

ASAIL Notes

Vol. XI, No.2

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"The Plot against America was just a matter of a few magic words."

David Seals, *Sweet Medicine*.

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ASAIL NOTES

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Association News

ASAIL President's Report
on the 1993 MLA Conference
in Toronto

1993 was a good year for the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures (*ASAIL*). Particularly significant is the closer collaboration between *ASAIL* and the new American Indian Literatures Division (chaired this year by Susan Scarberry-Garcia). Our first joint business meeting was a success; and those present agreed to continue the practice. Not only does it make coordinating plans for *MILA* sessions easier, it saves time for the dutiful persons who would have attended two business meetings, as well as freeing hotel space and time slots for other MLA participants. Thanks to all of you who not only sat through, but participated in that long and productive meeting.

Between those sponsored by *ASAIL* and the Division, five MLA sessions were devoted exclusively to Native American literatures. Every session (and I was able to attend all but the last one) was filled to capacity, with at least 300 people attending in total. *ASAIL* sponsored two sessions: "Intellectual Property Rights in Native North America: Whose Story Is This Anyway?" chaired by **David L. Moore** and "Film and Theater in Native North America" chaired by **James Ruppert**. The Division sponsored three sessions: "Linda Hogan: Calling Herself Home" chaired by **Betty Louise Bell**; "Crossing the Medicine Lines: Native North American Migration Stories and Songs of Place" chaired by **Susan Scarberry-Garcia**; and "Crossing the Genres: Tricksters, Tropes and Transformation in Native North America" chaired by me. Several other exciting sessions and papers, sponsored by other MLA divisions and groups, focused on Native American literatures as well.

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Two special events were highlights of the 1993 MLA Conference. The fiction reading by **Linda Hogan** was a special event that was petitioned by the Division, underwritten by *ASAIL*, and worked on by members of both. Linda Hogan not only gave a spellbinding reading to an overflowing lecture hall, but attended (and participated in) sessions and social events throughout the conference. The late Wednesday evening screening of the film version of **Tom King's** novel, *Medicine River*, was a great success also. It was refreshing to have an enormous room full of conference participants laughing out loud with delight. Like Linda, Tom King participated in MLA sessions. Both Linda and Tom enlivened the conference immensely with their presences. I offer heartfelt thanks to both of them. Thanks also to Susan Scarberry-Garcia and Betty Louise Bell for helping to arrange the events.

Our *ASAIL* reception (a euphemism for an MLA Cash Bar) this year was held in honor of **A. LaVonne Brown Rouff** who, as everyone knows, has contributed many years of outstanding scholarship, inspired teaching and generous consultation to our field. It was heartwarming to see such an outpouring of gratitude and love. In a crowd of LaVonne's students and former students, colleagues and aspiring colleagues, old friends and new, many spoke of the ways LaVonne has touched their lives and work. On behalf of *ASAIL* and Professor Ruoff's many friends, **Ken Roemer** presented LaVonne with a star quilt made especially for her. Be forewarned, though, this was not a retirement party. Professor Ruoff was a respondent to the session on Tricksters, Tropes and Transformations and has every intention of continuing her work.

The 1993 *ASAIL*/Division joint business meeting was well attended and productive. Here is a brief summary. Since **Rodney Simard** (*SAIL* Editor) was unable to attend MLA, **Bob Nelson** (Treasurer and Production Editor) and I presented the

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report on *SAIL*. Rodney and his enthusiastic staff continue to keep the journal running smoothly. Volume 5, numbers 1 through 3 of *SAIL* were published in 1993. *ASAIL* Members voted in favor of a proposal to develop an Editorial Board for *SAIL*, one way to help with the manuscript review process and to align the journal with the standard practices of other scholarly journals.

