

OHMAR *Newsletter*

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Spring, 1989

OHMAR MEETS IN THE STEEL CITY

The Duquesne University campus, on the bluff high above Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle, will be the site for OHMAR's 1989 spring meeting on Saturday, April 1. As the farthest west location for an OHMAR meeting to date, Pittsburgh offers an opportunity for participation to members in western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and western New York State, as well as fellow oral historians in nearby Ohio. For OHMAR members farther east, Pittsburgh is a short flight or a pleasant four-hour drive from Philadelphia/Baltimore/Washington areas.

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The all-day program, entitled "Turning Talk Into History" Perspectives on the Oral History Process," has been arranged by Perry Blatz, Director of Duquesne's Graduate Program in Archival, Museum and Editing Studies, and Richard Williams, Allegheny County Public Schools.

Michael P. Weber, Acting Academic Vice President and Dean of Duquesne's Graduate School, will deliver the keynote address, "The Necessity for Oral History: Confessions of a Reformed Cliometrician." Oral history has played a significant role in Dr. Weber's twenty years' study of Western Pennsylvania history. His publications include *Lives of Their Own: Blacks, Italians and Poles in Pittsburgh, 1900-1960* (University of Illinois Press, 1982), co-authored with John Bodnar and Roger Simon, and *Don't Call Me Boss: David L. Lawrence, Pittsburgh's Renaissance Mayor* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1988). He is currently at work on a project examining the effects of industrialization on blue-collar workers in Pittsburgh's industrial valleys.

Program sessions will address a variety of topics: multicultural communities and oral history, industrial history, oral history in the classroom, videotape and historical documentation, funding for oral history, folk art and music, and the art of interviewing.

A complimentary reception at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania in Oakland will conclude the day's activities. Participants will be able to view the Society's exhibit, "Homestead: The Story of a Steel Town." *Continued page 3, col. 1*

be a similar social/business event.

Start thinking now about Pittsburgh on April 1st. The Steel City has renewed appeal that will surprise anyone who has not been there recently, and the program being assembled is enticing. I look forward to seeing people get together to work on "our agenda."

David Seaman
President

SPRING MEETING (from pg. 1)

The Graduate Program in Archival, Museum and Editing Studies in the Department of History, Duquesne University, is sponsoring the conference, assisted by the Pennsylvania Ethnic Heritage Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh and the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Pittsburgh's wide array of cultural and recreational attractions, along with amenable and accessible accommodations, will encourage OHMAR members to bring their families for a Western Pennsylvania weekend. Downtown Pittsburgh has a number of excellent hotels that are located near the Duquesne campus and offer discounted weekend packages. The newly refurbished Hyatt Pittsburgh in Chatham Center is only a five-minute walk from the campus while the Sheraton at Station Square, only a five-minute drive, is part of the attractive shopping and dining complex surrounding the restored turn-of-the-century Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad Depot. Museums, parks and numerous cultural events offer opportunities for enrichment, entertainment and enjoyment for visitors of all ages. OHMAR members will enjoy taking advantage of the chance to visit this dynamic city on the occasion of the 1989 Spring Conference with its rich and varied program.

Editor's Note: The OHMAR Newsletter welcomes discussion of issues raised by all newsletter contributors and will consider all responsible replies for publication, within the limits of available space.

WHERE and HOW

Hotels

Hyatt Pittsburgh in Chatham Center: \$59 per night (limited availability) 1-800/233-1234.
Sheraton at Station Square: \$78 per night.
Less expensive rates available at numerous motels in outlying areas along major auto routes.

Visitor's Brochure

For an informational brochure describing Pittsburgh's attractions for the weekend visitor, or for further information on the conference, please contact Perry K. Blatz, Department of History, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA 15282 (412/434-6470).

Campus Information

Free weekend parking on campus. (See Campus Map, page 10.) Please note: The two nearby thoroughfares in the Duquesne campus vicinity are one-way: Forbes Avenue (one-way outbound, campus on the right), Fifth Avenue (one-way inbound, campus on the left).

The conference will take place in the Duquesne Union (#9 on Campus Map) on the 6th floor.

