At Kraft, they knew there had to be an easier way to get quick and accurate access to their company’s history. Like many other corporations, Kraft didn’t have an efficient system for retrieving archival documents and information. The relatively new records management department didn’t handle records scattered throughout the many company offices and locations. Second-generation employees, hired in the 1940s, wereretiring rapidly and with them went a collective memory of past events. In addition, several major product anniversaries were fast approaching. The solution was the establishment of the Kraft, Inc. archives in November 1983.

Currently the staff consists of three professionals, including a graduate of Loyola University of Chicago’s public history program, one administrative secretary and two interns. We provide a variety of services to meet the company’s informational needs. Corporate Communications is our biggest user, followed by Marketing.
Author's Rights
by Christin Conklin

"I never read it," said the author when asked what was in his contract. Beth Luey, director of the editing option in the public history program at Arizona State, remembers a colleague rushing into her office. Apparently he was upset because he signed a contract with a publisher who sold out to another company.

"Academic authors with full time jobs in their professions tend not to pay enough attention to financial details and contractual obligations. They are so grateful that someone will publish their book that they kind of roll over and play dead," says Luey. Her book, A Handbook for Academic Authors just published from Cambridge University Press, explains that writers have certain rights, and they should defend them.

It is important, according to Luey, for an author to understand a contract before signing it. The purpose of a publishing contract almost always is to give over rights as an author to a publisher in exchange for publication. The author loses control over his work, but shares in the proceeds from it.

What are an author's obligations? Most important, he or she must write a good book. The publishing contract may require the write to proof read, make an index, document quoted passages, and labor hard. Assertive authors will be able to negotiate with the publishers and get them to share this burden or do part of the work. The author who is not assertive will do it all.

Writers should also be aware that there may be more to their work than just a book. There may be a paperback, a condensed version for a magazine, a film, a miniseries or translations to foreign languages. An author's obligation is to pursue these possibilities with the publisher and to investigate all avenues open to him. Most publishers do not seek foreign translations unless they are thoroughly convinced they will sell.

Object to any editorial changes that might damage the book. Being fussy over small changes--punctuation, for example--is unnecessary, but changes suggested that threaten an argument the work is presenting or damage the credibility of the book absolutely must be objected to. Most editors are not as knowledgeable in the author's field as the author and may inadvertently make changes that affect the book substantively. It is the author's obligation to speak up.

Promotion of a book is another obligation. Most scholarly books do not get advertised in The New York Times and the author is not likely to appear on popular television talk shows. Usually the academic work is not relevant to a large population, but rather libraries and other interest groups. An author should fill out a marketing questionnaire if the publisher provides one or send a letter stating, "here are some of the places I think my book should be reviewed and here are some suggestions of what I can do to help." Also it is useful to provide the publisher with names of people who give the book good reviews for a book jacket. These make the book a more marketable product.

Luey often hears complaints about the time it takes publishers to make a decision. Do not sit back and wait. The work will not be rejected. Because most publishers are overworked, Luey advises authors to be the "squeak wheel" after a reasonable amount of time. They should set a deadline and hold the publisher to it. Expect a decision at the promised time. Authors need only write a firm, but polite letter asking for a decision.

Informed authors will know how the publishing industry works. They will know that there are different kinds of publishers to serve different purposes and then match their book to the right publisher. Being informed means knowing what goes on in a publishing house what to expect from editors, and how much help is reasonable to expect to receive from them. Knowledge of production cost is important. Word processing saves the publisher money, making some books practical that were not otherwise. The disk may be used for typesetting, but the drawback may be that the author is the only one that proof.

Knowledge of author's rights will create a better working relationship. When authors know where they stand, they are more confident. The book benefits, and so does the publisher.

Author's Rights

1. Understand what you do when you sign a contract. Usually you sign away all rights, losing control over your work in exchange for money.
2. You should understand your obligations as an author. Be prepared to present an index, proof read, accept financial responsibility and above all write a good book.
3. Understand there may be more than just a book in your work. Be aware of added benefits such as a movie or foreign translation.
4. Object to editorial changes that damage the credibility of your work.
5. Promote your book with marketing questionnaires and inform your publisher where it can be reviewed favorably.
6. Set deadlines. Don't just sit back and wait but be assertive when a deadline arrives. The publisher is not your enemy.
COUNCIL UPDATE

Executive Secretary's Report
by Barbara Howe

NCPH has been actively seeking proposals from institutions wishing to house the executive secretariat for 1987-1990. Notices have been sent to all schools listed in our guide to public history programs and press releases have been sent to numerous organizations in the public history arena. With proposals due by August 15, the executive committee hopes to make a decision in early September. My secretary is eager to start packing boxes to empty our filing drawers and fill yours.