A Treasurer's report was submitted by Robert Nelson. Paid *ASAIL* members (subscriptions) have dropped from over 300 to 238, including institutional and overseas subscriptions. This, combined with substantially increased journal production costs have resulted in financial strain, although we are "still solvent." Last year members at the business meeting voted that the Association dedicate \$16.00 of every \$25.00 membership dues toward journal production and distribution. At the current rate, the cost of *SAIL* 1994 production is projected to take 100% of the dues. This year, however, members reaffirmed their commitment to spend only 64% of *ASAIL* annual income (\$16.00 out of \$25.00) for journal production. Just how that will be accomplished without sacrificing the quality and size of the journal is still to be determined.

Franchot Ballinger has completed his **Directory of Native American Studies Programs**. It will be published as a removable pamphlet in an upcoming issue of *SAIL*. Thanks to Franchot for his hard work on this project.

Jim Ruppert reported on the continuing epic adventure of *ASAIL* incorporation. Since incorporation requires a permanent address and since each state has different, non-transferable incorporation laws, it is not feasible for the *ASAIL* President (who changes every two years) to be the "statutory agent." As a result of our meeting, I have agreed to be the "statutory agent" and to apply for incorporation in the state of California (unless there are unforeseen financial costs). Incorporating in California seems like a good idea since there are many

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scholars of Native American literatures in the state so if I needed to be relieved of duties, someone could take over easily (without having to reapply for incorporation in another state). Thanks to Jim for his many hours of research into this matter.

The *ASAIL* by-laws call for the President and the Treasurer to be elected to two-year terms in odd-numbered years. I am pleased to report the results of our 1993 *ASAIL* elections. Our new *ASAIL* President is **Kathryn Shanley** (Cornell University). She brings much experience and wisdom and grace to the job. **Robert Nelson** (University of Richmond) was re-elected to the position of Treasurer for a two-year term (you may remember, last year he was elected as an interim Treasurer for one year), a position in which he has done an outstanding job.

ASAIL has plans for another set of exciting sessions at the **1994 MLA in San Diego** (finally, a *warm* location). Again, *ASAIL* is sponsoring two sessions: "Return to Native Languages" to be chaired by **Fred H. White** and "Teaching Native American Literatures" chaired by **Kathryn Shanley**. The American Indian Literatures Division is organizing three sessions: "Past, Present, Future(s): Literary Criticism and Native American Literature" to be chaired by **Arnold Krupat**; "Voices of Native California" chaired by **Greg Sarris**; and "Performance of **Diane Glancy's *Halfact***," a session organized by **Susan Scarberry-Garcia**. We encourage your participation. In addition, plans for special events are underway.

Although the MLA Conference is the central event of *ASAIL* business, it is not the only one. In 1993 *ASAIL* was represented at the Women Writers Conference in San Antonio, Texas by Ines Hernandez Avila (*ASAIL* Secretary) who organized a session on Native American women writers, and at the American Literature Association Conference held in Baltimore last June for which John Purdy (Editor of *ASAIL Notes*) organized numerous sessions.

Consider attending this year's annual conference of the

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American Literature Association (ALA) that will be held at the **Bahia Resort Hotel in San Diego, June 2-5** (Thursday through Saturday), 1994. **Jennifer Sergi** (University of Rhode Island) is organizing several *ASAIL* sessions. Sessions of special interest include those on the American Indian and popular culture, **Louise Owens**, **Gerald Vizenor**, and **Leslie Marmon Silko's *Almanac of the Dead***.

ASAIL has accomplished a great deal in two years: we hired a new editor for *Studies in American Indian Literatures* and made a smooth transition to the new operation; we renewed *ASAIL*'s MLA allied organization status (until 1999); we organized exciting MLA sessions and special events (implementing the now ongoing session on literatures in Native languages); we established collaboratively a close working relationship with the Division; and we elected more Native officers than ever before. This report is my final act as President of *ASAIL*. It has been my honor to serve. There is still much to do and I look forward to being a part of the exciting work ahead. Warm wishes for the New Year.

Respectively yours,

Hertha D. Wong
ASAIL President

Editor's Note: On behalf of the association, I would like to thank Hertha for her fine service as president over the last two years.

