

Editor's Notes

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This issue marks the completion of my fourth years as AEER editor. The last few years have seen the development of several special issues and five "ordinary" issues. Those special issues, originally the brain child of David Kideckel and Joel Halpern, served the purpose of acquainting a wider readership with the journal and earning the East European Anthropology Group enough income to provide a financial cushion. The generosity of DePaul University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which picks up two-thirds of the mailing and printing costs of the journal, has permitted us to keep most of the money from sales in the bank.

If you don't read anything else on this page, read this: Membership/subscriber roles have fallen dramatically. Currently, only 53 people have paid their dues through 1996. I usually send a copy of the journal to people who paid in the previous year as well, but overall, we are about sixty members down from the membership peak of 160 in 1993. Dues have not changed in ten years. Yet without members, my college will stop its support. I have to demonstrate a significant mailing list every year in order to claim that the college is supporting a significant academic journal. Presently, this journal is holding us together as an interest group. Who would submit articles and who would read them if everything was posted on the web page? The journal permits us to be collected by research libraries of note. Please pay your dues.

This is an ordinary issue only by virtue of its size. The three articles address topics that have not been covered by this journal in some time. Two of the articles come from the panel session called, "The 'Other' Voices: Women and the Paradox of Civil Society in Postsocialist States," of the American Anthropological Association meeting in Washington, November, 1995. More paper from this session may be published in the future. In the first of these papers, Carol Silverman looks at the contemporary political, economic, and gender relationships among Bulgarian Roma. While Carol is an established scholar, whose essay we are proud to publish here, the next two essays are by young scholars fresh from their field work. Russell Zanca from the University of Illinois/ Urbana program, offers an intriguing analysis of contested views of the Soviet experience by villagers in Uzbekistan. In another paper from "The 'Other' Voices: Women and the Paradox of Civil Society in Postsocialist States," Kathleen Kuehnast from the University of Minnesota program, gives us a striking portrait of gender relations in the post-Soviet era.

among the Kyrgyz. Each article continues my editorial policy of dealing with Postt-Soviet issues in the broadest context, while offering a publishing platform to both new and established scholars. Finally, Andre Simic responds to Paul Magnarella's report on the Balkan War Crimes Tribunal.

The web page will be getting a face lift in the next few months. In addition to having a consistent format for every article, the articles will be reformatd to make them more readable on the screen. Scanned (and re-edited) articles from the 1980s will be added to the archive, as well as a searchable index by author and ethnic group. Perhaps the beggest news is that the articles from the special issues on War Among the Yugoslavs and Refugee Women of the Balkans will be added to the archive. This will permit a greater latitude for our students.

I remain open to considering for publication any and all papers that report on recent field work in Eastern Europe, translations of classic ethnographic writing, journalist "letters" from the field describing current conditions, reviews of music, books and films, and letters respnding to previous articles and letters.

We have received two books for review: Chris Hann's *The Skeleton at the Feast*, published by the University of Kent, and Maja Povrzanovic' and Renata Jambres'ic' *Kirin's* collection of papers on War, Exile and Everyday Life, published by the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research in Zagreb. If anyone would like to review one of these books for the next issue, please let me know.