

Steering Committee

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## From the Steering Committee Chair

Greetings!

Plans for the Coalition for Western Women's History's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary are well underway, and I hope many of you will be able to celebrate this milestone at the Western History Association Conference in Salt Lake City, October 22-25. On behalf of the Steering Committee, I would like to thank everyone who has worked to make this a truly memorable celebration. A special note of thanks goes to Kathleen Underwood and Paula Petrik for their efforts with the CWWH Breakfast, and to Betsy Jameson for organizing a luncheon to honor Susan Armitage on her retirement. We hope you will show your support by participating in these and other CWWH events.

Taking a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of the past is a good thing, of course, but during this past year members have continued to think of the future of the organization, especially how to bring western women's history to a wider audience. We are pleased to announce that beginning in 2009, the CWWH will have a sponsored session on the WHA program. Betsy Jameson will chair the inaugural session in Denver, with a roundtable discussion, "Western Women's History: Retrospective and Future." (This session will be in addition to the Wednesday Roundtable.) Reaching beyond the WHA, Susan Waldaver-Morgan was instrumental in co-sponsoring three sessions at the 2008 PCB-AHA, and Lori Lahlum orchestrated two CWWH co-sponsored sessions for the upcoming 2008 Northern Great Plains History Conference. There is

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## Susan Armitage

Susan Armitage, Charles O. and Mary R. Johnson Distinguished Professor of History at Washington State University, retired from teaching at the end of the 2007-2008 academic year. Her long career is unequalled in significance for the field of western women's history. A founding member of the Coalition for Western Women's History, Armitage chaired the organizing committee for the first Women's West conference, held in Sun Valley, Idaho, in 1983; the third Women's West confer-

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## Armitage Retirement, cont.

ence, “The Women’s West: Race, Class, and Social Change,” held in San Francisco in 1987; and the fifth Women’s West conference, held in Pullman, Washington, in 2000. She served as the first Chair of the CWWH Steering Committee, and later, as Treasurer. Her leadership has guided the Coalition from the start, and has helped generate networks of scholars in western women’s history.

Sue’s keynote address to the first Women’s West conference, “Through Women’s Eyes: A New View of the West,” launched a sustained critique of androcentric western histories. Evoking an image of a mythic place called “Hisland,” populated by an all-male cast of “mountain men, cowboys, Indians, soldiers, farmers, miners, and desperados,” Armitage observed: “The problem with Hisland is that many people believe it is history, and some of those people are historians.”

Susan Armitage’s scholarship has added women to that mythic landscape, and gone further to generate new methodologies, frame-

works, and narratives to reframe western history from the more inclusive perspectives of race, gender, class, and region. Her contributions include *The Women’s West* (1987) and *Writing the Range: Race, Class, and Culture in the Women’s West* (1997), both with Elizabeth Jameson; *So Much to Be Done*, 1990, with Christiane Fischer and Ruth Moynihan; *Women in the West: A Guide to Manuscript Sources* (1991), with Helen Bannon, Katherine Morrissey, and Vicki Ruiz; *Women’s Oral History: The Frontiers Reader* (2002), with Patricia Hart and Karen Weathermon; *Chicana Leadership: The Frontiers Reader* (2003), with Yolanda Flores Niemann, Patricia Hart and Karen Weathermon; *Asian American Women: The Frontiers Reader* (2004), with Linda Trinh Vo, Marian Sciachitano, Patricia Hart and Karen Weathermon; *Women Writing Women: The Frontiers Reader* (2006), with Patricia Hart and Karen Weathermon; and *Gender on the Borderlands: The Frontiers Reader* (2007) with Antonia Castañeda, Patricia Hart and Karen Weathermon. She has authored

numerous articles and co-authored the U.S. history textbook, *Out of Many*. Armitage served from 1995-2003 as Editor of *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*. As this partial list suggests, Sue Armitage’s scholarship reflects her outstanding contributions to the development of oral history as a methodology for women’s history, her commitment to racial inclusiveness, and her gift for collaborative work.

Her extensive service includes the WHA Council from 1998-2001. In her “retirement” she plans to finish a book on women in the Pacific Northwest. Please join to recognize her leadership, scholarship, teaching, and service at a lunch in her honor at the 2008 WHA conference.

## Chair’s Letter, cont.

still time to construct CWWH-sponsored panels for the WAWH Conference in 2009. In an effort to encourage graduate students interested in western women’s history, the CWWH will bring new and established scholars together with our Mentors Program, directed by Melody Miyamoto and Elaine Nel-

son. We also hope that changing our Business Meeting to immediately after the Wednesday afternoon Roundtable will allow more members to share in conversations about future goals and initiatives.