We have also sent out a press release announcing that we are compiling a directory of consultants. Because many of the details on the directory have not yet been worked out, we are asking people who may wish to be considered to send their name and address to me. We will get back to them with appropriate forms when we have made further plans.

We have had an encouraging response to renewal notices for institutional sponsors this summer. If you have been considering joining that category (125/year), please let me know so that I can send you an invoice and get you on the roster.

Finally, the executive committee will be meeting on September 4 in New York City in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists. The next board of directors' meeting will take place in conjunction with the American Historical Association annual meeting in Washington, D.C., December 28 - 30. If you have projects that need to come to the board's attention, please let me or, Amira (or the new executive secretary!!) know by December 1. It is not fair to the board (or Membership) if items come up at the last minute, so we ask that you meet these deadlines so that your proposals can receive their proper consideration.

Thanks!

The enclosed annual report will provide you with a summary of the year's activities. We hope you will find it useful in "spreading the word" about our organization.

Former NCPH chair testifies before Congress on behalf of Historic Preservation Fund

Past Chair of the NCPH, Michael C. Scardaville, testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands on May 21 in support of the reauthorization of the Historic Preservation Fund.

Citing the value of historic preservation efforts over the course of the last two decades, Scardaville warned that "The failure to reauthorize would represent a failure on the part of Congress to recognize the importance of preserving the diverse American heritage." He further stated that the low level of funding to the states appropriated by Congress since 1980 has posed a serious threat to America's appreciation of its heritage.

Echoing a concern expressed by the NCPH over the past few years, Scardaville also pointed out that "reduced funding has contributed, in part to the establishment of history as "the cornerstone of the public preservation process," an achievement that could only be accomplished by a strong Congressional commitment to continue funding of the Historic Preservation Fund.

From the Chair
by Amira Jones

One of the chores that fell to me last year as Vice Chair was the revision of the National Council's organizational brochure, needed for our upcoming membership drive. In receiving this charge I was informed that certain language in the existing document, the statement on goals, was "sacred" and could not be revised. That caught my attention, along with the additional information on how carefully and deliberately that language had been crafted. "To promote the utility of history through professional practice" was the sacred language, a wonderfully concise statement of what we are all about. It's a goal, however, that will consume substantial quantities of professional time and steady, persistent efforts in its realization. We need to use our resources effectively. One way to做到 this is by reaching out to professionals in related fields and to their organizations, to explore what common needs we have and common goals we might pursue. For example, our recent annual meeting with federal historians in Washington stimulated a thoughtful and highly positive article on the field of public history and its practitioners in a recent issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education, while the accompanying workshop on federal historical offices provided a serious and very well-received continuing education experience for public historians from a wide variety of institutions. Your program committee for the 1988 meeting in Denver is already hard at work to expand our continuing education offerings for that event and will be happy to hear from you with ideas and proposals.

Public historians as well as the National Council have also begun to develop closer ties with the community of professional archivists. A special issue of The Public Historian on archives, the increased participation of archivists in our organization and on our programs, as well as our support of the NCC's lobbying efforts on behalf of an independent National Archives, all illustrate this effort. This September the National Council's executive committee plans to strengthen this effort by holding its usual summer meeting September 4, during the Society of American Archivists annual meeting in New York. We are also planning to meet with the 1988 Program Committee and as many of the Board of Directors in and around New York as possible during that time.

During the SAA meeting in New York several of us will also be involved in what we hope are the final planning stages of a project that has been under discussion for months—a survey of corporate archives. The fascinating and growing world of corporate archives and history is the subject of discussion elsewhere in this publication. What we hope to do eventually is secure foundation funding for a major study which will facilitate scholarly research on this important area of American life by cataloguing the recent growth in this field and identifying models which can be used to encourage professional management of historical resources in other corporations. I will, of course, be pleased to hear from any of our members who wish to be involved or offer advice. Such a project as this will also of necessity be a cooperative effort between historians and business archivists. It could also bring us a few steps closer toward that goal: to promote the utility of history through professional practice.

