
The D. H. Lawrence Society Of North America Newsletter



Volume 39, Spring 2010

Greetings from Jill Franks, DHLSNA President

April 3, 2010

Dear Lawrentians,

As the daffodils bloom, and all things Easter light our way to spring, I write to you of new life in Lawrence studies. According to its chair, Julianne Newmark, the Lawrence panel at the annual Louisville conference on Literature and Culture since 1900 featured two young professors and a graduate student, and was a success. The call for papers for the Lawrence panel at the 2011 MLA resulted in a dozen submissions from new and old scholars, from America and beyond. Submissions to the *D. H. Lawrence Review* are steady. These are just a few of the many signs that interest in Lawrence does not wane in the face of academic rumors of his unsavory opinions and style.

Continuing in that faith, our newsletter editor Nancy Paxton is arranging for the D. H. Lawrence Twelfth International Conference, on the theme Colonial/Postcolonial Perspectives on Lawrence, to be held in Australia from June 29 to July 3, 2011. Three possible venues include the Mitchell Library and the Marriott Hotel in Sydney, and the conference center at Wollongong University near Thirroul. Bids are expected by mid-May, 2010, when the executive committee will assist Nancy in making the several decisions that follow, including keynote speakers, side trips, and catering. Please mark your calendars and set up a savings account earmarked "Lawrence," starting now!

In the interim since our last newsletter, Nick Ceramella's plans for a Lawrence conference on Lake Garda have stalled. The project did not receive anticipated funding from the town council, although one councilman showed Nick great enthusiasm for the plan. He and Serena Cenni edited a volume titled *Body, Flame, Desire: D. H. Lawrence, Florence and the Challenge of Lady Chatterley*, containing twenty essays presented at a 2008 Florence conference, which featured a garden party at the Villa Mirinda. The Consiglio Regionale of Tuscany published this book, proving that Italian government supports the arts.

So does the culture and tourism council of Sardinia. A new Sardinian press, Agave Edizioni, based in Sassari, adopted the mission to "create exportable products of exceptional aesthetic, literary and cultural value," and wants to afford greater visibility to the literature of the island. Its collection, "The Flowers of Agave," will start with *La Madre*, by Nobel-Prize-winning Grazia Deledda, to be followed by Lawrence's *Sea and Sardinia*. Yours truly has been commissioned to write an Introduction to the American edition. Unlike the Penguin edition's Introduction to *Sea and Sardinia* that I wrote in 1997, which was scholarly and exact enough to pass John Worthen's editorial eye, this essay is meant to sell Sardinia to a general readership. This mandate puts me in an interesting writing conundrum, as Lawrence wasn't exactly sold on this island! Maybe I should consult my sister, an advertising copywriter, for assistance.
(Continued on page 3)

Newsletter of the D.H. Lawrence Society of North America, vol. 39, Spring 2010

President: Jill Franks, Austin Peay State University

Vice President: Elizabeth Sargent, University of Alberta

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Secretary: Julianne Newmark, New Mexico Tech

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To join the DHLSNA, please contact our:

Treasurer: Dr. Carrie Rohman, English, Pardee 316, Lafayette College, Easton, PA. 18042; Email:

rohmanc@lafayette.edu
Membership fees:

Regular: \$25.00 annually
Student/Emeritus: \$10.00 annually.

**Editor's Column
By Nancy L. Paxton**

Compiling this newsletter, I too have been impressed by the outpouring of innovative new scholarship on D. H. Lawrence in the last few months. I am heartened by the signs of renewal and growth that Jill Franks and others in this newsletter describe. In addition, I'd like to recognize the publication of latest volume of the *Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies*, edited by Andrew Harrison. This volume includes superb essays by several of our members, including Judith Ruderman, Keith Cushman, Keith Sagar, Jim Phelps, Lynn Talbot, and review essays by Chris Pollnitz, Paul Eggert, and Howard Booth. Andrew

Harrison has brilliantly illustrated the advantages of electronic publishing by including newly recovered Lawrence letters, a beautiful photograph of Taos, and stunning illustrations from a rare edition of Lawrence's poetry collection, *Bay*.