So enjoy this anniversary year, and help celebrate our history—the people and events that brought

women’s experiences out from obscurity and into the vanguard of western history. It’s a glorious achievement, and we hope an inspiration for the future.

Renee Laegreid

Chair of the Steering Committee

## CWWH Events at the 2008 WHA

### Luncheon to Honor Susan Armitage

Susan Armitage, founding Chair of the Coalition for Western Women's History, will be honored at a luncheon on October 25, 2008, at the WHA conference in Salt Lake City. Sue retired from teaching at the end of the 2007-2008 academic year. Please join her students, colleagues, and

many friends to celebrate her distinguished contributions to western women's history, and to honor the inclusive spirit of her leadership and her scholarship.

Lunch reservation can be made when registering for the WHA conference online at [www.umsl.edu/~wha/](http://www.umsl.edu/~wha/).

### CWWH Breakfast

Join your friends and colleagues as the Coalition for Western Women's History celebrates its 25th Anniversary at this year's breakfast. The breakfast is at 7:00 on Friday, October 24 in the Amethyst One Room. Tickets are available with the WHA registration at [www.umsl.edu/~wha/](http://www.umsl.edu/~wha/).

### CWWH Silent Auction

The Coalition for Western Women's History will hold our annual silent auction at this year's Western History Association conference to raise funds to endow the two prizes the organization awards annually, the Jenson-Miller Prize for the best article in western women's history and the

Irene Ledesma Prize to support graduate student research in western women's history. This year's Auction Co-Chairs are Betsy Jameson, University of Calgary and Jessie Embry, Brigham Young University. We need donations and volunteers to help set up the booth Wednesday and work

there on Thursday and Friday. If you can donate an item or want to work the booth, please contact Betsy Jameson at [jameson@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jameson@ucalgary.ca). If you need to ship your item in advance, contact Jessie Embry at [jessie\\_embry@byu.edu](mailto:jessie_embry@byu.edu). Please, bid early, bid often.

*"Bid early, bid often."*

## Join the CWWH Mentor Program

As we head closer to the Western History Association Conference, we hope to begin the CWWH Mentor Program. If you are interested in being a mentor, or are in need of one, please contact Melody Miyamoto at [mmiyamot@coe.edu](mailto:mmiyamot@coe.edu) or Elaine Nelson at [emn1023@aol.com](mailto:emn1023@aol.com),

by September 30. Please specify if you want to BE a mentor, or if you are in NEED of a mentor. Once we compile a list of volunteers, we will then contact you and pair you up. We hope to have many volunteers for both mentor and mentee positions and have you

meet one another at the Western.

Melody Miyamoto ([mmiyamot@coe.edu](mailto:mmiyamot@coe.edu)) and Elaine Nelson ([emn1023@alo.com](mailto:emn1023@alo.com))

## Join CWWH

CWWH welcomes the membership of anyone interested in the history of women in the North American West. New members may join at any time. An application form can be found on page 5 or at:

[www.WesternWomensHistory.org/mbrshp.htm](http://www.WesternWomensHistory.org/mbrshp.htm).

Our membership year runs October to October, from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting (which is held in conjunction with the WHA's annual meeting). We encourage members to renew their membership by com-

ing to the Annual Meeting, especially the CWWH Breakfast. Dues are pro-rated to members' annual income. No one will be excluded from membership in CWWH because of inability to pay.

Dues schedule:

Students: \$15

Income under \$40,000: \$30

Income over \$40,000: \$45

Institutions: \$100

Membership dues and contributions to the Jensen-Miller Prize fund or the Irene Ledesma Prize fund should be sent to:

Susan Wladaver-Morgan

Treasurer, CWWH

487 Cramer Hall

Portland State University

Portland, OR 97207-0751

## Call for CWWH History!

In an effort to preserve the history of the Coalition of Western Women's History, the Steering Committee would like to begin collecting material on the establishment and development of the Coalition. Please share your stories about organizing the CWWH—

the triumphs and the struggles—as well as stories about the growth and changes within the group over its twenty-five year history. Additionally, we would like narratives about how the CWWH has influenced western women's history and the WHA. The Steering Committee would

also like digital copies of any photos that you have of the CWWH over the years. Some of the history will be published in upcoming newsletters.

Send materials to Renée Laegreid at [rlaegreid@hastings.edu](mailto:rlaegreid@hastings.edu).