NCPh Passes Resolution Supporting Shipwreck Protection Legislation
By Stanley Hordes

At its annual meeting, the National Council on Public History passed a resolution endorsing the passage of legislation currently pending in Congress to afford greater protection for historic shipwrecks.

The central purpose of this legislation is to grant states the ownership and authority to manage historic shipwrecks found on submerged state lands. In absence of such legislation, the courts will continue to consider shipwrecks as commercial, rather than cultural resources, and will apply to these resources the "finders-keepers" rule borrowed from commercial maritime law.

In addition to affording protection for shipwrecks, passage of the legislation would likely result in greater opportunities for historians to work in cooperation with archaeologists to study the historic contents of these resources. In endorsing the passage of stronger laws, the NCPH joins such related professional organizations as the Society for Historical Archaeology, American Association for State and Local History, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and over a dozen other groups.

Members of the National Council are urged to contact their respective Senators and Representatives to express their views on this important matter. For further information, please contact: Stanley M. Hordes, Chair, CR Committee, HNS Associates, P.O. Box 4543 Santa Fe, NM 87502.

NCPH Guide to Continuing Education

Thanks to the cooperation of many people and the database management skills of Bill Owens, recent M.A. from the Appalachian State University History Department, the initial edition of the Guide to Continuing Education for Public Historians is now complete and has been sent to the NCPH Secretariat for publication and distribution. The directory contains 59 entries describing various opportunities for continuing education of interest to practicing historians. Most of these offerings are in the continental United States; several are Canadian programs; and two are overseas (England and Italy). The programs represented cover most of the areas of public history, and are available for $5.50 to NCPH members, $10.00 to non-members. Person interested in obtaining the Guide should contact Barbara J. Howe at the NCPH Secretariat, Department of History, University of West Virginia, Morgantown, WV 26506.
The National Council on Public History made considerable progress during 1986-87 toward implementing the goals of its Long-Range Planning Committee report. It has tried to initiate new services for members, while "institutionalizing" some of the procedures that we have established for our operations. Time will tell if we have managed to walk that fine line between the flexibility and creativity of new organizations and the bureaucracy of established ones.

Publications
Publications are perhaps the most important membership benefits, for they can reach all members of the organization. Therefore, NCPH is working to develop its publications offerings. Several new projects are underway that will increase the types of publications we offer to members. First, the Curriculum and Training Committee, under the leadership of Michael Wade, has produced a directory of continuing education opportunities open to public historians. The committee, with the help of the secretariat staff, sent out several hundred questionnaires to academic programs and professional organizations around the country. The c. 70 responses have been tabulated, and the booklet will be available for sale during the summer of 1987. For information on ordering this publication, please contact the Executive Secretary. We hope that we will be able to update this directory regularly. This publication complements our Public History Education in America: A Guide, which lists degree-granting programs in public history.

We are also planning a new directory of historical consultants. The National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History published such a directory several years ago, but it has long since gone out of date as the number of consultants increases, addresses and personnel change, etc. Anna Nelson, as chair of the Publications Committee, is spearheading this effort. Notices have been sent to professional organizations, asking them to publicize the fact that this directory is underway and seeking names of individuals and firms who wish to be listed. While rates for listing have not yet been set, the goal is to charge those wishing to be included and to publish annual updates of the computerized directory. For further information on listings, please contact the Executive Secretary.

We are also working to develop our own publications series. Currently, negotiations are under way to reprint the Report of the Committee on the Records of Government, with the cooperation of the Robert E. Krieger Publishing Company as part of their public history series. We hope this will be available in 1987, and we plan to be able to offer it at a discount to our members. Ted Karamanski has also agreed to coordinate a publication related to professional ethics. Public History News will carry further information as these publications become available.

Public History News
Our quarterly newsletter, continued to flourish under Todd Shallat's capable direction. Indeed, after several years of sporadic publication, it has again become a quarterly newsletter of timely information. Todd's regular contributors supply information on the news of the organization, lobbying and legislative concerns, cultural resources management issues, etc. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, Todd will no longer be able to serve as newsletter editor. Therefore, it is appropriate to take this opportunity to thank him and Boise State University for their support over the past year.

To provide further direction for the newsletter, Patricia Mooney Melvin has developed a series of guidelines. These have been reviewed by Shallat and the board of directors and will be implemented in the coming year.

