

American Folklore Society Women's Section Meeting Minutes
Atlanta, Georgia
October 21, 2005

I. Call to order: Sarah Catlin Barnhart called the meeting to order after 5:30 p.m., and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves and give a brief update on their research and other projects of interest. The following members requested submissions for journals they were editing:

Giovanna Del Negro: *Journal of American Folklore*

Polly Stewart: *Western Folklore Book Reviews*

Kathy Preston: *Journal of Contemporary Legend*

II. Approval of 2004 Minutes: Polly Stewart moved to approve minutes the minutes from the 2004 meeting, and Teresa Hollingsworth seconded, and the motion passed.

III. New Business

A. Women's Section Quilt: Discussion was held over what the section would like to do with the Women's Section quilt. Gwendolyn Meister, who had obtained the quilt at the section auction no longer had space for the quilt and has sent quilt to Karen Baldwin, who will hold it until its future is determined. The quilt is made from squares section members purchased in honor of someone special to them. The quilt was assembled by Laurel Horton. Baldwin inventoried the contributions after the quilt was assembled and had a photographer make transparencies, which Peggy Yocom has. At one time, the section had discussed cards being made to sell. Amy Skillman suggested that we could get quotes for the Postcards/Notecards online. Pryor suggested that the quilt be brought to next meeting and the section further discuss whether the quilt should be used for further fundraising or donated to a collection (perhaps the American Folklife Center). Theresa Vaughan moved to ship the quilt to the next meeting and discuss it further then; Sue Eleterio seconded, and the motion passed. Sawin suggested that both women turn in shipping receipts for reimbursement.

B. Booth for Book Room: Sarah Catlin reported that Tim Lloyd wanted to increase activities in the book room since AFS was making efforts to have more activities in that space. The book room will be available from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-6 on Thursday and Friday and 9-1 p.m. on Saturday. (If valuable, one-of-a-kind items are displayed, Lloyd said there would have to be someone in charge of the booth since neither AFS nor the hotel would be liable for loss or damage). Set up time for the book room is Wednesday from 2-7 p.m., and materials must be removed between 1-3 on Saturday. Turner suggested renting a table (\$50), located on a wall so the quilt could be displayed on a rack. We will also have to get a rack to hang quilt. Sarah Catlin volunteered to be in charge of the activity. Susan Kalcik suggested making postcards of the quilt to sell. Amy Skillman and Peggy will check out prices and report to listserv about the costs (variety of shots). Peggy Yocom will scan the transparencies if this is feasible.

C. Section-sponsored speakers or panels: Discussion was raised about special speakers or panels for next year. Eleuterio reported that the AFS Task Force was in charge of investigating effect of Iraq War on Women's Arts and this might lead to a special presentation. She suggested Kathy Kelly could be cosponsored with Iraq taskforce. Eleuterio will email to see this is possible. Other ideas included working with the Cultural Diversity Task Force, Iraq and Katrina: effects of war and catastrophe.

D. Election of Junior Convener: Sarah Catlin-Dupuy opened the floor for nominations, with the stipulation that the person be able to attend next two years, take minutes next year and serve as senior convener. Linda Lee, U of Penn, was nominated by Carolyn Ware, and Jena Jorgensen seconded, and the motion passed.

E. Croning 2006: Kay Turner reported that she is rethinking the idea of setting the croning at a Fellows Luncheon. Sarah reviewed the rules for croning: Crones must be 50 or older and must be a member of the women's section. Radner recommended charging admission, and Kay Turner suggested that those admitted free could be either members of Society or Section meeting, but ultimately the idea was rejected because most see the croning as a gift to the society. The question was raised about inducting others from outside the section; however, there were objections. Susan Kalcik recalled that the first croning used folklore motifs, including the Daughters of Von Sydow, the order of the braid. It was noted that the ritual is an emergent, counter-normative ceremony. Kay Turner suggested that we might consider a panel about the croning ceremony. The croning committee includes: Nancy Nuz, Sue Eleuterio, Amy Skillman, Linda Pershing, Kathy Preston, and Gwendolyn Meister. Turner will help with list of past Crones. The croning committee needs to know the number of Crones in advance. Those present at the meeting to be croned in 2006 include Maida Owens, Carolyn Ware, and Patricia Sawin.

VI. Reports and Announcements

A. EKM announcements: The Elli Kongas Maranda award committee, including Patricia Sawin, Linda Lee, and Carolyn Ware, announced the following awards:

Student prize: shared by Sheila Bock, Ohio State University, for "From Harem Fantasy to Female Empowerment: The Rearticulation of Belly Dance" and Janferie Stone, Dept. of Native American Studies, University of California Davis, for "The Female Nawal: Practice and Metaphor across the Maya-American Continuum."

Professional prize: Giovanna P. Del Negro, Texas A&M University, for *The Passeggiata and Popular Culture in an Italian Town: Folklore and the Performance of Modernity*, McGill-Queens University Press.

Special recognition was also given to Amy Shuman's *Other People's Stories: Entitlement and the Critique of Empathy*, University of Illinois Press.

The 2006 Committee: Carolyn Ware has finished her term on the committee, and Sarah Catlin-Dupuy volunteered to serve for a three-year term, with Lee and Sawin continuing.

B. Section Finances: The following financial report was provided by Sarah Catlin-Dupuy:
Beginning balance: \$6386.01
Revenues (from dues): 674.47
Administrative fee to AFS: 313.00
Ending Balance as of 31 Aug. 05: 6147.48 (note: this does not include the \$500 for speaker Tin McElroy Ansa)

C. FCC Editor's Report: There was no report.

D. AFS Women's Listserv report: The question was raised about restricting membership of the listserv to dues-paying members of the AFS Women's section. Sarah Catlin-Dupuy provided email discussion regarding the issue, with most of the emails agreeing that membership of the list should be restricted to members of the women's section, which would also increase revenues for the section. After discussion, the consensus was to have the list restricted to membership. Patricia Sawin asked Elizabeth Adams check to see if all the section members were on list.

E. Other business: Jo Radner raised a question about increasing the number of sponsoring conference scholarships. She suggested bringing a proposal to section meeting next year. Gwendolyn Meister volunteered to present a proposal on this.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Susan Roach, Junior convener

**American Folklore Society Women's Section Meeting Attendance
October 21, 2005**

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