In anticipation of our conference in Australia, I have been reading several works that I hope you will find as inspiring as I have. These include: Ann Stephen, Phillip Goad and Andrew Mc Namara's *Modern Times: The Untold story of Modernism in Australia* (2008); Robert Dixon and Veronica Kelly, eds. *Impact of the Modern: Vernacular Modernism in Australia, 1870s-1960's* (2008); Jill Jullius Matthews, *Dance Hall and Picture Palace: Sydney's Romance with Modernity* (2005); and Carole Ferrier's special edition of *Hecate on Women Writers/ Artists and Travelling Modernisms* (vol. 35, 2009).

In this season marked by graduation and other rites of passage, I hope you will consider giving memberships to the DHLSNA to your students, colleagues or friends. Please send your requests to our treasurer, Carrie Rohman, at the address noted above. As Tina Ferris reports, we hope to make it much easier to subscribe or renew your membership in the DHLSNA soon.

In these difficult economic times, I wanted to again thank Dr. Allen Woodman, Chair of the Department of English, and Dean Michael Vincent of the College of Arts and Letters at Northern Arizona University for their ongoing support for this newsletter.



Results of DHLSNA Elections

Our past president, Betsy Fox, has tabulated the results of our Fall 2009 election. We welcome:

Secretary: Julianne Newmark
Treasurer: Carrie Rohman
Directory Editor: Tina Ferris

Gregory Tague, Margaret Storch, and Joyce Wexler will join Holly K. Laird and Charles L. Ross on the Society's Executive Committee. We thank all who put their names forward for these positions. The Society is fortunate to have Julianne Newmark continue as Secretary. We welcome Carrie Rohman as our new Treasurer and Tina Ferris in a new position as Directory Editor.

Special thanks go to Theresa Thompson for her work as Treasurer and to the outgoing members of the Executive committee, Bruce Clark and Langdon Elsbree.

Letter from Jill Franks (Continued from p. 1)

New energy is coming to the D. H. Lawrence Research Centre at Nottingham University, in the form of Andrew Harrison. He has been appointed to the position of Lecturer in English and Director of the Lawrence Centre, starting August, 2010. Sean Matthews will vacate this position as he takes on one even more challenging: the Head of School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Nottingham, Malaysia campus. In these difficult financial times, the University sends a strong signal of its commitment to Lawrence Studies, not only by replacing Sean during his absence, but also by creating a new, permanent post in Lawrence Studies, which Andrew won in the face of stiff competition. Dr. Harrison edits the *Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies*. He is currently lecturer at the Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany. Welcome back to England, Andrew, and congratulations.

One more word about Nottingham: Readers may remember that a collection of essays presented at the Eleventh International D. H. Lawrence Conference in Nottingham was intended to be published a year or two ago. Due to unforeseen circumstances affecting the lives of our British co-editors, Sean Matthews and Peter Preston, the book's production has been severely delayed. We apologize to all contributors, and we ask that they direct queries regarding the publication timeline to Peter Preston. We are aware that this delay influences your

careers, and are sincerely regretful that this has occurred.

I'll close with one more tribute to a Lawrentian. She toils tirelessly and humbly in matters of Lawrence, of academia, and of social justice. Eleanor Green retired from academic life four years ago, but kept her file active on the Registry for College Presidents, and was recruited for the position of Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, New York, where she has spent the past nine months. Filling in an already overabundant schedule of duties, Eleanor edits the *D. H. Lawrence Review*. Submissions continue at a healthy rate, and we send them to readers, most of whom are members of DHLNSA. We thank all readers for your efforts in maintaining the high standards of this journal, the next issue of which should arrive in your mailboxes by summer.

Congratulations to the new officers and executives of the Society, Carrie Rohman as Treasurer, Tina Ferris as Directory Editor, and Gregory Tague, Margaret Storch and Joyce Wexler as Executive Committee members. May everyone have a good end of semester and restful summer vacation.