The Public Historian
G. Wesley Johnson, editor of The Public Historian since its inception, resigned his position at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) during the past year and, by terms of our contract with UCSB, thereby also resigned his position as editor of our journal. In accordance with our contract, we opened the search for a new editor to members of the Department of History at UCSB and chose Purcell as our new editor. Dr. Purcell will begin his term with the fall 1987 issue of The Public Historian.

Our editorial board met in April 1986 and again in December 1986 and April 1987. Under the leadership of David Kyvig, chair of the Editorial Board, the group has developed an editorial policy for the journal that should The eighth volume of The Public Historian included a special issue on professional ethics edited by Ted Karamanski of Loyola University of Chicago and a special issue on archives that was edited by Bruce Dearstyn of the New York State Archives. Dearstyn worked with the Society of American Archivists to market this issue, and SAA purchased copies to sell to its members. This issue should be an excellent resource for students in archival management classes. It also represents our efforts to work with other professional organizations.

The second annual prize for the best article in The Public Historian was awarded to Stephen D. Mikesell of the California Department of Transportation for his article entitled, "Historic Preservation Counts: Quantitative Methods for Evaluating Historic Resources" (Fall 1986 issue). The $250 award was funded by NCPH and, at the suggestion of the editorial board's prize committee, named the "G. Wesley Johnson Prize" to honor Johnson's contributions to the journal.

We would like to thank Johnson, Kyvig, a co-sociate editor Lindsey Reed, book review editors Shelley Bookspan and Melissa McDonal, the literary editor's assistant, Ellie Young and Kathi Young of the University of California Press, and the members of the editorial board for their efforts to produce a quality journal for NCPH.

Conferences and Workshops
The 1987 annual conference was held April 23-26 in Washington D.C. This was a joint meeting of the Society for History in the Federal Government and the National Council on Public History. Pat Harahan and Janet Warren-Findley represented NCPH and Jane Zainaldin represented the SHFG as co-chairs for the conference. Sessions were held at the Hyatt-Regency Capitol Hill and at public history institutions such as the National Portrait Gallery and National Museum of American History.

The conference opened with a plenary session on "Government-Sponsored Research: Sanitized Past?" and continued with sessions on archives, teaching, historic preservation, and a variety of other topics. While the final reports are not yet in, it appears that about 300 people attended the conference. NCPH appreciates the cooperation of Rich Baker, President of the SHFG, in making the conference possible and thanks all the chairs and committee members who work on the conference.

In line with its goal to provide workshops training institutes for public historians, NCPH sponsored a one-day workshop on history and the federal government on April 23, preceding our conference. Jack Holl headed the planning committee for the workshop that took participants to agencies such as the Office of Force History and the National Park Service for sessions that explored the work of the federal public historians. The workshop...
Grants

Last summer, Marty Melosi and Mike Scardaville developed a grant proposal for the National Endowment for the Humanities. This would have allowed us to plan a series of workshops on history and a public policy that we could have offered to groups such as the American Public Works Association (APWA) to meet our goal of offering workshops "beyond the historical community."

Unfortunately, NEH chose not to fund the grant. Melosi is still interested in pursuing the project and, with the cooperation of Howard Rosen and the Public Works Historical Society, may be able to offer a sample workshop to the APWA in the summer of 1987.

Arnita Jones has been spearheading an effort to develop a directory of corporate archives. She has worked with members of the SAA's Business Archives Section and with NCPH members to develop the scope of the project and seek possible funding.

Services for Students and Teachers
Public History Education in America: A Guide has proven to be a popular means to answer the perennial question of "what schools offer public history programs?" Complimentary copies are provided to new institutional sponsors. We appreciate the financial support provided by Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis in producing this publication.

Our free syllabus exchange also continues to be popular. During the fall of 1986, Jina Bissett of the secretariat staff updated the syllabus packet by asking all old contributors to send in new editions of their syllabi to make our offerings more current.

We also continue to provide "History Goes Public" as a slide-tape show that offers a basic introduction to public history. Copies of the show are available for purchase at $100 each and for rental at $35 each. Institutional sponsors receive a discount on this production.