A REMINDER

When you move, please include OHMAR when you send out change-of-address cards. We don't want to lose *YOU!*

**OHMAR Officers and Board
1988-1989**

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**Vermont College Hosts Morrissey OH
Workshop**

Vermont College, Norwich University, will be the site of Charles Morrissey's 1989 Oral History Workshop, scheduled for August 7 - 11. Designed for those who aspire to the mastery of oral history interviewing and processing skills, the workshop will be organized in morning and afternoon sessions of three hours each, consisting of lecture, discussion and skill development exercises. According to the introductory brochure, "the schedule may be altered to take advantage of the many recreational activities on and off the campus."

Morrissey, a national and international figure in oral history for more than a quarter century, has directed projects for the U. S. Congress as well as various Presidential Libraries and private foundations. A former president of the Oral History Association, Morrissey currently edits *The International Journal of Oral History*.

For further information, contact Alan H. Weiss, Vermont College of Norwich University, Montpelier, VT 05602. (Telephone: 802/223-8800). Enrollment is limited to 24 persons.

EXECUTARY

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There is a lot to consider in responsible management of sound archives, and the reader is not harmed by having a wealth of information at hand. Not everyone will be able to use all the forms or procedures; indeed, one must avoid the tendency to create a thicket of such procedures, which obscure access to and enjoyment of the collection. Most persons who have wrestled with oral history collections will appreciate the suggestions for information to include on forms as a nucleus for developing their own systems.

The combination of the theoretical and the practi-

cal in discussing a wide range of topics is a major strength of this book. Recurring themes in all phases of the discussion are planning and practicality in evaluating what one can do in one's own situation. While this is not a "how-to" handbook, it is a volume well worth reading and keeping close at hand for archivists, librarians, interviewers, and project administrators.

Michael Everman
Archivist
American Alliance for Health,
Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

CALENDAR

February 25	OHMAR Board Meeting The Country Inn 207 S. Washington St. Berkeley Springs, WV	June 1	OHMAR Newsletter	Deadline!
March 25	Advertising deadline Oral History Review Contact Margot Knight 1116 DeSale St. SW Vienna, VA 22180	July 31- Aug 2	Summer Institute of Local History Salem State College Salem, MA	
April 1	OHMAR Spring Meeting Duquesne University Pittsburgh, PA	Aug 7-11	Charles Morrissey OH Workshop Vermont College Norwich University Montpelier, VT	
May 5 - 6	PA Black History Conference Altoona, PA Contact Kristin S. Bailey PHMC, Box 1026 Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026 (717/783-5376)	Oct 19, 20, 21	OHA Annual Conference San Luis Hotel Galveston, TX	
		Nov 18	OHMAR Fall Meeting Montpelier, VA	

ORAL HISTORY
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING

Galveston, Texas
October 19-22, 1989

The Oral History Association invites you to Galveston Island for its 1989 Annual Meeting at the beautiful San Luis Hotel, located on the beach along the Gulf of Mexico. The four-day conference will feature papers and noted speakers on political history, black history, women's history, local history, immigration, teaching and other topics of importance in this ever-expanding field. Workshop sessions adapted to different levels of experience, panel discussions of current issues, and a variety of media presentations will round out the program. Whether learning basic techniques, revealing new areas for investigation, or discussing mutual concerns, par-

ticipants will find the Galveston conference a rewarding experience.

Tours of historic Galveston and nearby museums highlight the Island's outstanding attractions. In their leisure time participants can also enjoy beach sports on the Gulf, strolls along the ten-mile-long Seawall, and jaunts to The Strand (a superb collection of 19th century ironfront buildings in an area once called the "Wall Street of the Southwest").

Plan now to attend and experience a dynamic conference enhanced by a pleasant climate and Texas hospitality.

_____ Please send more information on the 1989 Oral History Association Annual Meeting, including registration forms.

_____ Please send information on membership in the Oral History Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____



Please return to the Oral History Association, c/o Richard C. Smith, 1093 Broxton Avenue, #720, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Program and registration information will be mailed in summer of 1989.

ANNUAL
MEETING