Yours truly,
Jill Franks
President

New Facebook Page for the DHLNSA

Kudos to Julianne Newmark who has created a fan page on Facebook for the D. H. Lawrence Society of North

America. Visit the page for the latest news from Lawrence scholars and fans:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/D-H-Lawrence-Society-of-NorthAmerica/443351115202?ref=mf>

From Tina Ferris, Our New Directory Editor

My goals for this year are to produce an internet membership directory that is password-protected and viewable only by society members. It will be linked to the DHLNSA website, currently run by Virginia Hyde, so that it can be easily accessed. The advantages are that changes can be made quickly to the directory, thus keeping it up-to-date. In connection with this project, I'll also be setting up a webpage so that members may pay dues online using PayPal. Electronic registration will allow for membership information to be sent automatically to the treasurer, the directory editor, and the newsletter editor whenever someone subscribes or renews a subscription. Credit card payments through PayPal have proven to be safe, reliable, and convenient. Those subscribers paying by check can still be directed to fill out the electronic membership form. I'll also be looking into various ways of emailing an electronic version of the directory that can be printed out (either full length or an abbreviated email address contact list). I'll keep everyone posted on my progress. Please send any comments or suggestions to jedidryad@verizon.net.

Planning for the 12th International DHLNSA Conference in Australia, June 2011

Nancy Paxton and David Game have been hard at work negotiating with agents at several venues in order to obtain the most economical and attractive options for the DHLNSA conference in Australia in 2011. They plan to present three proposals and bids to the Executive Committee next month. In addition to the two venues in Sydney, they are also researching the Conference Center at the University of Wollongong, a location which offers easy access to Thirroul.

The conference is planned for June 29 to July 2, 2011, in order to coincide with the break in the Australian academic calendar to attract the widest participation of scholars in Australia, New Zealand, India, Japan, Korea, and other locations and to take advantage of the summer break for scholars in the northern hemisphere.

The conference theme is Colonial and Postcolonial Perspectives on Lawrence, though the program committee will also consider papers and panels on other topics on Lawrence's novels, poetry, prose, or art. We solicit panels and papers that consider Lawrence's writing in relation to Australian texts by Australian modernists (including Patrick White, Christina Stead, and others); Australian women writers (including Katherine Susannah Prichard, Eleanor Dark); the environment; rural life and development; Lawrence, masculinity, and national identity; Lawrence and

feminism; Lawrence's poetry; Lawrence and the other arts; Lawrence and film; Lawrence and global modernisms; Lawrence's legacy for contemporary postcolonial writers around the world. Keynote speakers have not yet been finalized. Other events include screenings of "Kangaroo," an exhibit of rare books, a celebratory dinner, and a trip by ferry to Manly. We will also offer an excursion Thirroul, 50 miles south of Sydney, where DHL and Frieda lived from May to August 1922. Updates and Call for Papers will be posted in June 2010 on our Facebook page and in the next newsletter.

D. H. Lawrence Review

The D. H. Lawrence Review invites submissions. Please send them to ElenGre7@aol.com.

Subscriptions to the *DHLR* cost US \$27 for individual subscribers in the United States (plus 5% sales tax for Maryland subscribers) and \$36 for institutions and for subscribers outside the United States. Send subscription requests to Eleanor Green at 737 E. Lake Ave., Baltimore, MD 21212.

Changes at the D. H. Lawrence Research Center, University of Nottingham

Peter Preston reports that beginning in July 2010, Dr. Andrew Harrison will be the new Director at the University of Nottingham's D. H. Lawrence Research Centre. He is taking over from Dr. Sean Matthews, who will be director of Cultural Studies for the next three years at the

University's campus in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore. We were fortunate that when Sean's appointment was agreed, the University authorized a new post of Lecturer in Modernism (D. H. Lawrence) to which Dr. Harrison has been appointed.

Andrew Harrison has spent the last few years teaching at the Technische Universität Darmstadt in Germany, but DHLNSA members may well have met him at various Lawrence conferences, where he has been an active and welcome presence for some years. He is also known for his excellent study *D. H. Lawrence and Italian Futurism*, published in 2003, and for his many articles on Lawrence and other modern writers. Since 2006 he has been Editor of *The Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies*.

Professor John Worthen and Peter Preston, both former Directors of the DHLRC, will continue as Academic Advisers to the Centre; Professor Keith Sagar will remain in post as Special Professor; and Dr. Hilary Hillier continues as a Fellow of the Centre. We hope soon to announce the appointment of further advisers and academic staff.

