

ASAIL NOTES

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ASAIL AT MLA

The current president of ASAIL, Susan Scarberry-Garcia, has secured an excellent, economic scheduling and good topics and presenters for the association's participation in the MLA convention in New York, Dec. 27-30.

109. *Native American Oral Texts: Interpretations and Transcriptions.*

28 December. 8:30-9:45 am, Majestic, Marriott. Paul Zolbrod, Chair

1. "Transcription, Interpretation and Translation: The View from Native South America." Joel Sherzer, U Texas.

2. "Issues of Interpretation: *Song of the Sky*." Brian Swann, Cooper Union.

Respondent: Larry Evers, University of Arizona

178. *Native American Poetry, Song and Short Fiction.*

28 December, Gilbert, Marriott, 12:00-1:15 pm. Daniel Littlefield, Chair

1. "The Telling that Continues: Oral Tradition in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Storyteller*." Bernard A. Hirsch, University of Kansas

2. "Simon Ortiz: The Poet and His Landscape." William Oandasán, UCLA.

3. "Singer of the Semiotics of Power: John Milton Oskison." Gretchen Ronnow, U of Arizona.

The ASAIL BUSINESS MEETING will also be on the 28th at 3:30 pm in Suite 3842 of the Marriott Marquis. We have a number of issues to take up, including possible association-wide projects. We also have elections. Daniel Littlefield will serve as President for 1987. The Association will accept nominations for someone to serve as President-Elect for 1987 and President in 1988. Please consider serving yourself or securing someone's permission for nomination at the meeting.

More information about MLA panels of potential interest to ASAIL Members is included as a pullout center page to this issue. Take it with you to the convention.

LAVONNE RUOFF TO BE HONORED BY MELUS AT MLA

A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, a longtime member of ASAIL, who represented the interests of Native American literary scholarship on the MLA's Commission on the Literatures and Languages of America, widely respected for her historical scholarship and exemplary bibliographic skills, will be honored by MELUS for her outstanding contribution to the study of the ethnic literatures of America. ASAIL members should pause in the hectic round of MLA to celebrate with MELUS the achievement of our colleague. Reservations for the MELUS Luncheon Program (Dec 29, Wintergarden Room, Marriott Marquis), which features an excellent menu, are \$25.00. Tickets can be purchased from Professor Curtis Smith, MELUS Treasurer, University of Houston-Clear Lake.

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THE MLA'S COMMISSION ON THE LITERATURES AND LANGUAGES OF AMERICA

The Commission met in NYC on Oct. 9-10. In addition to planning a forum with accompanying panels for next year's workshop, the Commission put forward two other ideas: A CLLA newsletter which would feature news, research reports, announcements, calls for papers, current bibliography, etc. but which would cover all the literatures represented: Native American, Asian American, Chicano and Black; also, a project to identify catalog, and perhaps with appropriate copyright and licensing agreements make available for copying and distribution, audiotape recordings of writers from these literatures. These projects, especially the last, will be raised at the ASAIL Business Meeting and your opinion solicited. The Next CLLA meeting is in February 1986.

JOB INFORMATION

Announced in the *CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION*: Director of American Indian Studies Center, UCLA. Research, publication in NA Studies field, and administrative experience necessary. Candidate must qualify for tenurable position in a UCLA academic department. Write: Carole Goldberg-Ambrose, Associate Dean and Chair, AISC Director Search Committee, UCLA School of Law, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

LARRY EVERS TO OFFER NEH SUMMER SEMINAR IN 1987

Larry Evers, distinguished teacher and scholar of Native American Literature and editor of the much-praised *SUN TRACKS* series, will offer an NEH Summer Seminar on American Indian Verbal Art and Literature for College Teachers at the University of Arizona, from June 15 to August 7. A stipend of \$2,750 will be paid to participants. Potential applicants should write Larry at the Department of English, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

BOOKS: OLD . . .

Hardbound copies of Janet Campbell Hale's fine, recent novel, *THE JAILING OF CECILIA CAPTURE*, were available as remainders from Daedalus Books in New York for \$2.95. A good bargain if you can find it advertised. Try *The New York Review of Books*.

Bo Scholer's collection of contemporary Native American Literature and criticism, *COYOTE WAS HERE*, formerly only available from Bo via U of Aarhus, Denmark, will be distributed in the US by Navajo Community College Press. Price \$11.00, plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

NCC Press will shortly put Simon Ortiz's *EARTH POWER COMING: SHORT FICTION IN NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE* through its second printing.