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Publications

A.S.A.I.L. member Daniel F. Littlefield's book, *The Fus Fixico Letters: Alexander Posey*, which Littlefield co-edited with **Carol A. Petty Hunter**, is available from the University of Nebraska Press. Also available are *Ojibway Tales*, by **Basil Johnston** and **Alan R. Velie's The Lightning Within: An Anthology of Contemporary American Indian Fiction**. Call toll-free: 1-800-755-1 105.

From the Rutgers casebook series of short fiction by women: "Yellow Woman," **Leslie Marmon Silko's** short story is the center of this collection of essays edited by **Melody Graulich**. (Paper, \$8; Cloth, \$30) 1-800-446-9323.

From a new catalog entitled "Native American Studies: Penguin U.S.A." (a title that says it all), there are recent releases of many favorites, including the works of **Leslie Silko**, **Tom King**, **James Welch** and **David Seals**, but there are also Jamake Highwater, Ken Kesey, Bartolomé de Las Casas and Oliver La Farge, making this a catalog of worth and mirth.

On the brighter side, the editors of the traditionally staid *Norton Anthology of American Literature* are releasing its fourth edition, which includes some space for "Native American Traditions." A.S.A.I.L. member Arnold Krupat edited the anthology's sections on Native American Literatures.

From the University of Oklahoma Press: *Faces in the Moon*, by Betty Louise Bell. "This is the story of three generations of Cherokee women, as viewed by the youngest, Lucie, a

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woman who has been able to use education and her imagination to escape the confines of her rootless, impoverished upbringing." (Due for release in April.) And, *The Light People*, by Gordon Henry, Jr. "Taking inspiration from traditional Anishinaabe stories and drawing from his own family's storytelling tradition, Henry creates a novel of surpassing emotional strength." (Due for release in March.) And, *All My Relations: An Anthology of Contemporary Canadian Native Fiction*, edited by Thomas King.

From Garland Publishing: The long-awaited *Dictionary of Native American Literature* is due for release in March. Edited by A.S.A.I.L. member (and former editor of *Notes*) **Andrew Wiget**, this expansive collection covers both oral and written traditions, and many A.S.A.I.L. members contributed to its making. Garland also publishes *Native American Women: A Biographical Dictionary* edited by **Gretchen M. Bataille**, and *American Indian Women: A Guide to Research* by Bataille and **Kathleen M. Sands**. Garland, 1000A Sherman Ave., Hamden, CT 06514 or 1-800-627-6273

The Atlantic Monthly Press published a collection of short fiction by **Sherman Alexie** in 1993: *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. As usual, it is a wonderful experience.

In March, Oxford University Press will release *Dictionary of Native American Mythology*, by **Sam D. Gill** and **Irene F. Sullivan**. This collection "explores the amazing array of mythical beasts, heroic humans, and nurturing spirits that make up the fascinating spectrum of Native American mythology." Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016.

The Fall issue of *The American Indian Culture and*

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Research Journal contains a section of essays entitled "Commentaries on *When Jesus Came, The Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sex, and Power in New Mexico, 1550-1846*, by Ramón Gutiérrez." This collection of brief essays by several scholars, many of Pueblo descent--including Simon Ortiz and Ted Jojola--calls to question once again the issues of "authority." It is a very worthwhile read.

Also noted in *The American Indian Culture and Research Journal: Aboriginal Voices: Amerindian, Inuit, and Sami Theatre*. Edited by **Per Brask** and **William Morgan**. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992; *American Ethnic Literatures: An Annotated Bibliography*. **David R. Peck**. Pasadena: Salem Press, 1992; *Dead Voices: Natural Agonies in the New World*. **Gerald Vizenor**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992; *The Dog's Children: Anishinaabe Texts Told by Angeline Williams*. Edited and translated by Leonard Bloomfield. Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 1991; *Earthmaker: Tribal Stories from Native North America*. By **Jay Miller**. New York: Perigee Books, 1992; *The Flayed Gods: The Mythology of Mesoamerica: Sacred Texts and Images from Pre-Colombian Mexico and Central America*. By **Roberta H. Markman** and **Peter T. Markman**. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1992; *From the Heart of the Crow Country: The Crow Indians' Own Stories*. By Joseph Medicine Crow. New York: Crown Publishing Group, 1992; *Ghost Voices: Yakima Indian Myths, Legends, Humor and Hunting Stories*. By Donald. M. Hines. Issaquah, WA: Great Eagle Publishing, 1992; *Hiakim: The Yaqui Homeland*. **Larry Evers** and **Felipe S. Molina**. Special issue of *Journal of the Southwest* (Vol. 34, No. 1, spring 1992); *In the Presence of the Sun: Stories and Poems, 1961-1991*. N. Scott **Momaday**. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992; *Not First in Nobody's Heart: The Life Story of a*