## Members' Activities

*Full-Court Quest: The Girls from Fort Shaw Indian School, Basketball Champions of the World* by **Linda Peavy** and **Ursula Smith** will be out soon from the University of Oklahoma Press. Linda and Ursula will participate at the WHA Book Corral on Friday (October 24) from 4:30 – 6:00 (Amethyst One Room). Get a signed copy of Linda and Ursula's book, and contribute to the WHA in the process.

**Lynne Getz** of Appalachian State University received a John Topham and Susan Redd Butler Faculty Fellowship for work on her book project focusing on the women of the Wetherill family of New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona.

**Karen McNeill** received the 2008-2009 Butcher Scholar Award from the Autry National Center for her work on Julia Morgan.

**Linda English** started a tenure-track appointment at the University of Texas – Pan American this fall. Congratulations, Linda.

**Renée Laegreid** earned tenure at Hastings College.

Send news on member activities to Lori Lahlum at [lori.lahlum@mnsu.edu](mailto:lori.lahlum@mnsu.edu).

COALITION FOR WESTERN WOMEN'S HISTORY

Membership Information

CWWH welcomes the membership of anyone interested in the history of women in the North American West. New members may join at any time. Our membership year runs October to October, from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting (which is held in conjunction with the WHA's annual meeting). We encourage members to renew their membership by coming to the Annual Meeting, especially the CWWH Breakfast. Dues are pro-rated to members' annual income. No one will be excluded from membership in CWWH because of inability to pay.

<b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ <b>E-Mail:</b> _____ By providing CWWH with your e-mail and street address, you agree that CWWH may contact you for purposes of requesting or sharing information about your professional activities and those of the CWWH. CWWH will not distribute this information outside the organization.  /_/ Please check this box if you do not wish CWWH to share your email address with other CWWH members. <b>Telephone:</b> _____ <b>FAX:</b> _____ <b>Affiliation:</b> _____ <b>New Member</b> _____ <b>or Renewal</b> _____
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Annual Dues (Dues are the same in U.S. and Canadian dollars.):

Students.....	\$15.00	
Income under \$40,000.....	30.00	
Income \$40,000 and over.....	45.00	
Institutions.....	100.00	
Contribution:		
Jensen-Miller Prize.....	\$ _____	
Irene Ledesma Prize.....	_____	
Unrestricted.....	_____	
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED:</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Please send to:

Susan Wladaver-Morgan, Treasurer, CWWH

487 Cramer Hall

Portland State University

Portland, OR 97207-0751

last updated: October 23, 2005

# Calls For Papers

## Western Social Science Association

The Rural and Agricultural Studies Section of the Western Social Science Association invites paper and session proposals for its 51st annual conference, "New Era in a New World: Challenges facing the Social Sciences," held April 15-18, 2009, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The deadline for submissions is **December 1, 2008**.

Panels, roundtable discussions, and papers on any aspect of rural studies or agriculture in any part of the world are welcome. Varying in discipline, approach, and scope, past papers have addressed small towns, extraction-based economies, cultural landscapes, population change, rural-urban divisions, food and food policy, and social and environmental history. Scholars willing to serve as moderators/discussants should indicate their interests.

Please submit paper/session proposals with presentation title, presenter(s) name(s), contact information, and an abstract (150-word maximum) along with audio-visual needs to:

Anthony Amato  
Center for Rural & Regional Studies  
Southwest Minn. State University  
Marshall, MN 56258  
Telephone: (507)-537-6117  
email: [tamato@southwestmsu.edu](mailto:tamato@southwestmsu.edu)

For more information on the WSSA conference in Albuquerque, see the conference webpage: <http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences/default.htm>.

## 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference

**October 14-17, 2009**

**St. Cloud, Minnesota**

Papers and panels in ALL AREAS OF HISTORY are welcome. Graduate students are especially encouraged to send proposals. Please send proposals for individual papers or for panels to:

Betsy Glade  
Department of History  
St. Cloud State University  
720 Fourth Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

Email: [beglade@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:beglade@stcloudstate.edu)

The deadline for proposals is **April 3, 2009**. A prize will be awarded to the best graduate student paper presented at the conference.

## From the Editor

Dear Members and Friends:

I hope you are enjoying the second issue of the CWWH newsletter. While the newsletter provides news and announcements related to the CWWH and its members, I also want to include articles that address western women's and gender history. I am particularly interested in short pieces about

teaching western women's and gender history. What do we do in our classrooms that is most effective? For those of you attending some of the many wonderful documentaries at this year's Western, please consider writing a film review for the CWWH newsletter. It doesn't have to be long. In fact, brevity is encouraged. In upcoming issues, I also hope to include articles on the history of the Coalition. The next issue will

come out in February 2009.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and please pass on suggestions for improving the newsletter.

