
The D. H. Lawrence Society Of North America Newsletter



Volume 36, Fall 2007

From our President Betsy Fox

By the time you read this newsletter, the North American semester will be closer to its end than its beginning, but I hope those of you who attended the D. H. Lawrence International Conference in Eastwood in August have fond memories, as I do, and took advantage of its many offerings. An exciting number of new and young scholars appeared, with participants from Asia, Russia, Australia, Europe, and North America. Thank you for making the trip and presenting papers on such a range of topics, especially those who traveled far.

The Harry T. Moore Award for Lifetime Achievement and the Encouragement of Lawrence Studies went to two recipients this year: Peter Preston (U. of Nottingham) and Michael Bell (U. of Warwick). Peter has contributed on every level to Lawrence studies, from serving at Director of the Lawrence Research Centre in

Nottingham, to presenting papers at conferences too numerous to name, editing volumes, performing in plays, hosting scholars from abroad, and making us feel at home wherever we see him. Michael Bell is our most eminent critic of Modernism; his impressive list of publications, astute questions for panelists, and support for younger scholars has enhanced Lawrence studies immeasurably. The D. H. Lawrence Society of North America sponsored the Mark Spilka Lecture by David Ellis (U. of Kent) who meditated on four versions of Lawrence's dying words in his lecture, "Famous Last Words."

Plans for the next International D. H. Lawrence Conference in 2009 or 2010 are underway, but I'll turn to topics closer to home. As Past-President Eleanor Green recommended, we're offering three papers instead of two at the MLA panels rather than a full business meeting. The MLA requires submission of panel topics for 2008 by early January. One topic that

reoccurred at Eastwood was "D.H. Lawrence and Illness." Please email additional suggestions or comments to me at emfox@mit.edu so I can compile a list for an informal vote.

You should by now have received a copy of the current Directory, which Lou Greiff has composed and mailed. Lou has ably served as our Membership Treasurer, keeping us in the black, handling the checkbook, collecting membership fees, and compiling invaluable Directories. As he transitions into retirement, Lou is relinquishing his office. We are fortunate that Theresa Mae Thompson, of Valdosta State University in Georgia, will run for Membership Treasurer. The Society will also be electing three members of the Executive Board. Please look for their biographies in this newsletter; make sure to vote either electronically or by using the enclosed ballot. I hope to see you in Chicago at the MLA panels and at our dinner

Newsletter of the D.H. Lawrence Society of North America, vol. 36, Spring 2007

President: Betsy Fox,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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To join the DHLSNA, contact:
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Membership fees:
Regular: \$25.00 per year

From the Editor Nancy L. Paxton

Like many participants, I returned from the "Back to Eastwood" conference inspired and enriched. Conference participants were offered more than seventy papers, major lectures by David Ellis, Jeff Wallace, Sandra Gilbert, and Keith Cushman, poetry readings by Keith Sagar, Bill Smith, Lois Ascherman, and endless opportunities for lively conversations at gala dinners and more casual meals. Those who heard Masako Hirai's "Rilke, Lawrence and Modern Art: The Movement of the Age," and indeed all who knew her and her work, will be deeply saddened to know that

this was the last Lawrence conference to be graced by her presence.

Sean Matthews deserves our thanks and gratitude for his creative programming, which allowed us to view the unveiling of Diana Thompson's new bust of D. H. Lawrence at Nottingham Castle and to visit the Congregational Chapel in Nottingham, for a lively sing-along of many of the evangelical hymns of Lawrence's childhood led by Peter Preston, with brilliant accompaniment by John Worthen. Although I have visited Nottingham before, I learned so much about the landscapes in and around Eastwood, especially after hearing Sandra Gilbert who movingly described the towering slag heaps that once defaced the landscape before many of the mines were closed, and Andrew Harrison who invited us imagine the long distances that the young Lawrence walked to attend the Greasley Beauvale School each day. Wandering through the fields that Lawrence described so vividly, seeing Louie Burrow's house in Cossall, and visiting the high school in Nottingham that D. H. Lawrence once attended added immeasurably to my understanding of his writing and my appreciation for the enormous distances that Lawrence traveled throughout his life. Finally, the conference reminded me, once more, how friendly and generous Lawrence scholars are.

In closing, I want to thank Dr. Allen Woodman, Chair of the Dept. of English, and Dean Michael Vincent of the College of Arts and Letters at Northern Arizona University for their continued support in producing this newsletter.