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Contemporary Chippewa. By **Ron Paquin** and **Robert Doherty**. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1992; *Turtle Meat and Other Stories*. By Joseph Bruchac, Duluth: Holy Cow! Press, 1992; *Ute Tales*. Collected by **Anne M. Smith**, assisted by **Joseph Jorgensen**. Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1992; *Walk in Peace: Legends of the Michigan Indians*. By **Simon Otto**. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1990; *Writing the Circle: Native Women of Western Canada--An Anthology*. Edited by **Jeanne Perreault** and **Sylvia Vance**. New introduction by Gloria Bird. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1993.

From the University of Oklahoma Press: *Black Elk: Holy Man of the Oglala*, by **Michael F. Steltenkamp**. "In this biography of Black Elk, based on extensive interviews with Lucy Looks Twice, the holy man's last surviving child, and others who knew him personally, Steltenkamp sheds new light on the life of one of the world's best-known religious figures." University of Oklahoma Press, 1005 Asp Avenue, Norman, OK 73019-0445.

From The Greenfield Review Press: *Go Seek the Pow Wow on the Mountain and Other Indian Stories of the Sacandaga Valley*, by **Don Bowman**. Edited by **Vaughn Ramsey Ward**, and illustrated by **Deborah Delaney**.

From the ever-informative *S.S.I.L.A. Newsletter*: In 1992, August House Publishers released *American Indians' Kitchen-Table Stories*, collected by Keith Cunningham. "A unique collection of 'informal performance stories' recorded literally at kitchen tables, for the most part in the southwest." August House, P.O. Box 3223, Little Rock, AR 72203; *Twana Narratives: Native Historical Accounts of a Coast Salish Culture*. **William W. Elmendorf**. Univ. of Washington Press/UBC Press,

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1993; *Ararapikva: Traditional Karuk Indian Literature from Northwestern California*. Translated with Introduction and Commentary by **Julian Lang**. Heyday Books, 1994; *Yokuts Texts*. Edited by **Geoffrey Gamble**. Mouton de Gruyter, 1994; *Ella Deloria's Iron Hawk*. **Julian Rice**. Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1993; *To Drink of Death: The Narrative of a Shuar Warrior*. **Janet Wall Hendricks**. Univ. of Arizona Press, 1993.

From the University of Arizona Press: *The Sound of Rattles and Clappers: A Collection of New California Indian Writing*, **Greg Sarris**, Editor. "Shared land and cultures mark the distinguishing parameters of this anthology, which collects poetry and fiction by ten Native Americans of California Indian ancestry." Also, *Bone Dance: New and Selected Poems, 1965-1993*, by **Wendy Rose**. "Bone Dance is a major anthology of her work, comprising selections from her previous collections along with new pieces. The 56 poems move from observation of the earth to a search for ones place and identity on it." **Luci Tapahonso** has an essay in another Arizona book, *Open Spaces, City Places: Contemporary Writers on the Changing Southwest*, edited by **Judy Nolte Temple**. 1230 N. Park Avenue, Suite 102, Tucson, AZ 85719; 1-800-426-3797.

Circle of Nations is an anthology of photographs and essays from 30 Native American artists. This is a truly beautiful and powerful book, mixing as it does the vision and voices of these talented artists. To order a copy, contact Beyond Words Publishing, (503) 647-5109.

