquian Conference will take place in Montreal from 29-31 October 1993, at the Linguistics Department of the University of Quebec at Montreal. Organizers welcome papers from a variety of disciplines. Talks may be delivered in English or French. Contributors should send title and abstract by September 1, 1993 to: **Lynn Drapeau**, Algonquian Conference, Department of Linguistics, UQAM, P.O. Box 8888, Station A, Montreal, Canada H3C 3P8.

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Gatherings

Returning the Gift Regional Festival: Oklahoma 1993. This will be held at the same site as the "National 1992 festival, and all Native writers are invited, but there is no funding to pay for travel and other expenses . . . Aside from featured speakers, all others must pay all their own expenses and conference fee." Conference dates are July 9th and 10th. For more information: **Barbara Hobson**, Coordinator, Returning the Gift, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019.

Editor's Note

I will be on a Fulbright lectureship in New Zealand this fall, returning in late December. Since it will be such a short stay, I will not ask someone to assume the task of putting together the Fall issue of *Notes*, but will, instead, rely upon the benefits of modern technology. I ask that you help make the issue a newsworthy one by submitting materials to my usual address as early as possible, but certainly no later than 1 October. This will be forwarded to me, and I will then edit the issue. The production will be handled by Mark Sherman, who has produced the last five issues. He and I will be in constant contact through electronic mail.

If you have important, timely information that needs to get into the Fall issue and you miss the deadline, or if you wish to communicate with me, my address will be: John Purdy, American Studies, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand. I can be reached by fax at 03-364-2417, and of course by e-mail at AMST010@csc.canterbury.ac.nz.

I wish you all a fine summer, and I hope to hear from you for the Fall issue.

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Other Organizations

From the *Native Writers' Circle of the Americas Newsletter*:

The North American Native Authors First Book Awards-- offered in Prose (The **Louis Littlecoon Oliver** Memorial Award) and Poetry (The **Diane Decorah** Memorial Award)--is yet one more project "offered in conjunction with The Returning the Gift Foundation, an organization based at the University of Oklahoma, which celebrates and draws attention to the accomplishments of contemporary North American Native (American Indian, Aleut, Inuit and Métis) writers. The goals of the Foundation include strengthening the role of Native literatures in the literary canons, building coalitions of Native-based literary organizations, encouraging Native literary traditions and reaffirming Native identity through contemporary literature with a strong emphasis on Native youth." For more information about the Book Awards, contact: Native Authors First Book Awards, The Greenfield Review Literary Center, P.O. Box 308, Two Middle Grove Road, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Phone: 518-584-1728 or Fax 518-583-9741.

Also, "the first printing of the Directory of Native Writers of the Americas has just been completed by the American Indian Program of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in cooperation with Returning the Gift." The directory will be available for distribution soon. "For this directory to continue to be useful, it will need updating of current listings and, if this becomes the standard reference work we hope it will be, additions of many more Native writers in years to come. To obtain copies or send a corrections, write to: American Indian Program, Room 5119, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

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Bulletin Board

And furthermore . . .

From the Native American Journalists Associations newsletter, *Medium Rare*. "Important changes are about to be made in The Associated Press Stylebook, which many journalists consider the leading reference book on newsroom usage and style." After consultation with the association, the AP is making changes that include the acknowledgment of Native origin stories: "the reference to American Indians migrating to the continent over a land bridge from Asia will be stricken and will no longer appear in the Stylebook." Unfortunately, *Time* seems unaware of the issue or controversy, given its article, "Coming to America," in the 3 May issue. As one of the Warriors of Orange in Vizenor's *Harold of Orange* muses on the land bridge theory: "Which way?"

{half-page graphic}