

# The D.H. Lawrence Society of North America Newsletter

VOLUME 33, FALL 2004

## Success!!

Virginia Hyde reports that the Kiowa Ranch is now officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This is a wonderful result of years of hard work and should provide considerable protection for a very important landmark for everyone interested in Lawrence. Congratulations to Virginia, Tina Ferris, and Hugh Witemeyer!  
*Lawrence in France*

Ginette Roy organized a conference on Lawrence and Lawrence Durrell at the Université Paris X in June that went well, with 34 Lawrentians and a dozen Durrellians from 14 different countries in attendance. The next conference, scheduled for March, will be on

## Lawrence at MLA

by Julianne Newmark

The DHLSNA events at the 2003 MLA Convention in San Diego—including two excellent panels, a business meeting, and a dinner—were all great successes. The two panels on the theme “D. H. Lawrence and the Spirit of Place” each had three papers. The theme proved to be a provocative one, and the papers revealed the high level of scholarly energy recently devoted to this subject and to broad and interdisciplinary interpretations of it.

The first panel included papers by Rachela Permenter (Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania), Kathryn Miles (Unity College, Maine), and Elizabeth Sargent (University of Alberta). Permenter’s paper, “Mother Earth and Father Sky: Mornings in Taos,” discussed Lawrence’s New Mexico essays, referring to the Navajo Prayer-Wheel as illustrative of Lawrence non-dualistic view of cyclical opposites. Lawrence’s “spirit of place,” according to Permenter, has important counterparts in other ritual traditions.

Miles’s paper focused primarily on the *Rainbow* and *Sons and Lovers* and proposed that Lawrence had a “sophisticated understanding of ecology.” According to Miles, Lawrence anticipated ecofeminism, especially in his location of desire in the natural world and in the inherent relationship in the texts Miles discussed between the treatment of women and the treatment of the land.

Sargent, in her paper, “‘Absorbed in Fiery Praise’: Monasteries in Lawrence’s Travel Writing,” emphasized the surprising attraction to monasteries in a variety of Lawrence’s travel texts. Sargent discussed the male communal enterprise that is a monastery and considered how an aspect of culture can be part of a “spirit of place.”

The second panel featured papers by Gregory Miller (University of California, Davis), Michael Kramp (University of Northern Colorado), and Divya Saksena (George Washington University). Miller’s paper, “Lawrence of Africa: Travel Writing as Ritual Performance,” used aspects of African ritual, from Wole Soyinka’s dramatic theories, to illuminate Lawrence’s performance-rich travel literature—notably *Etruscan Places* with its related methods that evoke spirit of place by incantation and encounter.

In his paper “(Dis)placing the Gypsies in *The Virgin and the Gypsy*,” Kramp discussed Lawrence’s knowledge of actual Romanos/Gypsies and his subsumption of history into his own mythic spirit of place. Kramp concentrated on gypsy nomadism, via Deleuze and Guattari’s discussion of nomadism and deterritorialization, and pointed to Lawrence’s postulation that earth-based nomadism will triumph over the exhausted forms of modern capital.

Saksena’s paper, “A new place’: Aesthetics of Place in *Aaron’s Rod*,” argued that a new “place,” represented by the multiple moves of Aaron Sisson, helps to

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# People in the News

**Langdon Elsbree** has continued to work in a leisurely, retirement sort of way, on his study of the dance in Hardy and Lawrence's poetry. He has been active in recent summers with FAHE, the Friends Association of Higher Education, a group of Quaker educators, and has given workshops for this group.

**Charles Burack** has received a contract from Palgrave-Macmillan for his first book: *D. H. Lawrence's Language of Sacred Experiences: The Transfiguration of the Reader*.

**Gregory F. Tague** has a brief article on Lawrence included in the Greenwood Press *Dictionary of Literary Influences—The Twentieth Century, 1914-2000*.

An article by **Louis E. Wright** on "D. H. Lawrence's Allusions to Maud Allen" appeared in the June issue of *Notes and Queries*.

**Ginette Roy** will participate in two conferences this fall, one on Blake in Paris and another in Bamberg,

Germany, that is part of a project on Lawrence's reception in Europe.

A chapter, "The Bright Doorway," from **L. D. Clark's** *The Minoan Distance* has been chosen by the Gale Group for their reference work *Poetry Criticism*, to appear this summer. The chapter was chosen as the best recent commentary on Lawrence's poetry.

**Keith Sagar** offers free downloading on Shakespeare, Blake, Tennyson, and Ted Hughes at [www.keithsagar.co.uk](http://www.keithsagar.co.uk)

## Necrology

**Tim Burstall**, the Australian director of the film version of *Kangaroo*, died in April at the age of 76.

D. H. Lawrence: The Bible Revisited.

The 29<sup>th</sup> issue of *Etudes lawrenciennes* has articles by Michael Bell, Fiona Becket, Brigitte Macadré, Peter Preston, Kyoto Kay Kondo, Gilles Mayné, Sheila Lahiri Choudhury, and Eva Chen.

### Book Corner

Cambridge University Press has issued *Paul Morel*, edited by Helen Baron. This is the first publication of an early version of *Sons and Lovers* that, among the various drafts, departs most from the finished novel.

Also from Cambridge is Sarah Cole's *Modernism, Male Friendship, and the First World War*. It examines the writings of Conrad, Forster, Lawrence, and other modernists whose works are bound up with the idea of close and sometimes tortured male friendships.

