

ASAIL Notes

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"I will speak plainly.
That is how I speak, past the skin,
through the teeth.

--Elizabeth Woody
from "Spider Woman's Coyote Bones"

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ASAIL NOTES

is published three times a year for the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures with assistance from Central Oregon Community College. **Deadlines** for submissions of material are October 15, January 15 and May 15. All news-worthy materials or subscription fees should be sent to:

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Association News

The times and locations for our sessions and business meeting at the **Modern Language Association** convention in Chicago have been set as follows:

"The Other Captives: American Indian Oral Captivity Narratives." Thursday, 27 December from 9:00-10:15 p.m. in the New Orleans room at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Chair: Peter G. Beidler, Lehigh University.

Papers:

"Indians as Captives within a Dominant Religious System," **Greg M. Sarris**, University of California, Los Angeles.

"Indians as Captives within a Dominant Educational System," **Andrea Lerner**, University of Arizona.

"Indians as Captives within a Dominant Political System," **Edward D. Castillo**, Sonoma State University.

"From the Heart of Indian Country: Oral and Written Art in Contemporary Native American Communities." Sunday, 30 December from 1:45-3:00 p.m. in Columbus Hall G at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Chair: Franchot Ballinger, University of Cincinnati.

Papers:

"I am not anything today. Tomorrow I will be Klamath.": A Tribal Program in Language, Literacy and Literature." **Andrea Lerner**, University of Arizona.

"He's got me all taped up.": Native Language Awareness and Transmission Among the Southern Paiute." **Gretchen Ronnow**, University of Arizona.

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"Tribal Cultural Conservation Work at Zuni." **Andrew Wiget**, New Mexico State University.

Our annual **business meeting** will take place on Saturday, 29 December from 1:45-3:00 p.m. in the Addams Room at the Hyatt Regency.

There are several items on the agenda for the meeting. We will discuss possible incorporation of the Association. Also, our president, Franchot Ballinger, has completed the new ASAIL by-laws, so these will be discussed and amended. If you wish a copy of them in advance, please send a self-addressed envelope to Franchot at the University of Cincinnati, Mail Location 205, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221.

Andrea Lerner is looking for papers for the ASAIL session at the American Literature Association convention in Washington D.C. in May 1991. For details, turn to the **Calls** section of this issue.

Books and Articles

It was reported in a past issue that **Clifford Trafzer** and **Richard Scheuerman** were to edit a manuscript left by **Mourning Dove**. It appears that **Jay Miller** of the Newberry Library had the same idea, and has finished editing the manuscript for the University of Nebraska Press.

Andrea Lerner has edited a collection entitled *Dancing on the Rim of the World: An Anthology of Contemporary Northwest Native American Writing*. It was released in September from the University of

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Arizona Press (Suntracks #19). For a copy, contact the Press at 1230 N. Park Ave. Suite 102, Tucson, AZ 85719-4140. (She is also seeking submissions from Native American playwrights; see the **Calls** section of this issue.)

Helen Jaskoski has an essay on the songs of Juana Manuel, an O'odahm healer also known as "Owl Woman," in *Sowing Ti Leaves: Writings by Multi-Cultural Women*, Mitsuye Yamada and Sane Sachie Hylkema editors. It is available from MCWW, c/c Mitsuye Yamada, 6151 Sierra Bravo Road, Irvine, CA 92715.

Professor George E. Fay sadly announces the demise of the Occasional Publications in Anthropology program at the University of Northern Colorado. However, he has an inventory of monographs from the program's *Linguistics Series* remaining. Titles include: *The Present Status of the Uto-Aztecan Languages of Mexico*, by **James R. Jaquith**; *Mohawk Texts: Bible Translations (Romans)*, by **H.A. Hill**; *Cheyenne Texts: An Introduction to Cheyenne Literature*, **Wayne Leman**, ed.; *Schulenburg's Tsimshian Grammar*, by **Virginia C. Flaherty**; as well as others, at remarkable prices. For a list or information, contact Professor Fay, Department of Anthropology, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639.