Update on the DHL Review

Eleanor Green is presently working on Volume 32 of the *D. H. Lawrence Review* and would appreciate submission of articles for possible future publication. Many of the articles originally planned for this volume are no longer available since so much time has passed since their submission. All articles submitted to the *Review* go to associate editors and are then sent out to at least one reader, usually two. We try to respond quickly to the authors, but obviously we depend also on the speed with which our readers send in their reports.

Thanks to everyone who has sent in subscription renewals. I am assuming that everyone is paid through Volume 32 (2003-04). If you have not paid for this volume, the cost is \$27 for US subscribers (plus 5% sales tax for Maryland subscribers), \$36 for non-US subscriptions (\$66 airmail) and institutions. Since Volume 32 will comprise all three numbers in one issue, I wish it to be a substantial issue. It is possible, if we do not have enough articles of acceptable calibre, that I will combine Volumes 32 and 33, charging for only one volume. As soon as we have enough articles accepted, edited, and formatted, I will have this volume in the mail. At present I have eight articles, with a handful of others in the pipeline.

BALLOT FOR DHLSNA OFFICERS
Fall 2007

Eleanor Green will be supervising the election for DHLSNA officers. As this is an odd-numbered year, we will be electing a Secretary, Membership Treasurer, and three board members to serve on the Executive Committee of the D. H. Lawrence Society of North America. Brief biographical sketches appear on the reverse of this ballot. For your convenience, we have emailed an electronic version of this ballot to you to make casting your ballot easier. Please return the electronic ballot to Eleanor Green via email at elengre7@aol.com by Dec. 28, 2007. Or, if you prefer, you may detach and mail this ballot directly to:

Eleanor H. Green
737 East Lake Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21212

Please check the appropriate box:

Secretary:

Julianne Newmark Write-in candidate _____

The **Secretary's** duties include keeping minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee, preparing reports on the Society's panels at the Modern Language Association convention each year, and maintaining an archive of the activities and decisions of the Executive Council and the membership.

Membership/Treasurer:

Theresa Mae Thompson Write-in candidate _____

The **Membership Treasurer** keeps an updated record of the Society's membership, maintains the financial and banking records of the Society, collects membership dues, issues checks on behalf of the Society, and provides a financial statement for the Executive Committee upon request. The Membership Treasurer also prepares and publishes a directory for the Society at least once every two years and provides updated mailing label data for the Newsletter Editor before each newsletter is published.

Executive Board Members (choose three):

Bruce Clarke Write-in Candidate _____

Langdon Elsbree Write-in Candidate _____

Gregory Tague Write-in Candidate _____

The at-large members of the Executive Committee help to manage the affairs of the Society, oversee its finances, and make decisions on general policy.

Secretary:

Julianne Newmark is an Assistant Professor of English at New Mexico Tech, where she teaches Native American and American literature as well as courses in the composition program. She has published on early-twentieth century Native American activists, primarily Zitkala-Sa, as well as on D. H. Lawrence and his New Mexico writing. She is the recipient of a Newberry Library/SCMLA fellowship and a Redd Center for Western History fellowship from Brigham Young University. In 2005, she received the "Newly Published Scholar Award" at the International D. H. Lawrence Conference, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, for her article, "D. H. Lawrence, 'Whitman,' and the Leap to the Irrational." Her recent work on Lawrence focuses on his responses to the climate of political nativism that met him upon his arrival in America. Her article "Place, Not Race: A Neonomist Manifesto" --which concerns D. H. Lawrence, Willa Cather, and nativism in the American southwest --is currently under review.

Membership Treasurer:

Theresa Mae Thompson is Professor of English at Valdosta State University, in Valdosta, Georgia, where she teaches twentieth-century British literature and postcolonial theory. She has published articles on Lawrence, Virginia Woolf, and Stephen King. Her "Unlearning Europe: Postcolonial Questions for Teaching *The Plumed Serpent*" appeared in Elizabeth M. Sargent and Garry Watson's *Approaches to Teaching the Works of D. H. Lawrence* (2001). Her article on the eugenics discourse in *The Lost Girl* will appear in the selected papers from the D. H. Lawrence conference in Santa Fe, edited by Virginia Hyde and Earl Ingersoll. She will be delivering a paper on fascism in DHL's *The Plumed Serpent* at the MLA in 2007 in Chicago.