Chaucer Press has published Keith Sagar's *D. H. Lawrence's Paintings* and a revised edition of *The Life of D. H. Lawrence*.

Antonella de Nicola has translated two Lawrence-related books into Italian. The first, Henry Miller's *The World of Lawrence: A Personal Appreciation* was published last year by Fioriti Editori of Rome and presented at

**Hugh Witemeyer and Tina Ferris, both honored at the DHLSNA dinner in San Diego, December 2003.**



the Sala Libraria Montecitorio this spring. The second is Frieda's *Not I, But the Wind . . .*, published this year by Avagliano Editore of Cava de Tirreni. This second book will be officially presented in Naples at the Libreria Feltrinelli followed by slides of Frieda and Lawrence, readings from the book, and folk songs of the 30s.

### *Emile Delavany*

Martha Vogeler says that Lawrentians might be interested in Emile Delavany's autobiography, *Témoignage d'un village Savoyard au village mondiale (1905-1991)*, published in Aix-en-Provence by Diffusion Edisud in 1992. It is a family history, plus an account of his years at the United Nations, his experiences during the war, and his observations on world politics. Also, given numerous translations of Lawrence into other languages, Emile's *Introduction to Machine Translation*, in the English version by Thames and Hudson in 1960 with Katharine Delavany, might be of interest.

## Lawrence at MLA

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waken an "aesthetic self." According to Saksena, Aaron's "otherworldly aestheticism" makes him a misfit and contributes to the establishment of the seer-seeker relationship between Rawdon Lilly and Aaron.

Lawrence was prominently positioned in many other papers at the conference. Among these were Julianne Newmark's paper, "The Future and Fluid Native: A Third Theory of Early Twentieth-Century Literary Nativism." Through an examination of several Lawrence letters and his essay "The Hopi Snake Dance," Newmark proposed that Lawrence participates in the construction of neonativist text, text that offers the possibility for the creation of a future native position that allows for multilocality and hybridity.

At the business meeting, Hugh Witemeyer of the University of New Mexico and Virginia Hyde, president of the

DHLSNA, provided information about the Kiowa Ranch. After the New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs (Historic Preservation Division) accepted the nomination of the ranch to the State Historic Register in August, it was sent to the National Register with the recommendation that the ranch should become a National Historical Landmark. The nomination, prepared over a five-year period by Tina Ferris and Virginia Hyde, was considered important in providing access to funding to help with the expense of maintaining the ranch. President Hyde reminded members of the 2005 international D. H. Lawrence conference in Santa Fe. Members of the Society voted on "Lawrence and America" as the theme for the MLA panels in 2004.

The annual dinner was held in a restaurant in Seaport Village, where Society members enjoyed a view of the bay from the table. Tina Ferris was honored at the dinner with an award for distinguished service, as was Hugh Witemeyer.

### The Tenth International D. H. Lawrence Conference: "Lawrence and the Frontiers" —Call for Papers

While the title of the upcoming conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico (June 26-30, 2005) alludes in one sense to Lawrence's interest in the western United States where the conference will be held, the "frontiers" may be of many kinds—literary, philosophical, social, theoretical, geographical—and you may also tailor your own topic to fit your particular research directions.

The conference will be at the Hotel Santa Fe (800/825-9876; fax 505/984-2211; [hotels@newmexico.com](mailto:hotels@newmexico.com)). Named as one of the 500 best hotels in the world in 2004 by *Travel and Leisure Magazine*, the hotel is owned primarily by the Picuris Pueblo and features unique Pueblo art and architecture as well as swimming pool and spa facilities. The pueblo is related linguistically and historically to the Taos Pueblo that Lawrence knew; he also mentions the Picurus country (although he spells it differently) in his essay "A Little Moonlight with Lemon." For a virtual tour on the hotel's website, see [www.hotelsantafe.com](http://www.hotelsantafe.com). To receive the special conference rate, mention the D. H. Lawrence Society of North America and give the booking number #3345.

Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in the United States. It has been capital of Spanish, Mexican, and United States Territories and is today the capital of New Mexico. Founded by the Spanish in 1607, it is known for its tri-cultural character, uniting Native American and Hispanic traditions with those of other Americans who arrived by way of the Santa Fe Trail and by other early frontier—and modern—routes.

Send a one-page abstract of paper proposals by November 15, 2004, to Virginia Hyde at [hydev@wsunix.wsu.edu](mailto:hydev@wsunix.wsu.edu) or to Virginia Hyde at the Department of English, P. O. Box 645020, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-5020. Updated information about the conference is available at [www.wsu.edu/~hydev/dhl/SantaFe2004.htm](http://www.wsu.edu/~hydev/dhl/SantaFe2004.htm).

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GREETINGS



**Exp. 12/2011**

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## *Membership*

**Membership** is US\$10 a year with the option of a ten-year membership for US\$60. Make checks payable to the Society and forward to Louis Greiff, Membership Secretary/Treasurer, Division of English, Alfred University, Alfred, NY 14802. The newsletter appears twice a year. Send

information to be included to Eleanor H. Green, editor, 611 West 239th Street, Apt. 4F, Bronx, NY 10463. Email: [ElenGre7@aol.com](mailto:ElenGre7@aol.com).