From White Pine Press, *Tekonwatonti: Molly Brant*, poems by **Maurice Kenny**. "In a remarkable sequence of voices that span the centuries, Molly takes her rightful place as one of the most powerful figures in Native American history and comes

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vibrantly to life in poems that transcend time and place." White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia, NY 14063.

They Write Their Dreams on the Rock Forever: Rock Writings in the Stein River Valley of British Columbia. **Annie York, Richard Daly**, and **Chris Arnett**. (Cloth, \$35.95) Talon Books, 201-1019 E. Cordova St., Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1M8, Canada.

The long-awaited concluding novel for **Louise Erdrich's** tetralogy, *The Bingo Palace*, was published by Harper Collins this winter. Also Michael Dorris has a collection of short fiction--*Working Men*--out from Henry Holt and Company.

Clifford Trafzer (Wyandot), whose collection *Earth Song, Sky Spirit* was published in 1993, is editing a second collection of short fiction by Native American authors, *Storytellers*. In the **November** issue of *Moccasin Telegraph*, he has a call for a few more stories 5,000 words in length. Contact Trafzer at 10173 Palmero Court, Yucaipa, CA 92399; (909) 797-9266.

Ron Querry (Choctaw) has received the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association Regional Award for *The Death of Bernadette Lefthand*. (Red Crane Books, Santa Fe 1-800-922-3392).

Copies of the video "**Returning the Gift**" are still available (for \$50 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling) from the **Native American Writers Distribution Project**, The Greenfield Review Literary Center, 2 Middle Grove Road, P.O. Box 308, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. This video records many of the fine presentations/discussions during the hallmark gathering in Norman, Oklahoma in 1992.

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A.S.A.I.L. member **Kimberly Blaeser's** manuscript *Trailing You* won the 1993 Diane Decorah Memorial Poetry Award. This is her first poetry book, and what a fine way to begin.

my heart is a stray bullet by Kateri Damm (Nawash Band Chippewa) is also a first collection of poetry. (Kegedonce Press, Cape Croker, Ontario, Canada).

Related Journals and Newsletters

One can subscribe to the ever-popular *Wicazo Sa Review: The Journal of Native American Studies*, by writing to Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, Editor, 3755 Blake Court N., Rapid City, SD 57702.

The Ethnic Reporter: The Newsletter of the National Association for Ethnic Studies: The National Association for Ethnic Studies, Department of English, Arizona State University, Box 870302, Tempe, AZ 85287-0320.

Native Playwrights Newsletter, Paul Rathbun, Editor, P.O. Box 136, Madison, WI 53701-1364. (\$10 for three issues).

Akwe:kon: A Journal of Indigenous Issues (formerly the *Northeast Indian Quarterly*) "is a multi-disciplinary scholarly magazine that combines academic research and Native knowledge, tradition[s], and culture[s] in a publication that appeals to all." *Akwe:kon Literary Issue*. An anthology of new fiction and poetry from fourteen Native American authors. Contact Jose Barreiro, Editor, *Akwe:kon Journal*, 300 Caldwell Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853.

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The Turtle Quarterly, a magazine of Native American arts and letters. 25 Rainbow Blvd., Niagara Falls, NY 14303.

Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Newsletter, an invaluable source for current information on the languages and literatures of Indigenous peoples. Editor: Victor Golla, Department of Ethnic Studies, Humbolt State University, Arcata, CA 95521.

Meeting Ground, the newsletter of the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian, Newberry Library, 60 West Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610-3380

Medium Rare, a publication of The Native American Journalists Association. 230 Tenth avenue--Suite 301, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

Calls

For panels for the 1994 MLA in San Diego:

"Multiple Subjectivities, Conflicting Subjectivities: Gender and the Challenges of Ethnic, Racial, and National Identities." 250 word abstracts by 8 March to **Michael Awkward** (English & Afro-American Studies, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109). **"Native American Languages: Endangerment and Survival."** 250 word abstracts by 15 March to **Ofelia Zepeda** (Linguistics, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721); **"Past, Present, Future(s): Literary Criticism and Native American Literature."** Papers of proposals by 15 March to **Arnold Krupat**, English, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY 10708"; **"From Ceremony to Almanac: The**

