



Newsletter

Volume XXI Number 1 Spring 2000
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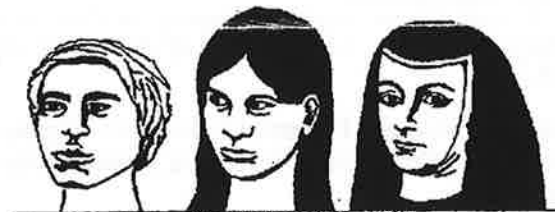
Mid-Atlantic Oral History & Folklore Associations Join for Annual Spring Conference

April 7 & 8
George Mason University
Fairfax, Virginia

Friday, April 7
Student Union II, Rooms 5-7
"Forging Collaborations"

This is the second time that OHMAR and Mid-Atlantic Folklore Association (MAFA) have met jointly, although each organization and discipline has contributed to the other through the years. This joint conference will hopefully inspire new, productive partnerships among folklorists and oral historians and the communities in which we live and work.

Please join us for this exciting event. Thanks to **Hannah Griff** and **Robin Fanslow** for their co-committee duties. **Kelly Feltault** Chair, Program Committee, Independent Folklorist & Oral Historian



Smithsonian, Nov. 1991

8 - 9:15 a.m...... Registration & Coffee

9:15 a.m...... **WELCOME**
Elaine Eff.....President of OHMAR
Polly Stewart President of MAFA

9:30 a.m...... **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
William Ferris Chairman of the
National Endowment for the Humanities.

His career as a folklorist, award-winning author and documentary filmmaker exemplifies the blending of oral history and folklore, a path he began in his teaching at Yale University and continued as the founding Director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.



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Please Register Early

5:15 - 5:45 p.m. A LIFE IN HOOKED RUGS.

Wait out the rush hour with Oral Historian **Judy Knudsen** and Folklorist **Elaine Eff**, with Artist **Mary Sheppard Burton**. They will share the stories and traditional art behind the hooked rugs that depict scenes from Mrs. Burton's childhood in rural Maryland. (Mary Sheppard Burton learned this traditional art form in Pittsville, MD, where she was born.)

6:00 p.m. VIETNAMESE DINNER

Dinner caravan to Eden Vietnamese community. **Joe Wood**, a George Mason University cultural geographer, will introduce us to the community through his research. Dinner will be at one of the outstanding Vietnamese restaurants. **(At your own expense. Please register for the dinner separately on your registration form in this newsletter.)**

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

9:00 a.m. OHMAR AND MAFA BOARDS NETWORKING BREAKFAST, Comfort Inn University Center

10:00 a.m. TOUR

Tour Latino Cultural Heritage Center and Exhibit (Adams Morgan, 1419 Columbia Rd., NW, Washington, D.C.)

Meet at George Mason parking garage for van transfer to metro (\$10 for transportation).

(Please register for the tour separately on your registration form included in this newsletter.)

10:30 a.m. Tour led by community members with visits to workshops.

12:30 p.m. Lunch at Haydee's Salvadoran Restaurant (at your own expense)



**FOCUS ON LATINO COMMUNITY HERITAGE CENTER
Marriage of Folklore & Oral History**

The **Latino Community Heritage Center** is a partnership of federal and local agencies. Their primary objectives include training community scholars to conduct the research and design of the exhibit. The community scholars include local youth who research, preserve and exhibit their own history and culture, while engaging the larger community in this ongoing process.

The training of community scholars is vital to both folklore and oral history methodologies. This project blends academically trained scholars with community researchers, advisers and interns to create a curatorial team.

The Latino Community Heritage Center created its first exhibit, "Nuestras Voces en la Capital de Washington," which is currently on display. They conducted oral histories, collected photos and artifacts, examined earlier projects and old newspapers while encouraging people to share their stories. A Youth Center intern commented as she looked through old Latino newspapers, "I have lived here for 10 years but know nothing of the community's history. I learn a little everyday."

The exhibit's four themes are: Coming to Washington; Family and Community Life; Making a Living; and Understanding the Past/Creating the Future. The exhibit features individual stories as it encourages others who relate to them to tell their own.

Ronald Chacon, LCHC coordinator, holds hands-on workshops regularly with school groups at the exhibit site. He is also coordinating related projects with other Youth Center programs. The After-School Arts Program is currently developing "heritage boxes."

The Next Step/El Proximo Paso Public Charter School is working on a project focusing on local occupations. Students learn about the history of the neighborhood's Latin-owned businesses and interview neighbors about their work. Eventually, their research, too, will be incorporated into the exhibit. A bilingual exhibition catalog will include activities and a web site. In the future, a virtual archive will allow visitors to add their own stories and share their pictures.

Announcements: Call for Papers and Awards Nominations

THE ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION



(Deadlines for the following three award nominations are the same: **April 1, 2000**)

1. ARTICLE AWARD



...an award to recognize a published article or essay that uses oral history to make a significant contribution to contemporary scholarship; and/or significantly advance understanding of important theoretical issues in oral history; and/or an outstanding example of sound oral history methodology.