Sean Matthews has earned everyone's gratitude during his time as Director, when, as a native Midlander and an old boy, like Lawrence, of Nottingham High School, he has been especially active in maintaining and establishing local contacts. He has made new links between the University and the D. H. Lawrence Society, worked hard to ensure the continuing support of local authorities and played a central role in organizing the annual D. H.

Lawrence Festival in Eastwood. He also showed imagination and flair in organizing the 2007 International Conference, 'Return to Eastwood'. We wish Sean and his family every happiness in their new if temporary home.

We are very much looking forward to Andrew's arrival in Nottingham. The twentieth anniversary of the Centre's inaugural conference in November 1991 is fast approaching and with a new Director in post we are looking forward to celebrating that notable occasion.

News from Japan

Masashi Asai sends news that the D. H. Lawrence Society of Japan will host their 41st annual conference at Waseda University in Tokyo on June, 26-27, 2010. As a part of their scholastic exchange with the D. H. Lawrence Society of Korea, which allows one scholar from each country to attend the annual conference of the other country, either to give a speech or to read a paper, we are expecting Professor Eunyoung Oh (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies) this year as our guest speaker. We will also have two symposiums: one on "Lawrence and Emotion" and the second on "Lawrence and the First World War: Literature, History, Memory and Myth."

Spring 2010 Conference in Nanterre, France

The annual international Lawrence conference at the University of Paris-Ouest (Nanterre) took place between March 25-27, 2010. As always, the superb conference

organizer was Ginette Katz-Roy. This year's topic was "Language and Languages." The twenty-two scholars who took part came from nine different countries: France, England, Italy, Spain, Russia, Belarus, Montenegro, the United States, and Australia. Several newcomers joined such conference regulars as Michael Bell, Carla Comellini, Keith Cushman, Marija Knezevic, Brigitte Macadre, Marina Ragachewskaya, and Natalya Reinhold.

A special highlight was the conference dinner, which took place in the upstairs room at L'Auberge Nicolas Flamel. The restaurant, which dates from 1407, is the oldest house in Paris. In the early 15th century Flamel occupied the sub-basement, where he attempted to turn lead into gold. Flamel is alluded to in the first Harry Potter book. The Paris Ouest conferences are notable for their high level of intellectual exchange, excellent camaraderie, and keen attention to cuisine.

Next year's conference will mark the 25th anniversary of their first conference. It will be held March 31 to April 2, 2011. The theme is "D. H. Lawrence and the Discontents of Civilization." Lawrence and Freud were contemporaries but Freud's essay *Civilization and its Discontents* was only published in 1930, too late to have any influence on the novelist. Yet Lawrence, like many writers in this tormented period, had a lot to say about the disease and decline of civilization. His views are sometimes strikingly similar to those expressed by the psychoanalyst in this essay and often very different.

He hated Freudian theories - of which he had mostly a second-hand knowledge. He was infuriated when a reviewer read *Sons and Lovers* as an illustration of the Oedipus complex. We will see how this proximity and this antagonism helped the novelist to shape his *Weltanschauung* and his conception of the psyche. We invite contributions around the following themes:

- The disease of the social body (trauma of the First World War, new ideologies, social tensions). Utopian temptation, myth and prophecy. The parallelism between malaise of the body and cultural malaise; Violence and sacrifice.
- The notions of culture and civilization in Lawrence; the savage and the civilized; Lawrence's interest in anthropology; evolution and progress. Lawrence and Freud as readers of Darwin and evolutionist theories.
- Lawrence's contacts with psychoanalysis. His quarrel with Freud.
- Deleuze's reading of Lawrence.
- Art as symptom and remedy.

Please send short abstracts by Nov. 20, 2010 to Ginette Roy roy@u-paris10.fr and to Stephen Rowley at srroly@hotmail.com

Report on Lawrence Meetings at 2009 MLA

By Julianne Newmark

Members of the DHLSNA met during the annual MLA Convention, held Dec. 28-30, 2009 in Philadelphia. Society members and other Lawrence scholars enjoyed two excellent panels that showcased recent

Lawrence scholarship; both were held at the Philadelphia Marriott.