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Evolution of Leslie Marmon Silko's Fiction." Abstracts by 7 March to **Louise K. Barnett**, English, Rutgers, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 or **James L. Thorson**, English, U. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; "**Native American Literature and Experience East of the Mississippi.**" Abstracts by 18 March to **David Thomson**, English, McCosh 22, Princeton U., Princeton, NJ 08544; "**Return to Native American Languages.**" Abstracts by 1 March to **Fred H. White**, (I assume that this is the Fred White at Applied Linguistics, U.C.L.A., Los Angeles, CA 90024?)

The **4th National American Women Writers of Color Conference** will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland from October 14-16, 1994. There will be panels and roundtables, and they are looking for submissions for panels or individual presentations on all aspects of women writers of color. Abstracts by 1 April to **Connie Richards** or **Thomas Erskine**, Dept. of English, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, MD 21801; (410) 543-6445.

An annual magazine of poetry and short, short fiction, *Calapooya Collage* is seeking submissions from Native American authors, both established and previously unpublished. The magazine takes pride in placing writers at the beginning of their careers with writers who have obtained strong reputations. Send submissions or requests for information to: **John Purdy**, Department of English, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9055, or call (206) 650-3243.

From *Moccasin Telegraph*: "The annual deadline for submission of book length non-fiction prose manuscripts for the North American Indian Prose Award is July 1st. . . . All entries in the competition are also considered for publication by the

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University of Nebraska Press. . . . Manuscripts may be in any form of non-fiction. . . . For contest rules, enclose SASE and request a copy of the University of Nebraska Press brochure "Preparing Your Manuscript" which contains detailed information and specific requirements. Contact North American Indian Prose Award, do University of Nebraska Press, 327 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0520.

From the January issue of **P.M.L.A.**: Articles are invited for a special issue of *American Literature* focusing on contemporary American literature. Sharon O'Brien is the guest editor. fresh, wide-ranging, and provocative essays are encouraged on literary and cultural issues." included in the list of possible topics are "blurred genres, gender and race, and ethnicity. Send two copies of submissions, conforming to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, by 1 June 1994 to *American Literature*, Duke University, Box 90020, Durham, NC 27708-0020.

From *The Ethnic Reporter: The Newsletter of the National Association for Ethnic Studies*: "The University of Massachusetts Press announces a new series, **Native Americans of the Northeast: Culture, History, and the Contemporary**, edited by **Colin G. Calloway** and **Barry O'Connell**. This series will explore the diverse cultures and histories of the Indian peoples of New England, the Middle-Atlantic states, eastern Canada, and the Great Lakes region. . . . [T]he editors are especially interested in works that examine neglected topics in Native American studies: cultural survival, resistance, and innovation from the late seventeenth century to the present; the relationship between Indian and African American communities; the urban experience; and Indians in industrial occupations, among others. Please address inquiries to **Barry O'Connell**, Department of English, Amherst College, Amherst, MA 01002-

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5000; or to **Clark Dougan**, Senior Editor, University of Massachusetts Press, P.O. Box 429, Amherst, MA 01004.

From *Medium Rare*: a new publication, *Spirit Talk Magazine*, will release its first issue this Spring, and is seeking submissions of writing, photography and art. The theme of the first issue is "America's Indian Spiritual Heritage." For more information contact **Harold E. Gray**, Drawer V, The Blackfoot Nation, Browning, MT 59417; (406) 338-2882.

The PEN America Center offers prizes for translations from several languages, including Native American. For information on the Kolovakos Prize, for instance, and others, contact **Keith Goldsmith**, Chair, Translation Committee, PEN American Center, 568 Broadway, New York, NY 10012 (212) 334-1660.