Executive Committee Candidates:

Bruce Clarke is Professor of English in the Department of English at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He specializes in the co-evolution of literary and techno-scientific developments in the 19th and 20th centuries. His most recent books are *Dora Marsden and Early Modernism: Gender, Individualism, Science* (Michigan, 1996), and *Energy Forms: Allegory and Science in the Era of Classical Thermodynamics* (Michigan, 2001). He is co-editor of *From Energy to Information: Representation in Science and Technology, Art, and Literature* (Stanford, 2002). His *Posthuman Metamorphosis: Narrative and Systems* is forthcoming (Fordham, 2008). His current book project examines the cultural discourse of systems since the 1960s. He is currently president of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Gregory F. Tague, Associate Professor of English, St. Francis College, in New York, is author of two books: *Character and Consciousness: George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, E. M. Forster, D. H. Lawrence* (Academica, 2005); and *Ethos And Behavior: The English Novel From Jane Austen to Henry James* (Academica, 2007). He has also scholarly and literary essays forthcoming in books and journals including the *DHLR* and *Etudes Lawrenciennes*. He has recently presented two MLA papers sponsored by the DHLSNA.

Langdon Elsbree is Emeritus Professor at Claremont McKenna College, where he taught for 30 years. Over the last 46 years, he has taught at various institutions including Miami University of Ohio, Harvey Mudd, Scripps Colleges, Claremont Graduate School, and the Graduate Program in English at UCLA. His publications include *The Rituals of Life: Patterns in Narrative* (Kennikat, 1982), and *Ritual Passages and Narrative Structures* (Peter Lang). He is also co-author of six editions of the *Heath College Handbook* and has published essays and reviews in the *D.H. Lawrence Review* and other journals. His national awards include a NEH Summer Seminar with Philip Rieff, a NEH Summer Research award, and a Fulbright lectureship in Cairo, where he taught American literature. He is a lifetime member of the MLA, an early and continuing member of the D. H. Lawrence Society, and active in the FAHE (a Quaker group named The Friends Association for Higher Education) and the Science Fiction Research Association (SFRA).

Thanks to Tina Ferris who is working on the website for the *D. H. Lawrence Review*, which should be up and running with a new domain address in the near future.

Eastwood Conference Volume Planned

Jill Franks, Eleanor Green, Peter Preston, and Sean Matthews will be editing a volume of proceedings from the "Return to Eastwood" conference. They cordially invite the submission of articles deriving from conference papers, of between six and eight thousand words. The volume will be published to inaugurate the new Lawrence list from New Ventures/CCC Press (<http://www.new-ventures.net/> & <http://www.cccpress.co.uk/>). Contributors are asked to use the standard abbreviations for Lawrence titles listed in the *D.H. Lawrence Review*, cite from to the *Cambridge Edition of the Works of D.H. Lawrence*, and follow MLA style conventions (available at <http://www.writinghelp-central.com/mla-format-rules.html>).

Please send initial expressions of interest, or submission of manuscripts, by 15 November, 2007. They may be sent electronically to Jill Franks (Jill164@aol.com) or Peter Preston (peterjd117@btinternet.com).



TAOS AMBASSADOR By Hugh Witemeyer

Taos High School graduate Holly J. Mell recently attended the 11th International D. H. Lawrence Conference in Eastwood. Her visit was arranged by the Friends of D. H. Lawrence and Conference Director, Sean Matthews, as a way of encouraging an interest in Lawrence among young people today.

Ms. Mell presented a paper on Lawrence's poem, "Pomegranate," along with photographs of the Lawrence Ranch and other Taos settings associated with the author. She participated in conference activities, made many new acquaintances, and enjoyed sharing the social life of Nottingham students. Funds for the trip were raised at a benefit dinner organized by the Friends at the Mabel Dodge Luhan House and at a piano recital given by Ms. Mell at the Nikolai Fechin House. Ms. Mell was an excellent ambassador. It is hoped that her visit will lead to future collaborations between Lawrence groups in Taos and

Nottingham. The involvement of younger readers in events and projects of this sort is vital to the preservation and continuance of the Lawrence heritage.

Lawrence at the MLA 2007

The D. H. Lawrence Society of North America will sponsor two sessions at the MLA convention in Chicago. On Friday, Dec. 28, at 1:45-3:00 p.m., in Grand Suite 5, Hyatt Regency, Betsy Fox will moderate at a session entitled, "D.H. Lawrence and Film." Papers include Corinne Francois-Deneve's "French Kiss: *Lady Chatterley* by Pascale Ferran (2005)"; Earl Ingersoll's "Lawrence's 'Water-Party' and Ken Russell's: The Power of Film Adaptation"; and Nancy Paxton's "Lost Girls, Lost Boys, and Movie Stars: Reconsidering Lawrence on Film." On Friday, Dec. 28, at 6:30, please join us for the DHLNA dinner at 17 West at the Berghoff, a new incarnation of one of Chicago's oldest restaurants; it is about nine blocks from the Hyatt.