NCPH Secretariat

Barbara Howe completed her third year as executive secretary of NCPH in May 1987. This also marks the end of NCPH's initial agreement with West Virginia University. Because Howe has been elected as vice-chair of NCPH, she will no longer be continuing as executive secretary. We have sent notices to historical organizations and history departments offering public history programs, soliciting proposals from institutions wishing to house the secretariat for a three-year term beginning in September 1987. Anyone interested should contact Howe or Arnita Jones. Proposals are due August 15.

Hello, Goodbye, Thanks!

Finally, we wish to express our appreciation to our outgoing officers and board members: Noel Stowe (past chair), Mike Scardaville (chair), Arnita Jones (vice-chair), Anne Kaplan (secretary), Al Hurtado (treasurer), Ray Brandes, Ruth Dudgeon, Deborah Gardner, Carol Groneman, Pat Harahan, Paul Mattingly, Lawrence Meriaige, and Michael Schene. The officers of 1987-88 will be Mike Scardaville (past chair), Arnita Jones (chair), Barbara Howe (vice-chair), Brit Storey (secretary), and Karen Smith (treasurer). The new board members are W. Elliot Brownlee, Nicholas Muller III, and Wayne Rasmussen.

With the election of these new members, our board will reach the size designated under our Long-Range Planning Committee report. Our thanks to the nominating committee, chaired by Richard Zeitlin, for its work in the past year. And since this is my last official report as executive secretary, I want to thank all the board members and officers, committee members, and everyone else who has helped me in the past three years. Much of what these people do for the organization is not particularly visible to the general membership—letters answering questions like "what is public history?" and "what do I do with a history degree?", phone calls and memos clarifying contracts, trying to find people to take on particular projects—and I suppose that's true in any organization. In addition, the people who help the "visible people" are critically important—my secretary at WVU, Jina Secretio Bissett; our bookkeeper, Mary Fletcher; WVU's History Department office managers and work-study students; and all the secretaries and assistants and family members who provide us with back-up services and take endless phone messages related to the NCPH. The organization simply wouldn't exist without them. Our members are full of wonderfully exciting ideas for the projects—with hard work, lots of help, and some dollars, we can continue to flourish!

Barbara J. Howe,
Executive Secretary
Corporate Archives cont.--

Publicity, Law, Creative Services, Research and Development, and Operations. We provide audio-visual presentations and press releases. Through the collection is not open to outside researchers, we will answer telephone and written requests for information, usually about employees, products, recipes or premiums.

The archives department is housed in a 5,000-square-foot facility designed specifically for its needs. A reception area has exhibit cases for include a conference/audio-visual screening room. Work and a conservation laboratory, equipped with fume hood, light table, polyester film encapsulating machine and an ultrasound film cleaner. The system and constant temperature and humidity controls are monitored by Kraft's security staff.

Kraft's 3,250-cubic-foot collection includes office and general subject files, packaging, photographs, slides, videotapes, biographical files, scripts, technical reports, memorabilia, legal and financial records, minutes and publications. Two collections, advertisements and kinescopes of raft-sponsored television shows, are undergoing intensive preservation this year. Access is completely automated utilizing an IBM PC XT microcomputer and customized Metafile software. Emphasis is on subject-based search capabilities at a folder or item level.

Last year our staff developed a plan to minimize damage in the event of a disaster. Each record series has been assigned a priority for removal and treatment, from high to low, and every box marked with color-coded sticker. Arrangements have been made for freeze drying of wet documents and rapid unmount of computer operations. A crisis team meets quarterly to review and update procedures.

In just two years, the archives has gone from responding to about five requests for information and documentation a month to nearly seventy requests a month. While we consider our information resource service to be our primary function, we have taken a pro-active role in developing outreach programs. Our staff has conducted 50 oral history interviews to date with long-term and retired employees. The audio tapes edited and indexed transcripts are available to employees. We have developed strong ties with Kraft family members and have spoken at reunions of Kraft retirees. The archives was responsible for the design and installation of several displays featuring Kraft's historical collection, including two such displays at Kraft's The Land Pavilion at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center. We have also been working with the new established Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago to make selected copies from our television collection available to the public.

The growth of corporate archives in the 1980s hasn't kept pace with that of the previous decade. And the overall number of programs, something around 200, hasn't changed. Professionals are predicting a flat, or very moderate, growth pattern for the next ten years. While not extremely encouraging, there is an indication that more corporations are recognizing the need to preserve their history and that they are willing to hire professionals, sometimes on a freelance basis, to set up programs to provide custom-tailored services. For the historian, a career in corporate archives provides opportunities to develop management and communication skills, excellent benefits, and a varied work experience.