The 1994 Midwest MLA Conference (November 11-13 in Chicago) will have a special session, "**Female Native American Writers: Hanging from the Thirteenth Floor.**" "This special session seeks to remedy the situation [of under-representation] by bringing the work of female Native American writers--whether one of the earlier writers or one of the very latest--before the scholarly community. Interdisciplinary papers and those by Native American scholars are particularly welcome. 1-2 page abstracts by April 1, 1994 to: **Claudia A. Limbert**, Department of English, Penn State University, 147 Shenango Ave., Sharon, PA 16146 (412) 983-5838."

Previously unpublished Native American children's book authors and illustrators are invited to submit manuscripts for the **Multicultural Publisher Exchange Childrens Book Award**, supported by Highsmith Press. The deadline for submission is 31 March. For submission information, contact the Multicultural

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Publishers Exchange, 2215 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI 53704 or call (608) 244-5633.

The Native American inmates of the FPC in Millington, Tennessee have initiated a class entitled "**Native American Awareness**," which is to help fellow inmates come to know better their Native American heritage. They are in desperate need of any donated materials that may help them in their task: literature, newsletters, catalogues, books, tapes, videos, and any other educational materials. "The men are very eager to learn and fill the void of the lost past of their lives. . . . Anything you can do to help us get organized and equipped to learn to grow in our cultural past would be greatly appreciated." To help, contact **Chaplain Noble. R. Walker**, 6696 Navy Road FPC Millington, Millington, TN 38053.

Fellowships

"**Indian Voices in the Academy**," a program of faculty seminars and fellowships is sponsored by the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian. Over a three-year period, this program "will bring Indian and non-Indian teachers and scholars together for fellowships and week-long seminars designed to promote communication and collaboration within the field. . . . Applications are due April 1 each year, but late applications will be considered if space is available." For information, contact the Center at The Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610-3380.

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Gatherings/Meetings

International Conference on Narrative Literature: Nativity and Narrativity: Multicultural Frameworks of Literature. 28 April-1 May, 1994, Vancouver. Address: Paul Matthew St. Pierre, Department of English, Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6, Canada.

There are two National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminars for College Teachers that will be of interest to *Notes* readers, although the deadline for applications is, sadly, 1 March. One is to be directed by A.S.A.I.L. member **A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff** on **American Indian Literatures** from 20 June to 12 August at the University of Illinois at Chicago. (Contact her at: Institute for the Humanities (m/c 206), University of Illinois at Chicago, 701 Morgan Street, Chicago, IL 60607; (312) 996-63 52; fax (312) 996-2938). The other is on "**The Oral Tradition in Literature**," to be directed by **John Miles Foley** at the University of Missouri at the same time. (Contact him at: The Center for Studies in Oral Tradition, 301 Read Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.)

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Bulletin Board

From *News From Indian Country*: During the Returning **the Gift 1993: Southwest Native American Voices** gathering last summer in Norman, Oklahoma, **Simon J. Ortiz** received a lifetime achievement award, a well deserved honor. I am certain that we all send him our best.

Annie Hansen (whose short story "Sun Offering" appears in Cliff Trafzer's *Earth Song, Sky Spirit*) has become fiction editor for *The Raven Chronicles*, a multicultural journal of literature and arts in Seattle (P.O. Box 95918, Seattle, WA 98145).

A.S.A.I.L. member **D. L. Birchfield** (Choctaw/Chickasaw, who also has a story in Trafzer's anthology) has become the book review editor for the twice monthly Native American newspaper, *News from Indian Country* (Box 2900A, Hayward, WI 58483) as well as a contributing editor for *The Raven Chronicles*. Birchfield has also signed contracts with Modern Curriculum Press for biographies of Tecumseh and Jim Thorp.

Ron Querry (Choctaw) has received the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association Regional Award for *The Death of Bernadette Lefthand* (Red Crane Books, Santa Fe) and the association has also recognized **N. Scott Momaday** (Kiowa) with its Spirit of the West Literary Achievement Award. Both authors will be honored at the association's banquet in Santa Fe on March 19th.

Duane Big Eagle (Osage) recently received the Gerbode Foundation Poetry Award.