Betsy Fox will also convene the second session, "Eugenics, Fascism, and D. H. Lawrence," on Sunday, Dec. 30, at 1:45-3:00 p.m. in Stetson G, Hyatt Regency, which will include Jorgette Mauzerall's "Fascism, the Female Body, and Race in D. H. Lawrence's *Kangaroo*"; Theresa Mae Thompson's "White men had had a soul, and lost it': Blood and Power in the *Plumed Serpent*"; and Pradyumna Chauhan, "Lawrence, Eugenics, and the Historical Twister."

Treasurer's Note

By Louis Greiff

As I write this note in early October, the Society's 2006-07 Membership Directory is being prepared for mailing. By the time you read this, then, you should have your copy in hand and, along with it, a dues notice and membership form for 2008. Both Nancy Paxton and I have received questions about dues from individual members, so I'll try to clarify the current structure for everyone. Regular dues for DHLSNA members are \$25.00 per year or \$150.00 for ten years as of January 1, 2007. Dues for retired and student members remain at the previous rate of \$10.00 per year or \$60.00 for ten years. You may recall that registration for the 2005 International Lawrence Conference in Santa Fe included a one-year membership in DHLSNA. Registration for the 2007 Eastwood Conference, which was not hosted by DHLSNA, did **not** include this benefit. One last reminder concerning dues: it's of great help if you send your dues and information update sheet within a month of receiving the notice. This insures that your updated information will be recorded promptly and accurately for the next Directory. It's also helpful if you include **changes only** on the update sheet rather than repeating the information already listed correctly in the current Directory.

Nancy Paxton has asked me to report briefly on the financial status of our society since not everyone could be present for our last business meeting at the Eastwood Conference in August. While not wealthy, we are financially sound, and our

assets remain stable. The 2005 Santa Fe Conference was a wonderful but expensive event. The conference expenses have been partly offset, however, by Alfred University's contribution toward the costs of producing the Directory.

My term as DHLSNA Treasurer and Directory Editor ends as of January 1, 2008. Doing this job over the past several years has been a pleasure, mainly because of the DHLSNA membership—a sharp bunch of people, lively of spirit and oh so easy to work with. It has been nearly ten years, though, since Larry Gamache asked me (in the lobby of the La Fonda Hotel) to consider taking over from Betsy Sargent, and now it's time for someone to take over from me. There's a ballot included with this Newsletter, so please vote for the Society's next Membership Treasurer.

News from France

By Keith Cushman

The 2007 International D. H. Lawrence Conference at the University of Paris-X, organized by Ginette Roy and Stephen Rowley, took place on March 29-30-31. Thirty scholars participated from twelve different countries: France, Italy, England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Montenegro, Russia, Belarus, the United States, and Japan.

The intriguing topic for the conference was "DHL: Singular or Plural." These included the one and the many in "Reflections on the Death of a Porcupine"; Lawrence and Rilke; Lawrence and Mansfield; Lawrence's versions of Hamlet; triangles in *The Fox*, *The Captain's Doll*,

and *The Ladybird*; versions of the gamekeeper in the Chatterley novels; and snake poems by DHL and Claudia Emerson.

As always at the annual Paris conferences, the comradeship and the intellectual exchanges were excellent. So were the meals, especially the conference banquet at La Guirlande de Julie near the Place des Voges.

News from Australia

Sandy Darroch sent word that a petition was being organized in Australia to have the UK ban on Lawrence's paintings lifted. The DHL Society of Australia is sponsoring a lecture on Lawrence's art works and his time in Australia. It will include an exhibition of selected works, opening on October 14, 2007, at the school annex on Middle Head looking out across Sydney Harbor to the entrance through which Lawrence entered in May, 1922, which he describes so vividly in *Kangaroo*.

This is the inaugural Margaret Jones Lecture (the late MJ was our second secretary) and will be given by Australian artist Paul Delprat, now principal of the Julian Ashton Art School (Australia's oldest, founded in 1896). Garry Shead, who along with Paul has painted a series on DHL at Thirroul, will also attend and speak.

News from our Members

Our congratulations to Charles Burack who is now Chair of the Department of Liberal Arts at John F. Kennedy University in Pleasant Hill, CA, where he will teach interdisciplinary courses in literature, psychology, and religion.

In Memoriam

Sean Matthews sent the sad news that Professor Masako Hirai died suddenly of heart failure on the morning of October 23, 2007. Delegates at the 'Return to Eastwood' conference will remember Professor Hirai's energetic and sympathetic personality and the many contributions she made to the event. Lawrence scholars from all over the world have reason to recall her kindness, generosity and spirit. She was on the faculty of Kobe College in Japan and was a familiar participant at international Lawrence conferences and a speaker at leading universities, including Cambridge. She edited a beautiful illustrated book about the nineteenth-century Japanese haiku poet Shiki (Shiki Masaokah) and is the author of *Sisters in Literature: Female Sexuality in Antigone, Middlemarch, Howard's End, and Women in Love* (New York: St. Martin's, 1998). Our thoughts are with Masako's family and friends at this time.