Calls

Andrea Lerner is looking for papers for the **ASAIL** session at the **American Literature Association** convention in Washington D.C. in May 1991. "Papers on all topics will be considered, though I have a particular interest in the following issues: Historical or contemporary contact narratives; Comparative approaches in American Indian literatures;

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Papers which consider models of teaching American Indian literatures, particularly in non-specialty courses, i.e. composition, American lit., survey courses on the novel, poetry, etc.; Collaborative approaches to Native American texts (written or oral) between scholars and members of Native American communities." Send abstracts to Andrea, as soon as possible: Department of English, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

Andrea is also seeking plays by Native Americans for an anthology of contemporary American Indian drama. If you are a Native playwright, or know someone who is, contact her at the address above, or call her office, (602) 621-1836.

Helen Jaskoski, editor of *Studies in American Indian Literatures*, announces a special issue on early written literature: works by American Indian authors published before 1950. "In addition to discussion of fiction and poetry we would like to see consideration of other texts, such as histories including autobiographical texts that combine personal, family and tribal history; essays; satire; published letters, diaries and journals; polemical writing; ephemeral and periodical publications; performance scripts and religious treatises. We also encourage a variety of approaches, including (but not limited to) historical or biographical themes, comparative analysis, conditions of production and publication, reader-response approaches." The deadline for finished papers is April 1991, so send submissions, or address inquiries, to Helen at the Department of English, California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92634.

Dictionary of Global Literacy. **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** and **K.A. Appiah** have begun work on a dictionary that will act as "a compendium of important cultural concepts drawn from the disparate peoples and traditions of 'our' world." This massive undertaking will include aspects of Native American cultures, including some tribal writers. "We intend to in-{5}clude significant individuals and groups;

architectural and other monuments; texts--sacred and secular, oral and written; works of art, visual, plastic and performing; historical and mythological events; gods and goddesses; festivals, folktales, rituals; and so forth." For support, or offers of assistance, write Gates and Appiah at Global Literacy, 3101 Petty Road, Suite 206, NC 27707 or call (919) 489-0412, or fax to (919) 489-0597.

Dr. Rodney Simard will be the general editor for a series of books in American Indian Studies to be published by Peter Lang Publishing. "The Series seeks to cover all aspects of American Indian history and culture, with an emphasis on contemporary ideas and issues. The Series is inter-disciplinary, aimed at both the scholar and general reader, with particular interest in literature and aesthetics; a central concern is the concept of 'tradition,' and whether it is fixed and static or fluid and dynamic. Monographs from both established and emerging scholars in various disciplines and from various perspectives are welcome. Serious consideration will be given to revised doctoral dissertations." Submit a letter of inquiry, a one page abstract, the title and length of the proposed manuscript to: Dr. Rodney Simard, Department of English, California State University, San Bernardino, CA 92407.

As always, the *Calapooya Collage* seeks submissions from American poets for its annual issue. The *Collage* offers the chance for emerging poets to appear with those wh have published widely. Each poem accepted for publication also is eligible for the annual awards honoring Carolyn Kizer, awards totalling \$700. Submissions from Native American poets should be sent to the **Notes** editor, at the address listed on the inside of the front cover. Submissions from non-Native poets should be sent to Editor, *Calapooya Collage*, P.O. Box 309, Monmouth, OR 97361.

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Gatherings and Readings

Returning the Gift: A Festival of North American Native Writers. This is to be "a four-day event for Native writers (fiction and non-fiction), poets, playwrights and literary critics of Native descent. The first three days will be exclusively for the Native writers themselves. The fourth day will be open to the general public. The agenda for the festival will include panel discussions, seminars, working sessions, readings, and performances."

The details are being finalized, but the chair of the steering committee, Joseph Bruchac, writes that the gathering will take place in late June, 1992, and in Oklahoma. If you are interested and want more information, please contact Bruchac at P.O. Box 308, Greenfield Center, NY 12833

A recent press release reports that Nebraska Indian Community College has received a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to help the college "offer a series of readings by ten Native American writers/poets." These will include Leslie Silko, James Welch, Louise Erdrich and N. Scott Momaday. The readings will take place on NICCs Santee, Winnebago and Macy campuses.

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I want to thank Susan Scarberry-Garcia for her fine work as editor of *Notes* last year. She expended a great deal of time and energy, but also personal funds to produce the newsletter, and I am deeply grateful.

--JP