



# American Folklore Society News

**APRIL 2006/Volume 35, Number 2**

## ***Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates***

The American Folklore Society 2006 Nominating Committee invites and encourages members to submit the names of individuals to be considered as candidates for the AFS Presidency, Executive Board, and Nominating Committee in the 2006 AFS Election. The Presidential term runs for four years (2007-2010: one year as President-Elect, two years as President, and one year as Past President). Terms for the three seats on the Executive Board and the one seat on the Nominating Committee run for three years (2007-2009). The senior member of the Nominating Committee will serve as chair during the last year of her/his term.

Any member of the Society may suggest any other member for nomination. In selecting its initial slate of candidates, the Nominating Committee considers (1) candidates' awareness of the issues facing the Society at the present and their expression of willingness to work with the President, the Executive Board, the Executive Director and the membership in formulating sound policies and programs to guide the Society in the coming years; and (2) a slate that is balanced with regard to the candidates' geographical distribution, present employment, ethnicity, race and gender.

This year's Nominating Committee is Sabina Magliocco, Amy Kitchener, Mario Montano and AFS Executive Board Representative Elaine Thatcher. To suggest the names of potential candidates, or for more information, contact Sabina Magliocco at [sabina.magliocco@csun.edu](mailto:sabina.magliocco@csun.edu); Department of Anthropology, CSUN, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge CA 91330-8244; (818) 340-5811. The deadline for suggestions is **May 1, 2006**.

The Committee will announce its initial slate of nominees in the August 2006 AFS News, after which members will have the opportunity to add names to that slate by petition. Candidates will appear in a Candidates' Forum as part of the business meeting at the annual meeting in Salt Lake City. The Forum will include brief candidates' statements and opportunities for questions from AFS members. Balloting by mail will take place after the 2006 annual meeting and will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

## ***AFS Announces 2009 Annual Meeting Site***

The 2009 AFS annual meeting will take place in October 21-25 in Boise, Idaho. We will use the Grove Hotel, in the center of downtown Boise, and the entire Boise convention center next door will be set aside for our use—unlike most convention centers, it's just our size. Boise has a very pedestrian-convivial downtown, and our hotel is directly across the street from a block-long neighborhood of Basque businesses and community gathering places. A group of folklorists from Idaho and the intermountain West will carry out the local work for this meeting.

## ***Lee Haring Appointed to ACLS Delegates' Executive Committee***

President Pauline Yu of the American Council of Learned Societies has just appointed Lee Haring, *emeritus* of Brooklyn College and AFS's delegate to ACLS, to serve on the seven-member executive committee representing the delegates from all of ACLS's 68 learned societies and professional associations in the humanities and social sciences. Our congratulations to him; we know he will represent our field well in the coming years.

## ***Publication News***

### ***Call for Papers: Jews at Home: The Domestication of Identity***

Papers are being sought for a second volume in a book series on Jewish Cultural Studies that explore how homes are culturally materialized and conceptualized as Jewish by residents. The editorial board is especially looking for interpretations on the ways that private selves and collectives of Jews differs from Jewishness expressed in the synagogue and street. The volume addresses issues of domestication that is both imposed from the outside because of societal repression of Jewishness, and that which is displayed and invented to announce, differentiate, and renew Jewish identity. For example, contributions can open critical inquiry into display and use of Judaica in homes, secular performances of Jewishness in the home, private constructions and performances of Jewishness in repressive situations, symbolism of the Syrian Jewish housefront in mixed ethnic Jewish areas, adjustment of urban dwellings for Hasidic families, symbolism of holiday celebrations at home, emergence of the Jewish practice of kosher in the home and non-kosher outside the home, differences in ethnic home decoration, home dress, and socialization pattern in different Jewish cultures.

The purpose of the Jewish cultural series is to present thematic volumes interpreting Jewish cultures ethnographically and historically around the globe, and exploring the idea of Jewish culture as it has been constructed, symbolized, produced, communicated, and consumed in diverse contexts. Themes of volumes will be interdisciplinary, drawing particularly on research in folklore studies, anthropology, and cultural history and sociology. Future volumes being planned include themes of Jewish ritual and festival, consumerism and traditional culture, and bodylore. The format of the volumes will be similar to the successful book series *Polin*, also published by Littman (see <http://www.littman.co.uk/polin/>). It typically contains 10 to 12 essays of 8000 words anchored by an introduction addressing the theme, and a section (usually 3 or 4 essays) called "New Views" of original research on Jewish studies not on the theme. Unlike many publications on Judaica studies, the Jewish cultural studies series will be exploring the secular as well as religious spheres, and the intersections of the two, with attention to the diversity of traditions and customs in the Jewish world—and particularly their significance and meaning. The publication is sponsored by the Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Section of the American Folklore Society in cooperation with the Council on the Anthropology of Jews and Judaism of the American Anthropological Association. The deadline for submissions is **November 1, 2006**.