**NCPH to Meet at Denver’s Brown Palace Hotel**

The National Council on Public History will hold its next annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, March 3-6, 1988. The theme of the annual meeting will be: OUR NATION'S HERITAGE: PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING AMERICA'S PAST. This theme includes many issues such as archives, libraries, cultural resources management, teaching, film, management, politics and policy, and interpretation. The program committee will also have a meeting room for up to 20 persons available for ad hoc meetings, presentations, etc., in order of receipt of requests.

**DEADLINES:** For session proposals—September 10, 1987; for scheduling the ad hoc meeting room—November 15, 1987. The committee will respond to proposals by the end of December. Address requests for the ad hoc meeting room to: Brit Storey, Co-Chair, Program Committee, National Council on Public History, 7264 West Otero Avenue, Littleton, Colorado 80123.

**NCPP Annual Meeting**

March 3-6, 1988

**Historic Brown Palace Hotel**

Denver, Colorado

EARLY PLANNING can save you money on airfares, and with a roommate your room will be $37.50 plus tax.
Transitions
History Associates Incorporated of Rockville, Maryland has named Nancy M. Meza, C.R.M., to the position of Director, Archives and Records Management Services.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation recently named Robert D. Bush, Ph.D., as Executive Director. He currently serves as Director of the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historic Department in Cheyenne; he also is the State Historic Preservation Officer for Wyoming.

Awards
R. Douglas Walton was selected to receive the 1987 Mary Moody Thacher Graduate Fellowship for summer internship at the Stonewall Jackson House in Lexington, Va.; he was one of two recipients. Terrence J. Gough and Dr. Edgar F. Raimes of the research and Analysis Division of the Department of the Army won a Secretary of the Army Research and Study Fellowship.

The Turlock Centennial Foundation awarded the California History and Culture Award’s First Prize to Daniel A. Cornfield for his manuscript Dissent and Quiescence: Lumber, Labor and Community in Humboldt County, California, 1850-1920.

The Department of History, University of Texas at Austin, announces the 1988 Webb-Smith Essay Competition, a $500 dollar award for the best essay of 10,000 words or less on the topic “Sunbelt Cities: Recent Urban America.” The winning essay will be submitted for publication as part of the Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures Series. Write The Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures Committee, Department of History, Box 9529, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78719.

The Department of Transportation is accepting nominations for its 1988 biennial awards for exemplary solutions to problems involving transportation and historical preservation. Individuals and organizations in the public and private sectors are eligible. All projects submitted must be transport- and history-oriented. Nominations should be submitted to the Office of Preservation Awards Program, Environmental Division, P-14, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 2917, Washington D.C. 20590.

The Arkansas Women’s History Institute announces the 1987 Susie Pryor Award competition for the best unpublished essay or article on Arkansas women’s history. The award carries a $1,000 prize and will be presented at the 1988 annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association. Contact Patricia Mooney Melvin, Associate Professor of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR 72204. Deadline for submissions is February 15, 1988.

Meetings
The American Association For State and Local History will hold its 47th annual meeting at Raleigh, North Carolina, October 4-7, 1987. Write the American Association for State and Local History, Annual Meeting, 172 Second Avenue No., Suite 102, Nashville, Tennessee 37201.

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Norskleden invite paper proposals for a conference on “Passages: Rites and Celebrations in the Rural Midwest” to be held October 30-31 at Norskleden. Abstracts (250 words maximum) should be sent to Robert Swartz, Norskleden, P.O. Box 225, Coon Valley, WI 54623.

The 51st annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists will be held September 2-6, 1987 in New York City.

Regional Workshops on the Care and Preservation of Two Dimensional Collections will be held throughout the year. Contact Sheila Riley, Workshop Coordinator, NEH Regional Workshops, AASLH, 172 Second Avenue No., Suite 102, Nashville, Tennessee, 37201.

Bayor University is sponsoring a conference on “Regionalism: Concepts and Applications” October 1-3, 1987 at Waco, Texas. Write the Program for Regional Studies, Baylor University, CSB Box 696, Waco, Texas 76798.

Museums interested in assessing their museum’s services should contact MAP Coordinator, American Association of Museums, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington D.C. 20005. The service is provided at no cost.