Best regards,

Lori Lahlum  
[lori.lahlum@mnsu.edu](mailto:lori.lahlum@mnsu.edu)

# The Coalition for Western Women's History and the Western Association of Women Historians

Here are two opportunities to publicize our organization, as well as a chance to participate in the conference of another terrific organization for women. The Western Association of Women Historians (WAWH, sometimes known affectionately as Wawa) will be holding its 40th anniversary conference April 29-May 1, 2009, at Santa Clara University, easily accessible from San Jose airport. There will be numerous special events, including a keynote by one of our founding mothers (and former AHA president) and a musical titled "Our Smart Women," written by yours truly.

Because this is a special celebratory conference, we hope to have more panels, workshops, and other creative activities than usual, and because I am on the program committee, I think I will be able to help facilitate CWWH members putting together panels to submit and having such panels listed as "co-sponsored" by CWWH. But here's

the catch: The deadline is **October 15, 2008**, to allow extra time to organize the extra events. For further information, check out the WAWH website, [www.wawh.org](http://www.wawh.org). You should also feel free to get in touch with me directly with any ideas for possible panels.

These two organizations are dear to my heart, and I think it would be wonderful to have both collaborate in as many ways as we can. In fact, we have already done so. Last summer at the annual meeting of the PCB-AHA in Pasadena, CWWH and WAWH cosponsored several sessions (what that meant was that at least 2 panelists on each session were from either or both of our organizations—the things you can manage by serving on program committees!). Both our organizations were thus able to make ourselves known to potential new members and supporters. We have the opportunity to do so again next year when the PCB will meet in Albuquerque. The deadline for PCB

submissions, for individual papers or complete panels, is **January 15, 2009**. Check out the website at [www.pcb.cgu.edu](http://www.pcb.cgu.edu) for more details.

Our members do excellent work that deserves to be widely known. Here are two opportunities to do just that. Please contact me if you have ideas or would like help putting together full panels. Hope to hear from you soon.

Susan Wladaver-Morgan

(CWWH treasurer)

[swladamor@aol.com](mailto:swladamor@aol.com) or

[phr@pdx.edu](mailto:phr@pdx.edu)

## Western Association of Women Historians Award

The Western Association of Women Historians (WAWH) is proud to announce a new prize to be given for the first time in 2009 at its fortieth anniversary conference. The Gita Chaudhuri Prize of \$1,000 will recognize the best monograph about rural women, from any era and any place in the world, published by a WAWH member. The committee is

especially interested in projects that include rural women who: create local employment opportunities for others, serve others within the community for maintaining their daily lives, build a prosperous future for themselves and their children while raising their families, and work in small or large ways for the well-being of

community members while advancing in their own lives.

The deadline for this and most other WAWH prizes is **January 15, 2009**. Please check the website for more details: [www.wawh.org](http://www.wawh.org).



## *The Coalition for Western Women's History*

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Visit the CWWH Webpage:  
[www.westerenwomenshistory.org](http://www.westerenwomenshistory.org)

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University of Central Oklahoma

Melody Miyamoto: [mmiyamot@coe.edu](mailto:mmiyamot@coe.edu)  
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University of Oklahoma

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[misinform@comcast.net](mailto:misinform@comcast.net)

### **CWWH @ the WHA**

**Wednesday, Oct. 22**

3:00 p.m. – CWWH Roundtable, University Room

The Pleasures and Perils of Conducting Oral  
History Research

Joan M. Jensen, Chair, Emerita, New Mexico  
State University

Jennifer Nez Denetdale, Northern Arizona Uni-  
versity

Gretchen Lemke-Santangelo, St. Mary's College  
of California

Karen Leong, Arizona State University

Andrea Radke-Moss, Brigham Young University –  
Idaho

Sandra Schackel, Boise State University

Mary Ann Villarreal, University of Colorado

4:30 p.m. – CWWH Business Meeting (check the errata  
for the room location)

### **Thursday and Friday, Oct. 23 & 24**

Silent Auction—Exhibit Hall, booth #1

### **Friday, Oct. 24**

7:00 a.m.— CWWH Breakfast, Amethyst One Room

Celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coalition at  
the breakfast.

### **Saturday, Oct. 25**

Noon – Luncheon Honoring Sue Armitage, Exec. Board  
Room 300