Articles published between April 1, 1998, and March 31, 2000, are eligible for consideration. Entries will be welcomed from academic scholars, public historians, professionals in history-related disciplines and community-based individuals and groups... must be in English.

2. PROJECT AWARD

... to recognize an outstanding oral history project.

- The project should entail a research design that addresses significance, objectives, manner of selecting interviewees and interviewers, outline of major topics of inquiry, schedule of questions, plan of work, quality controls, staff, budget, user access and use.

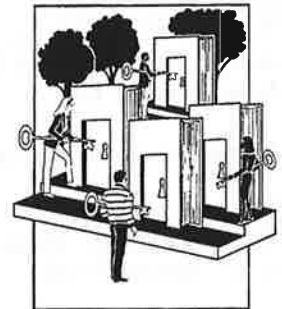
- The project possesses noteworthy scholarly and social value.
- The project advances both the understanding of an important historical subject, issue, or theme, and also the disciplined practice of oral history.



A World of Learning

3. POSTSECONDARY TEACHING AWARD

...to recognize a distinguished postsecondary educator involved in undergraduate, graduate, continuing, or professional education who has incorporated the practice of oral history in the classroom in an exemplary way.



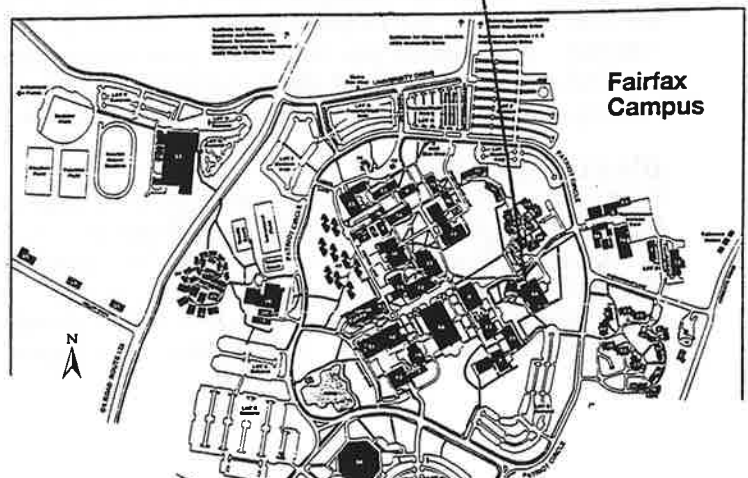
- The teacher has developed an innovative philosophy or strategy and has successfully implemented such;
- The teacher's work is a model for use of oral history in education;
- The teacher has demonstrated familiarity with both oral history scholarship and literature;
- The project or curriculum reflects appropriate standards for historical research;
- The oral history project or curriculum has a civic or community component.

If you are interested in pursuing any of these awards, please contact Madelyn S. Campbell at the Oral History Association, located at Dickinson College, P.O. Box 1773, Carlisle, PA 17013.

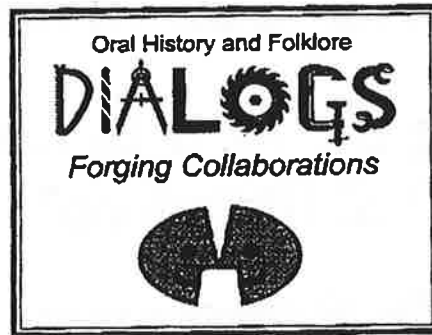
Phone: 717-245-1036

Email: oha@dickinson.edu

**George Mason University,
Student Union II**



**Oral History Mid Atlantic Region and Mid Atlantic Folklore Association
Joint Spring Conference**



Friday, April 7, 2000
Saturday, April 8, 2000
Registration begins at 8 a.m.

George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia
Student Union II, Braddock Road/VA Route 620

FOR DIRECTIONS

George Mason University: 703-993-1000x6; www.gmu.edu

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Elaine Eff, 410-514-7653; Kelly Feltault, kellruss@juno.com;
Phyllis Palmer, ppalmer@gwu.edu

OHMAR/MAFA SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Conference fees include registration, morning coffee, buffet luncheon and afternoon snacks

NAME _____ INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (W) _____ (H) _____

E-MAIL _____ (FAX) _____

_____ \$35 OHMAR Member —MAFA Member—
_____ \$45 Non-member
_____ \$25 Student (Please photocopy current student ID)

_____ \$10 Saturday Tour, Latino Cultural
Heritage Center, will ride Metro (will drive, no charge)
_____ Vietnamese Dinner, Friday p.m.

I want to become a member of OHMAR.
_____ Life member \$200 _____ Individual \$20 _____ Student \$10 _____ Institution \$50 _____ Contribution

_____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

Return by April 1, 2000, to Phyllis Palmer, American Studies Department,
George Washington University, Washington DC 20052