The first session, "D. H. Lawrence's Short Stories," on December 29, was chaired by Jill Franks, the President of the DHLSNA. Beth McFarland-Wilson (Northern Illinois University) presented "A Family Systems Interpretation of 'Horse-Dealer's Daughter.'" She argued that typical readings of "The Horse-Dealer's Daughter" treat the subject matter mythically or through Freudian or Lacanian readings. A Family Systems interpretation can allow readers to see the characters as neither sentimental nor perverse. According to this critical approach, Mabel may be seen as attempting a version of intimacy with her mother through her suicide attempt, with the subsequent result of Jack entering the family in a deeply equitable way. Next, Carrie Rohman (Lafayette College), in a paper entitled "Ecology and the Creaturely in 'Sun,'" argued that Juliet is "ecologically situated," and aligned with the unhuman (i.e., the sun). As the sun touches and transforms Juliet's body, it further prompts her to open to other inhuman creaturely instincts, such as those of animal ways of being. Juliet becomes less needy of human attention and more intertwined with the earth. As a consequence of this new ontological alignment, Juliet ceases to be a restrained Western subject. Pamela K. Wright (North Georgia College and State University) presented the third paper entitled "Till Death Do Us Part: The Implications of Illness, Disability, and Death on Love and Romance in Lawrence's

'The Blind Man' and Somerset Maugham's 'Sanitorium.'" Wright discussed Lawrence's sensitive and complex understanding of disability and his presentation of love relationships, such as in "The Blind Man," where the human needs of love and closeness trump the challenges (and perhaps traumas) associated with illness. Indeed, Wright argued, Lawrence clearly showed the ways that illness added significantly to love relationships, rather than diminishing or destroying them, despite his engagement with stereotypical representations of disabled people (as with Clifford Chatterley). Ultimately, according to Wright, Lawrence by describing opposing physicalities, reveals the often superior qualities of "disabled" people.

At the second panel, "D. H. Lawrence's Circle," on Wednesday, December 30th, Jill Franks (Austin Peay State University), delivered a paper entitled "D. H. Lawrence and Katherine Mansfield." Franks argued that Lawrence and Mansfield needed personal relationships perhaps even more than most writers, because tuberculosis and iconoclasm made them intense, as though they were striving to achieve their best lives before their early deaths. Franks discussed the nature of Lawrence and Frieda's and Katherine and John's proximate residence in Buckinghamshire in 1914 and in Higher Tregetheren, Cornwall, in 1916. Franks described the relationship between the couples and offered a comparison of the characterization, tone, and setting in selected works of these writers. Lynne K. Talbot

(Roanoke College) spoke on "D. H. Lawrence and Dollie Radford." Focusing on three newly recovered letters between Lawrence and Radford, Talbot suggested that Dollie was an ideal friend for Lawrence because she unified many of the idealized woman-types that he preferred: muse, friend, comrade, and maternal figure. Finally, Joyce Piell Wexler (Loyola University, Chicago), in her paper "Frieda Lawrence and German Post-expressionism," explored the impact of World War I on German sensibilities. By incorporating slides of German paintings into her presentation, Wexler illustrated the shift in aesthetic sensibility in painting and compared it with the prose style and subject matter in the two parts of "The Sisters" that later became *The Rainbow* and *Women in Love*.

The Lawrence Society dinner was held at McCormick and Schmick's on Broad Street. A group of eleven Lawrentians (including one baby!) gathered in a beautiful private dining room on the second floor of the busy restaurant and enjoyed a convivial and leisurely dinner, featuring amazing lobster, seafood chowder, and other ocean delights.

At the post-dinner DHLSNA business meeting, attendees selected the panel topics for sessions at the next MLA, which will be held January 6-9, 2011, in Los Angeles. The topics selected are "Queering Lawrence" and "Film Adaptations of D. H. Lawrence." Those whose papers are chosen will need to be members of the DHLSNA to present at these MLA sessions.

As the lively discussions over dinner and following each Lawrence panel indicate, scholarly studies of Lawrence continue to be keen, carefully researched, and of great interest to Lawrence specialists and to those with secondary interests in Lawrence. We look forward to the 2011 MLA convention, when we will convene in Los Angeles. See you then!

Lawrence in Louisville Julianne Newmark

On February 18, 2010, three scholars presented papers concerning D. H. Lawrence at the annual Twentieth Century Literature Conference at the University of Louisville. The panel, "D. H. Lawrence: Authenticity and Isolation," was chaired by DHLSNA Secretary Julianne Newmark and featured papers by Drew Shannon (College of Mount St. Joseph), Adam Barrows (Carlton University), and Chris Forster (University of Virginia).