Deadline for the 1988-89 Fulbright Scholar Program are approaching. Contact the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Eleven Dupont Circle, NW, Box B, Washington D.C. 20006-1257

Notes
The Public Historian will mark the first decade of public history as a new field of study with “The Field of Public History: Planning the Curriculum,” to be published as a special issue in Summer 1987.

The Missouri Valley History Conference is requesting papers and panel proposals for their 31st annual conference planned for March 10-12, 1988. Proposals should be submitted by November 15, 1987, to Professor Michael L. Tate, Program Coordinator, 1988 MVHC, Department of History, University of Nebraska 68182.

The Cortland County Historical Society holds photographic, print, and archival collections in business and technological history. Three major areas are covered: the Brockway Truck, Wickwire manufactures, and the drilling equipment developed by James Suggett. Contact Rachel Savage or Mary Ann Kane, 25 Homer Avenue, Cortland New York 13045.


The Center for the Study of the Presidency is issuing an invitation for membership. Contact R. Gordon Hoxie, 208 East 75th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021.

The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators published a new brochure entitled “We are Losing Our Past.” The brochure focuses on the preservation crisis in the nation’s state archives. A limited number of copies are available from the Council of State Governments, Iron Works Pike, P.O. Box 11910, Lexington, Ky. 40578.

The National Society for Internships and Experiential Education seeks members. The 1988 Proposals should be submitted by November 15, 1987, to Professor Michael L. Tate, Program Coordinator, 1988 MVHC, Department of History, University of Nebraska 68182.


The American Social History Project at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York offers a new multi-media curriculum entitled Who Built America? A book and slide/tape show traces the history of American workers. The book is designed for use in a two semester college course and will be available in 1988 from Pantheon Books. The audio-visual series includes slide-tape presentations and documentary films complementing the first volume of the book and can also be used to supplement existing high school and college history classes. Contact the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York, 33W. 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036.
Historians have watched the approach of the bicentennial of the Constitution with a mixture of eagerness and apprehension. For the congenitally optimistic, commemorations offer extraordinary opportunities to educate the public about the past and increase the visibility of professional historians in the process. The sudden prominence in the public eye of the Founders themselves, the document they produced and the remarkable eighteenth century society that produced them offer a real window of opportunity to emphasize the connection of the past to the present. The more wary, however, having read their Kamman (A Machine that would Run by itself) or simply having long memories, have had more muted expectations. As they realize, throughout our past commemorations have served primarily to provide a field day for the entrepreneur and the chauvinist, the one eager to sell the past, the other to sanitize it. The Constitution Bicentennial, proceeding on a larger scale, to them only offers more possibility for mischief.

The state humanities councils, to their credit, have thrown themselves into Constitutional programming with a vengeance in recent months, attempting to counterpoise the hoopla with an impressively diverse array of educational programs. Characteristic of that attempt is "New England and the Constitution," an ambitious series of library-based book discussion programs, dramatic presentations and musical performances now in motion in the six New England states under a $245,000 award from the General Programs Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"New England and the Constitution" attempts to make the major figures and central issues of the Constitutional period more accessible to the public by examining them in the familiar context of local history. The six-program book discussion series, for example, begins with a session on New England society in the Constitutional period (based on Robert Gross's The Minutemen and Their World) and then turns to a consideration of the impact of western Massachusetts' Shay's Rebellion on the Constitutional crisis. A third session examines the Constitutional Convention itself, focusing on the central role of New England delegates. A fourth considers the ratification struggle using individual New England states as case studies. A fifth session focuses on women, Blacks, and other groups left out of the Constitutional convention controversy and the attendant debate over "civic virtue" in a Republican government.

The various programs of "New England and the Constitution" have thus far appeared in over 100 New England libraries, historical societies, town halls and community centers to consistently favorable reviews from the public. Equally significant, the project has provided a powerful vehicle for bringing professional historians into the Constitutional commemoration in meaningful roles. Over 200 New England historians, many of them employed in nonacademic settings, have thus far been enlisted to lead book discussion sessions or to moderate post-performance discussions of the play. Proposals are now before the NEH for a second round of "New England and the Constitution" programming in 1987-88. For further information on the series, write Guy Hermann, Coordinator, "New England and the Constitution," 41 Lawn Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 or call (203) 347-5791.


Interested in becoming a sponsor or patron? Contact Executive Secretary Barbara Howe, History Department, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26505 (304) 293-2421.