Book Notes:

The *Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies [JDHLS]* is the new, annual, refereed publication of the D. H. Lawrence Society of Great Britain edited by Andrew Harrison. Volume 1, Number 1 (2006) carried contributions by James T. Boulton, Keith Cushman, David Ellis, Christopher Pollnitz, Peter Preston, Neil Reeve, and Keith Sagar. With the co-operation of James T. Boulton, each number of the journal will print unpublished Lawrence correspondence. Subscription is through membership of the D. H. Lawrence Society of Great Britain. The annual overseas subscription rate is currently £19; cheques payable to "The D. H. Lawrence Society" should be sent to Leslie Parkes, 1 Gorse Close, Newthorpe, Nottingham, NG16 2BZ UNITED KINGDOM.

Several recently published books were on display at the Eastwood conference, including the handsome Special Issue of *the D. H. Lawrence Studies of the Lawrence Society of Korea*, edited by Michael Bell, Chong-wha Chung, Virginia Hyde, and Nak-chung Paik (Aug. 2007). Introduced by Virginia Hyde, the collection includes essays by Michael Bell, Neil Roberts, Jung Min Woo, Courtney Carter, Masashi Asai, See-Young Park, Laurie E. McCollum, Jill Franks, Pamela Kaye Wright, Kyoko Kay Kondo, and Weldon Thorton, initially presented at the Santa Fe Conference in 2005.

Jim Phelps and Nigel Bell's *D. H. Lawrence around the World: South African Perspectives* (Empangeni: Echoing Green Press, 2007) was also on display. It can be obtained by individuals and libraries for \$59.95 (varying slightly on the exchange rate) from Africa Book Centre <http://www.africabookcentre.com> or email info@africabookcentre.com, Preston Park Business Centre, 36 Robertson Road Brighton BN1 5NL, United Kingdom, Telephone: +44 1273 560 474 Fax: +44 1273 500 650. For more information see <http://www.echoinggreenpress.com>

Antonio Traficante's *Italian Travel Literature and Translations of Giovanni Verga: A Bakhtinian Reading* (New York, N.Y.: Peter Lang, 2007) has also just been published.

Other recently published essays of interest include:

Nils Clausson's essay, "Practicing Deconstruction, Again: Blindness, Insight and the Lovely Treachery of Words in D. H. Lawrence's 'The Blind Man,'" appears in *College Literature*, 34: 1 (2007), pp. 106-28.

Michael Squires' "Modernism and the Contours of Violence in D. H. Lawrence's Fiction," appears in *Studies in the Novel*, 39:1 (2007 Spring), pp. 84-107.

John Lyon's "Going On: Lawrence's Cockney Letters, Essays in Criticism," is the lead article in *A Quarterly Journal of Literary Criticism* 57: 1 (2007 Jan.), pp. 1-21.

Loren Daniel Glass, in "#\$%^&*!?: Modernism and Dirty Words," *Modernism/ Modernity* 14:2 (2007) pp. 209-23, compares Hemingway's use of obscene words with Lawrence's in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

If you are interested in purchasing back issues of the *D H Lawrence Review* or other critical studies of D.H. Lawrence, please contact: rjcywinski@yahoo.com.



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Upcoming Conferences of Interest

The Eighteenth Annual International Virginia Woolf Conference will be held at the University of Denver, in Denver, Colorado, June 19-22, 2008. The conference theme is "Woolf Editing/ Editing Woolf." Proposals for papers by Feb. 1, 2008. For details, see <http://www.du.edu/woolf/>. It's a beautiful drive from Denver to Taos and Lawrence country.

The Centre for New Zealand Studies, Birkbeck, the University of London, in association with the University of Northampton, will present the Katherine Mansfield Centenary Conference, at the University of London, 4-6 September 2008. A session on Lawrence and Mansfield is planned. Send paper titles, abstracts (for 20 minute papers), and 150 word bio-sketches should be sent to BOTH conference organizer by 2/1/2008. For details, see <http://cfp.english.upenn.edu>.

The Modernist Studies Association just concluded its 9th. Annual Conference, Nov. 1-4, 2007, in Long Beach, CA. The 10th Annual Conference is planned for Nashville, TN, Nov. 13-16, 2008.