For more information contact editor Simon J. Bronner, School of Humanities, The Pennsylvania State University, 777 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057-4898, USA, [sbronner@psu.edu](mailto:sbronner@psu.edu)

## **Web and Media News**

### **New JFR E-Mail Review Service**

The *Journal of Folklore Research* have recently launched a e-mail review service, and if you are not yet a subscriber you are missing out on the action -- critical reviews of publications and other media of interest to folklorists, sent without delay (and free of charge) to your e-mail address. Below is a sample of review they have mailed out to date:

\*Michael Jackson's review of Allan Marett, *Songs, Dreamings, and Ghosts: The Wangga of North Australia*.

\*Timothy Tangerlini's review of Jack Zipes, *Hans Christian Anderson: The Misunderstood Storyteller*.

\*Mary Ellen Brown's review of William St. Clair, *The Reading Nation in the Romantic Period*.

\*Brenda Romero's review of Enrique Lamadrid, *Hermanitos Comanchitos: Indo-Hispano Rituals of Captivity and Redemption*.

\*Liora Sarfati's review of Kira Van Dausen, *Singing Story, Healing Drum: Shamans and Storytellers of Turkic Siberia*.

\*John McDowell's review of Roger Abrahams, *Everyday Life: A Poetics of Vernacular Practices*.

To subscribe to JFR Reviews, simply send an e-mail to [listserv@indiana.edu](mailto:listserv@indiana.edu) with the phrase "SUBSCRIBE JFR-L" as the message body (not the subject line). All reviews are stored permanently and can be accessed at their Web site: <http://www.indiana.edu/~jofr>

The *Journal of Folklore Research* will continue to publish original research articles and encounters with folklore in print form, along with selected reviews, and the editors invite you to subscribe as well to the journal if you are not already receiving it. Visit their Web site for further information on the journal and on their e-mail review service: <http://www.indiana.edu/~jofr>

## **Meeting News**

Proposals are now being accepted for papers to be presented at the upcoming conference on American folk art that will be held in Cooperstown, New York, on **October 28, 2006**. This interdisciplinary conference will bring together scholars from museums and various academic disciplines to explore folk art in its many manifestations. The conference is co-sponsored by the Cooperstown Graduate Program, a master's degree program in history museum studies affiliated with the State University of New York College at Oneonta and the New York State Historical Association, and its alumni organization, the Cooperstown Graduate Association. The New York State Historical Association, which will host the conference at its Fenimore Art Museum, is a major repository for American folk art.

Proposals are invited for 20-minute papers that deal with folk art from any period in American history. Presentations that address issues of religious, racial, ethnic, or cultural diversity are especially encouraged, as are those that discuss folk art in the collection of the New York State

Historical Association. Proposals for panels, workshops, films or other alternative formats will also be considered. Please list any audio-visual equipment or other needs at the conclusion of the proposal. The Cooperstown Graduate Program will not be able to pay travel costs or honoraria for speakers, although registration fees for the conference will be waived and lunch will be provided for speakers.

Send four copies of a one-page proposal and brief *curriculum vitae*, including telephone numbers and email address, postmarked by **May 1** to Cynthia Falk, Cooperstown Graduate Program, P.O. Box 800, Cooperstown, New York 13326.

The **9th Congress** of the Société Internationale d'Ethnologie et de Folklore (SIEF) will take place on **June 16-20, 2008** on the Magee campus of the University of Ulster, Derry/Londonderry, Northern Ireland. The congress, entitled: "Transcending 'European Heritages': Liberating the Ethnological Imagination," will aim to encourage in particular boundary-crossing explorations of new epistemologies and the proactive shaping of the field's research agendas through a broad range of sub-themes, panel discussions, posters, workshops, and keynotes by leading international scholars. It will include workshops dealing with region-specific issues in developing the field (the emerging Baltic ethnology, the effort in Great Britain to launch a European ethnology, the reconfiguring of the field in Central Europe and the Balkan states, and so forth), with historiographic examinations of the circumstances that have shaped and, perhaps, limited the ethnological imagination, and with the public role of ethnologists and folklorists in specific contexts, for example, divided societies. The Congress program will present academic and professional interests in an integrated format, and encourage debate between different traditions. There will also be a forum for MA and PhD students, and workshops looking at practice-based research in ethnology and folklore. Congress delegates will have an opportunity, both as part of the program and on their own, to visit innovative local organizations of special interest for ethnologists and folklorists. For example, two venues where workshops will be held, the Nerve Centre in the multimedia field and the Verbal Arts Centre in the area of oral traditions, are both important outlets for public folklore. A wide spectrum of community initiatives represents the different indigenous and immigrant cultural groups in the host region. After the congress, there will be an opportunity to explore the region through half- and full-day excursions; destinations will include the Ulster-American Folk Park and the Sperrins, Lough Derg, the Donegal Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking area), and the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.