Shannon's paper, "The Priest of Love on a Savage Pilgrimage: Reading the Biographies of D. H. Lawrence," offered an overview of several biographies of Lawrence and discussed their usability for undergraduate students interested in writing about Lawrence. Shannon indicated that no one single biography, at this time, offers what his students seem to need, a clear and comprehensive biography of Lawrence's life coupled with a history of the reception of his works since death, for a biography of Lawrence's "life and afterlife." Barrows's paper, "We Don't Care about Khartoum!: Lawrence and the Politics of 'Splendid Isolation,'" examined Lawrence's attitude regarding race and empire and his questioning of imperial/colonialist attitudes. Barrows offered a clear historical frame for Lawrence's work and addressed these themes particularly in *The Rainbow*. Lawrence appeared to prefer the fantasy of "splendid isolationism" to the historical realities of imperialism and conquest. The dream of "isolationism," Barrows argued, always smacks up against the reality of contact in Lawrence's work and life. Chris Forster's paper, "Authentic Copies: The Paintings of D. H. Lawrence," explored the "nature of the copy" and the "problem of authenticity" in Lawrence's writing and painting. Through examples of the processes of "copying" in *Women in Love*, Forster reveals Lawrence's attention to the "best alternative" to an original and his notion of dwelling *in* a picture. This points to Lawrence's aesthetics of "inner vision" and his concern with the quality of copies. In regard to his own writing, Lawrence was not so aghast that pirate editions had been made of his work but that the works were of *poor quality*. The session was engaging, provoked many questions, and was followed by serious discussion between the panelists and the audience, indicating the rigor and importance of these papers.

News from TAOS

The 2010 New Mexico D. H. Lawrence Festival will take place in Santa Fe and Taos, August 1-4. It marks the 50th anniversary of the trial of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and the 80th anniversary of Lawrence's death. The

Festival will include a reenactment of the 1960 Old Bailey trial and a performance of "D. H. Lawrence: At Home in New Mexico," derived by Hugh Witemeyer from letters and other writings by Frieda Lawrence, Dorothy Brett, Mabel Dodge Luhan, and Lawrence himself. Actors who have been invited to take part include Alan Arkin, Brian Cox, Henry Goodman, Martin Jarvis, Angelica Huston, Marsha Mason and Michael York.

The Festival Director is Tony Branch, organizer of the memorable 1980 celebration of Lawrence. Full details will be announced in May. For further information, call (575) 613-0620 or visit www.dhlawrencefestival.com.

Fund Raising for the Lawrence Ranch

Art Bachrach of Taos, who was co-director of the D. H. Lawrence International Conference in Taos and a mainstay of our Santa Fe Conference, has written with good news about the ranch preservation. Art reports that preservation funds have continued to be greatly needed at the ranch, and fund raising efforts in cooperation with the University of New Mexico have begun. Some fairly large donations have already been received in Taos. Since the DHLSNA submitted the successful nomination of the Lawrence Ranch to the National Register of Historic Places, we hope members will continue to follow and support these activities.

Collector's Corner

Keith Sagar is offering the following D. H. Lawrence postcards for sale:

- 16 June 1927, to Margaret King. 50 words. \$1500.
 - 17 November 1928, to Emily King. 32 words. \$1500.
 - 18 April 1929, to Emily King. 47 words. \$1500.
 - 23 May 1929, to Margaret King. 114 words. \$1650.
 - 12 June 1929, to Emily King. 95 words. \$1650.
 - 19 July 1929, to Emily King. 40 words. \$1500.
 - 28 July 1929, to Emily King. 112 words. \$1650.
 - 12 August 1929, to Emily King. 119 words. \$1650.
 - 14 September 1929, to Emily King. 23 words. \$1300.
 - 23 September 1929, to Emily King. 15 words. \$1250.
 - 7 February 1930, to Emily King. 36 words. \$1500.
- Contact him at keithsagar@tiscali.co.uk or at his website www.keithsagar.co.uk

Charles Rossman writes:

"On 2/2/10, I retired after 42 years in the University of Texas English Department. That leaves me with lots of time -- and lots more books than I need, including a couple hundred books by and about DHL and a complete run of the *D.H. Lawrence Review*. If anyone is looking for a particular work of Lawrence criticism / scholarship or a near-pristine copy of the CUP hardcover editions of Lawrence's works, write to me at rossman@mail.utexas.edu about the titles you seek. I will reply post haste if I can help you, with a description of the book's condition and the price. (Some books have market-driven prices, some are free if you pay the shipping cost.)"