NEW, AND . . . SOON

Joel Sherzer and Greg Urban have published *NATIVE SOUTH AMERICAN DISCOURSE* (Mouton, 1986) which follows the example of Sherzer's *KUNA WAYS OF SPEAKING* in applying performance theory to Native American literatures from South America. Expected soon is Larry Evers and Felipe Molina's *MASO BWIKAM: YAQUI DEER SONGS* (University of Arizona). Andrew Wiget's *SIMON ORTIZ* (Boise State, \$2.50) is the monograph on a Native American author in that Western Writers Series.

If you haven't yet picked up Louise Erdrich's newest novel, *BEET QUEEN*, (Holt, 1986) read it, and discover why it made *The New York Times* best-seller list.

Other novels by Native American writers expected later this year or early next include Gerald Vizenor's *GRIEVER: AN AMERICAN MONKEY KING IN*

{3} CHINA (Fiction Collective/Illinois State U), Michael Dorris, *A YELLOW RAFT ON BLUE WATER* (Holt), and James Welch, *FOOLS CROW* (Viking).

NEW FILMS AVAILABLE

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS tells the story of Navajo men who served in WW II and as radiomen and whose native tongue provided a code the Japanese never cracked. Film and tape formats, sale or rental. From OneWest, 535 Cordova Rd., Suite 40, Santa Fe, NM 87501 (Phone 505/983-8685). *PARLEZ-VOUS YUP'IK* describes how the Yupik version of *Antigone*, which was so well-received in NY and Europe, was conceived of, planned and produced. Describes the cast's visit to Europe with scenes from play and discusses how *Antigone* as a drama is compatible with Yupik understandings of death, family and loyalty. From KYUK-TV, Kuskokwim Community College, Bethel, AK.

RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Beach, M.A., "The Waptsi Prophet and The Feather Religion: Derivative of the Washni." *AMERICAN INDIAN QUARTERLY* 9:325-333 (S 85).

Dunsmore, Roger. "Transformation: Sweat Lodge Ritual No. 1." *STUDIES IN AMERICAN INDIAN LITERATURE* 10, 1 (WTR 1986) 16-37.

Fans, Peter K., "A Fertility Ceremony Illustrated in the Cave of Life, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona." *SOUTHWESTERN LORE* 52:1 (March 85) 8-21.

Gebbart-Sayer, Angelica. "The Geometric Designs of the Shipibo-Conibo in Ritual Context." *JOURNAL OF LATIN AMERICAN LORE* 11:2 (W 85) 143-176.

Hering, J.B. "Kenekuk, The Kikapoo Prophet: Acculturation Without Assimilation." *AMERICAN INDIAN QUARTERLY* 9 (Summer 85) 295-307.

Kroeber, Karl. "Elderberry and Stone: A Source for Tsimshian Literary Studies." *STUDIES IN AMERICAN INDIAN LITERATURE* 10, 1 (WTR 1986) 38-42.

Moore, Robert. "Coyote and the Five Sisters." *STUDIES IN AMERICAN INDIAN LITERATURES* 10, 1 (WTR 1986) 1-15.

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Scott, J.C. "Narrative Expectations and Textual Misreadings: Jamake Highwater's *ANAPAO* analyzed and reanalyzed." *STUDIES IN THE LITERARY IMAGINATION*. 18 (F 85) 93-105.

Trafzer, C.E. and M.A. Beach. "Smohalla, The Washani and Religion as a Factor in Northwest Indian History." *AMERICAN INDIAN QUARTERLY* (S 85) 9: 309-324.

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Clements, William M., "Folk-Historical Sense in Two Native American Authors." *MELUS* 12:1 (S 85) 65-78.

Givens, Bettye. "A MELUS Interview: N. Scott Momaday - A Slant of Light. *MELUS* 12:1 (S 85) 774-788.

Herzog, Kristen. "Thinking Woman and Feeling Man: Gender in

{4} Silko's *Ceremony*. MELUS (S 85) 25-36.

Ruoff, A. LaVonne Brown. "The Survival of Tradition: American Indian Oral and Written Narratives." THE MASSACHUSETTS REVIEW 27 (1986) 274-93.

Ruppert, James. "Mediation and Multiple Narrative in Contemporary Native American Fiction. TSLL: TEXAS STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE 2 (1986) 209-225.

Bibliographic Essays

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Wiget, Andrew. "Native American Literature: A Bibliographic Survey of American Indian Literary Traditions. CHOICE (June 1986) 1503-12.

NOTE: Your sub-sub-librarian would have the temerity to assert that the value of a bibliography is directly proportionate to the amount of information it provides on sources otherwise difficult to locate. He needs to hear from subscribers about local, small press, regional, foreign, and university-affiliated serials and other sources easily overlooked by indexing services.

ADDENDUM: George is dead, so we can no longer count on letting George do it.

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