Proposals are now invited in the first instance for sub-theme panels, open-theme panels, and workshops, as detailed on the SIEF-website ([www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/](http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/)). The deadline for these proposals is **June 30, 2006**. A first call for papers and other individual contributions will follow later in the year. Individual panel and workshop sessions are scheduled for 90 minutes, and panels should not run over more than three sessions. Proposers are strongly encouraged to think of their panel in terms of leading to a peer-reviewed publication, and indicate the format and target outlet for this in their proposal. The conference languages are, as usual, English, French and German. The Scientific Committee are prepared to consider proposals for panels in other languages. However, panel chairs are advised that individual sessions must be held entirely (chairing, presentations, discussion) in one language, as translation facilities for the parallel sessions cannot be provided. Proposals of no more than 400 words, setting out the topic and rationale for the proposed panel or workshop, and indicating an appropriate outlet for publication, should be sent by e-mail as plain text (no attachments, please!) to [SIEF2008@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:SIEF2008@ulster.ac.uk)

For further details related to the congress visit the SIEF website ([www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/](http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/sief/)). A dedicated conference website ([www.ulster.ac.uk/SIEF2008/](http://www.ulster.ac.uk/SIEF2008/)) will go on-line in August 2006.

## ***AFS Datebook***

### ***2006***

April 30	Deadline for nominations, AFS Fellows 2006 Book Prize (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p.6)
May 1	Deadline for submissions, <i>Jewish Cultural Studies</i> (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 7)  Deadline for nominations, Raphael Patai Prize in Jewish Folklore and Ethnology (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 8)
May 15-18	Association for Interpretation “Interpreting World Heritage: Connecting People to Places Through Sustainable Heritage Tourism” Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico (see August 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 8)
June 7-11	SIEF Working Group on The Ritual Year 2 <sup>nd</sup> International Conference, Göteborg/Gothenburg, Sweden (see June 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 4)
June 14-17	Vernacular Architecture Forum 2006 Conference, New York, New York (see August 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 9)
July 20-23	International Society for Oral Literature in Africa 6 <sup>th</sup> Conference, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago (see April 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 3 and p. 7)
June 30	Deadline for applications, AFS Committee on International Issues travel stipends for travel to meetings outside North America (February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 5)
June 30	Deadline for proposals, 9th SIEF Congress (see story, p. 4)
July 26-30	Second North Atlantic Fiddle Convention, Aberdeen, Scotland (see August 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 9, and December 2005 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 5)
August 31	Deadline for nominations, Zora Neale Hurston and Américo Paredes Prizes (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 4)
September 1	Deadline for nominations, Benjamin A. Botkin Prize (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 3)
October 18-22	AFS 2006 Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (For information, see <a href="http://www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm">www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm</a> ; for proposal and registration forms, see <a href="http://www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/nextAMreg.cfm">www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/nextAMreg.cfm</a> )

November 1

Deadline for submissions, *Jewish Cultural Studies- Jews at Home: The Domestication of Identity* (see story, p. 2)

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## ***American Folklore Society News***

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*Alan Jabbour* (2006), 3107 Cathedral Avenue NW, Washington DC 20008

*Dorothy Noyes* (2006), Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1501 Neil Avenue, Columbus OH 43201

*Steve Zeitlin* (2006), City Lore, 72 East First Street, New York NY 10003

*Bill Ellis* (2007), Pennsylvania State University, Hazleton PA 18202

*Sandy Rikoon* (2007), Department of Rural Sociology, Gentry Hall 120, University of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211

*Elaine Thatcher* (2007), Mountain West Center for Regional Studies, Utah State University, 0735 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322

*Diane Goldstein* (2008), Folklore Department, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1B 3X8

*Dan Sheehy* (2008), Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, PO Box 37012, Victor Building, Suite 4100, MRC 953, Washington DC 20013-7012

*Kay Turner* (2008), Brooklyn Arts Council, 33 Washington Street, Suite 218, Brooklyn NY 11201

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The *American Folklore Society News* (ISSN 0745-5178) is published online bimonthly by the American Folklore Society, Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1501 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201-2602. All American Folklore Society members receive *AFSN*, with \$19 of their dues designated for it. Nonmember subscriptions cost \$25. Periodicals postage for institutional subscriber copies paid at Columbus OH, and additional offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Editor's address shown above.

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