Membership Update

If you are not already a member, we hope you will join us. Please send your annual dues to our Treasurer, Carrie Rohman (\$10 for graduate students; \$25 for faculty). If you are already a member, please keep the Secretary, Julianne Newmark; Tina Ferris, the new directory editor; and Nancy Paxton, the Newsletter Editor, informed about changes in your email and surface mail addresses.

D. H. Lawrence in India Gour K. Das

Thinking hard on the subject before writing about it, I sent a feeler one day to some contacts with expertise, including Nancy Paxton, Editor, DHLNSA, asking whether Lawrence's contribution to household vocabulary /usages in India would be of interest to readers of this newsletter. Their response encouraged me to write and send this short note.

Several proverbial expressions have emanated from authors like Shakespeare, Dickens, Tolstoy, T S Eliot, Joyce, Tagore and Mark Twain and are echoed in the Indian household. Not so conspicuously in the case of D H Lawrence, perhaps, many would think. My finding is different, however. Let me cite two key instances. One afternoon, as I entered the Desai household in East Patel Nagar, West Delhi, to participate in a second rehearsal for an educational film production of *Hamlet* with an entirely Indian cast and setting, I was greeted at the door with a friendly query by Jyoti Bajaj, co-producer with her husband Rupin Desai,

asking whether I was "word perfect." I was to play Marcellus, and didn't have very many lines to memorize, but our time was short and the deadline for shooting was approaching. Hence the anxiety! Jyoti's greeting that day was unusual. The days of Word Perfect Software had come and gone in India without the Desais being aware of the development. Microsoft and Internet had only recently entered their household. Jyoti's greeting reminded me of D. H. Lawrence's well-known comment: "Word-Perfect we may be, but Deed-demented" (*Phoenix II*). The Desais are not as much D. H. Laurentian as Shakespearean and John Stuart Millsian. But Lawrence no doubt had gone deep into their psyche, for Rupin's controversial debut novel titled *Frailty thy Name is O Man*, with the 'W' standing crossed out in the title, stirred me as an intensely Lawrentian narrative, celebrating the potency of womanhood. "Marriage or not" is perhaps even a more problematic proposition in India today than it was for Rupert Birkin and Gerald Crich of *Women in Love*. Love marriage, legal marriage, mystic marriage are a part, but we have a long but vanishing tradition in India of arranged marriage; internet marriages are also gaining popularity. But marriageable women in conversation more often than not seem almost proverbially to echo Gudrun Brangwen; they "could not bear to be married and put into a house...." (*Women in Love*, Ch. 27). A statement typical of an intelligent turn-of-the-century D H Lawrentian 'New Woman'!

News from our Members:

Carol Sklenicka's book, *Raymond Carver: A Writer's Life* (Scribner) was named as one of the "Ten Best books of 2009" by the *New York Times Book Review*. She writes, "People ask me why I studied two writers who were so different. . . But Lawrence and Carver had something essential in common--both were the sons of working-class alcoholics and both made their way into literary life by sheer willpower." Congratulations Carol!

Paul Poplawski is currently working on an article for the *JDHLS* to provide an update to the third edition of *A Bibliography of D. H. Lawrence* (Cambridge, 2001). He would be grateful to hear from colleagues who have any new bibliographical information to share with him. Mail to paul.poplawski@btinternet.com.

Booknotes: New Scholarship on D. H. Lawrence

Jones, Bethan . *The Last Poems of D. H. Lawrence: Shaping a Late Style*. Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2010. This is a major study focusing on the last stage of Lawrence's writing, exploring connections between the late poems and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Sketches of Etruscan Places*, *Apocalypse*, *The Escaped Cock*, and Lawrence's late essays and reviews.

Leon, Carole E. *Movement and Belonging: Lines, Places, and Spaces of Travel*. New York: Peter Lang, 2009. Includes comparisons of travel in Lawrence's writing with more recent writers.

