

The



Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Western History Association

Summer 2003

Colorado Springs Meeting Attracts 800



2002 President Elliott West.

Just under 800 registered members and guests attended our 42nd Annual Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It was a beautiful setting in the shadow of Pikes Peak. A lavish welcoming reception was held at the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum with Mark Gardner's folk music and delightful setting with great exhibits. Matt Mayberry and his superb staff made everyone feel

most welcome. Also on Wednesday evening, many attended the WHA Endowment Fund dinner roast of 2002 President Elliott West at the historic Antlers Hotel.

As always, sessions were diverse and interesting. Session attendance was on average 36 people per session. The fur trade round table had an attendance of 92 and the session on Thursday honoring Francis Paul Prucha was standing room only.

Elliott West's talk, "Reconstructing Race," at the Presidential Luncheon on Friday was well attended and much praised by all. After his talk, past WHA Presidents gathered together for a historic group photo. Banquet speaker William Kittredge gave a brief but enjoyable talk that left plenty of time to get down to the lavish dessert reception.

We had beautiful weather (those "spacious skies" we've heard so much about) which was enjoyed by attendees and especially those who took advantage of the local museum tour, the trip to Cripple Creek and Victor, the ride up Pikes Peak on the Cog Railway, and the tour of the Broadmoor, all arranged by Local Arrangements Chair Judy Morley and her outstanding committee.



Local Arrangements chair Judy Morley flanked by Award of Merit recipient John Drayton and Caughey Prize winner Don Worster.

President-elect Brian W. Dippie with the WHA conference staff: Lincoln Bramwell, Janine Dorsey, Patricia Campbell, Linda Kay Quintana, and Paul Hutton



Butler Announces Retirement

After fourteen years at Utah State University, Anne M. Butler, editor of the *Western Historical Quarterly* and USU Trustee Professor of History, has announced her retirement, effective June 30, 2003.

Butler earned her Ph.D. in American history at the University of Maryland (1979) under the mentorship of Dr. Walter Rundell, one of WHA's founding members and author of its original constitution. She taught at Towson State University and Gallaudet University for the Deaf before coming to USU in 1989. Advancing from associate to coeditor, Butler served as editor of the *WHQ* from 1997 to 2003. During her tenure she actively promoted western history and historians within the larger profession, expanded the visibility and success of the *WHQ* in national scholarly prize competitions, and associated the journal with the History Cooperative and JSTOR, moving us into the electronic world.

During her career, Butler has published sixteen articles and essays—including "Western Spaces, Catholic Spaces," in the *U. S. Catholic Historian* for which she won the 2001 WHA Arrington-Prucha Prize—and authored or edited six books, including *Gendered Justice in the American West: Women Prisoners in Men's Penitentiaries, 1865-1915* (Urbana, 1997) and *Daughters of Joy, Sisters of Misery: Prostitutes in the American West* (Urbana, 1985). An active public, as well as academic, intellectual, Butler's work on women in the American West has earned

her invitations to speak at workshops, conferences, and symposiums across the U. S. and Canada. In 1998, the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at USU named Butler its Researcher of the Year, and USU designated her as one of three initial university-wide Trustee Professors in 2000. A distinguished teacher, as well as a scholar, Butler received the Special Commendation of Honor from the American Association of University Women in 1999. Scores of editorial fellows, interns, and graduate students she trained at USU attest to her rigor as a scholar and her effectiveness as a mentor.

We celebrate with Anne in her decision to pursue the adventures of retirement (and a writing agenda unhindered by the duties of the academy), but we will also miss her leadership, dedication, intellectual acumen, and good humor. We are grateful for her service to the *Western Historical Quarterly* and her commitment to western history and the Western History Association. For the last twenty-eight years, the WHA has had no fiercer supporter or more loyal member than Anne M. Butler. Retirement and her relocation to the East Coast are unlikely to change that.

David Rich Lewis
Professor of History and Coeditor, *WHQ*.



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R. David Edmunds
University of Texas at Dallas

"C'mon down to Cowtown!"

On October 8-11, 2003, the WHA will meet in Fort Worth, Texas, and we're going to have a "rip-roaring good time." The program committee has scheduled a full slate of interesting papers, panels, and discussions - all focusing upon topics in Western history, while the local arrangements committee can guarantee that you'll enjoy your visit to Fort Worth.

Our host hotel will be the elegant Renaissance Worthington, in the heart of Fort Worth's bustling downtown. The hotel is adjacent to Sundance Square, a twelve square block region that abounds with restaurants, boutiques, specialty shops, and watering holes.

On Wednesday evening WHA members will attend a reception and barbecue hosted by the Amon Carter Museum, and on Thursday afternoon tour busses will take participants to Dallas for a reception at Southern Methodist University's William Clements Center and DeGolyer Library, and for a tour of the Kennedy Assassination Site/Sixth Floor Museum. Other WHA members can tour Fort Worth's museum district, where they can visit the Amon Carter Museum; the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame; the Kimbell Art Museum, and the new Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art. On Thursday evening

we'll all gather together at Joe T. Garcia's restaurant for the best "Tex-Mex" food south of the Red River. "Joe T's" is located adjacent to Fort Worth's historic "Stock Yards District," which features a vibrant, Western night life, including the White Elephant Saloon, and Billy-Bob's Texas, "the world's biggest honky-tonk."

Friday evening will feature the annual banquet with speaker Elmer Kelton and WHA awards presentation at the Renaissance Worthington. On Saturday afternoon WHA members can travel to Archer City to shop in Larry McMurtry's massive used book complex (a must for bibliophiles); may join Jeff Limerick for a guided tour of Fort Worth's rich and varied architectural highlights; or may join a guided walking tour of the Stockyards District.

Known as the "Texasmost" of Texas cities, Fort Worth prides itself on its western heritage, friendliness, and accessibility. It's "where the West begins" in Texas, and it's where WHA members can look forward to a "whooping good time." in October. See Y'all in Cowtown.

Dave Edmunds

Chair - Local Arrangements Committee



The elegant Renaissance Worthington, adjacent to Sundance Square, a twelve square block region that abounds with restaurants, boutiques, specialty shops, and watering holes.

Elmer Kelton to Speak in Fort Worth

Elmer Kelton will be the banquet speaker at the WHA conference in Fort Worth this October. The author of over forty novels, Kelton is one of America's most honored Western writers. He has seven Western Writers of America Spur Awards and four Western Heritage awards from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. In 1990 he received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Western Literature Association. Among his best-known novels are *The Time it Never Rained*, *The Good Old Boys*, *The Day the Cowboys Quit*, and *The Way of the Coyote*.