Mahood, M. M. *The Poet as Botanist*. Cambridge: Cambridge U P, 2008. Compares poetry by D. H. Lawrence and Judith Wright.

Outka, Elizabeth. *Consuming Traditions: Modernity, Modernism and the Commodified Authentic*. Oxford: Oxford U P, 2009. Includes discussion of Lawrence's works.

Reeve, N. H., ed. *The Vicar's Garden and Other stories*. Cambridge: Cambridge U P, 2009.

Sagar, Keith. *Ted Hughes and Nature: 'Terror and Exultation,'* is available for free downloading; he also offers essays on Shakespeare, Blake, Tennyson, Lawrence, Eliot, Larkin, Hughes, and others at his website: www.keithsagar.co.uk

Turner, Jon. *Louie: Her Remarkable East Midlands Life* presents the complete life story of Louise Burrows (1888-1962), including her engagement to Lawrence in December 1910. Obtainable direct from the publisher at cost price £9-50p per copy, either online at [www.reprintuk.com / enquiries@reprintuk.com](http://www.reprintuk.com/enquiries@reprintuk.com) or by post from Reprint, Beacon View, Abberton Way, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 4NX. Phone: 01509 26745

Winchina, Douglas. *"Destinies of Splendor": Sexual Attractiveness in D. H. Lawrence*. New York: Lang, 2009.

**From latest edition of the Journal of D. H. Lawrence Studies, vol. 2, no. 1,
edited by Andrew Harrison:**

James Boulton, "Further Letters of D. H. Lawrence";
Colim Kerrigan, "'Italian Scene with Boat': A Scene Identified";
Keith Sagar, "Straight Oxygen: Ted Hughes' Debt to D. H. Lawrence";
Judith Ruderman, "Louisa Victrix: Female Initiative in 'Daughters of the Vicar'";
Keith Cushman, "Lawrence at Bay: 'Hand-Printed and Beautiful, 7/6 a Copy'";
Jim Phelps, "A Note on 'Whistling of Birds'";
Lynn K. Talbot, "D. H. Lawrence and Dollie Radford";
Howard J. Booth, "Lawrence and English Radicalism";
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Todd@BooksIntl.com (703) 661-1500.

Lawrence
by Tony Hoagland

On two occasions in the past twelve months
I have failed, when someone at a party
spoke of him with a dismissive scorn,
to stand up for D. H. Lawrence.

a man who burned like an acetylene torch
from one end to the other of his life.
These individuals, whose relationship to literature
is approximately that of a tree shredder

to stands of old-growth forest,
these people leaned back in their chairs
bellies full of dry white wine and the ova of some foreign fish
and casually dropped his name

the way that pygmies with their little poison spears,
strut around the carcass of a fallen elephant.
"O Elephant," they say,
"you are not so big and brave today."

It's a bad day when people speak of their superiors
with a contempt they haven't earned,
and it's a sorry thing when certain other people

don't defend the great dead ones
who haven't opened up the world before them.
And though, in the catalogue of my betrayals,
This is a fairly minor entry,

I resolve, if the occasion should recur,
to uncheck my tongue and say, "I love the spectacle
of maggots condescending to a corpse,"
or, "You should be so lucky in your brainy, bloodless life

as to deserve to lift
just one of D. H. Lawrence's urine samples
to your arid psychobiographic
theory-tainted lips."

or maybe I'll just take the shortcut
between the spirit and the flesh,
and punch someone in the face,
because human beings haven't come that far

in their effort to subdue the body,
and we still walk around like zombies
in our dying, burning world
able to do little more

than fight, and fuck, and crow:
something Lawrence wrote about
in such a manner
as to make us seem magnificent.

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Conferences of Interest:

International Virginia Woolf Society, "Virginia Woolf and the Natural World," 3-6
June 2010, Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky.
The Author-Translator in the European Literary Tradition, June 28-July1, 2010,
Swansea University. Swansea, Wales.
Modernist Studies Association, Nov. 11-14, 2010, University of Victoria, Victoria,
B.C., Canada. See msa12@uvic.ca.
Modern Language Association, Jan. 9-11, 2011, Los Angeles, CA.
