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# History Of Women Religious

## News and Notes

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### CONFERENCE '98

Conference plans for Loyola University, Chicago, June 21-24, include sessions developing the conference theme of interdisciplinary perspectives on the history of women religious, and a business meeting of extraordinary importance. Please contact the newsletter editor or program chair, Florence Deacon, OSF, at Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI 53217, for further information.

Alert readers will note that with this issue we mark completion of the tenth year of newsletter publication. The loose structure of the network is being examined in the light of network purposes and activities. Persons attending the June conference will be asked to consider the following recommendations:

That a committee structure be established consisting of a coordinating committee with several other working committees. The *Coordinating Committee* would be composed of two co-ordinators and the chairs of such other committees as shall be established. The *Communications Committee* would be composed of persons interested in both electronic and print communication. The *Publications Committee* would include the newsletter and book review editors and persons responsible for such future publications as the conference may determine.

Two ad hoc committees are also recommended: the *Archives Committee* would study the feasibility of establishing a repository for conference papers and serve as a liaison with Archivists of Congregations of Women Religious; the future of this ad hoc group would be contingent upon results of its study. The *Conference Committee* would change every three years while retaining the chair of the previous

conference as a consultant. It would be responsible for site selection and program planning in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee.

In addition, it is recommended that the conference adopt a statement of policies dealing with terms of office, dues (presently the \$5 newsletter subscription), criteria for membership, use of private archives, and networking with academic structures. It is suggested that the Coordinating Committee take this on as its first task.

Commentary on recommendations is welcome prior to the June meeting and may be sent to the newsletter editor or to the chair of the ad hoc government structure committee, Mary Roger Madden, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876.

### PUBLICATIONS

Geraldine Anthony, SC, Rebel, Reformer, Religious Extraordinaire: The Life of Sister Irene Farmer, SC (University of Calgary Press, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, Canada; or place orders by telephone (604-822-5959), assesses the significance of the leadership of a post-Vatican II general superior of the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, a Canadian-American congregation.

Jeanne Cover, Love—The Driving Force: Mary Ward's Spirituality: Its Significance for Moral Theology (Marquette University Press, 1997), examines the inspiration behind one of the earliest leaders of active apostolates for women in early modern Europe.

Jane T. McVeigh, RGS, Rose Virginie Pelletier: The Woman and Her Legacy (University Press of America, 1997), recounts the life of Sister Mary

Euphrasia Pelletier, founder of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd at Angers in 1829.

Gail Porter Mandell, Madeleva: A Biography (State University of New York Press, 1997), provides a long-awaited biography of the teacher, poet and college administrator who advanced women's education as president of Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, from 1934 to 1961.

Patricia Lynch, SBS, Sharing the Bread in Service: Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, 1891-1991 (privately printed, order from author at P.O. Box 8502, Bensalem, PA 19020), brings together under one cover the many strands of ministry among Indians and Negroes carried out by the congregation formed by Katharine Drexel.

Owen Lindblad, OSB, Full of Fair Hope (privately printed, order from St. Mary's Mission, Highway 1, Box 189, Red Lake, MN 56671) places the history of the Benedictine mission among the Ojibwe at Red Lake, Minnesota, in the broader context of Ojibwe tribal history. Over 200 photos, maps, drawings, and documents enhance the volume.

Irene Hartman, OP, The Dominican Women of the Sunflower State (1902-1989) (privately printed, 1997, order from author 920 W. 11<sup>th</sup>, Larned, KS 67550), traces the history of the Great Bend, Kansas Dominicans originating in Brooklyn, New York, in 1902, and extending to Kansas under the leadership of Mother Antonina Fischer.

Angelyn Dries, OSF, The Missionary Movement In American Catholic History (Orbis Books, 1998), provides the first comprehensive account of the subject and its analogies with Protestant missionary theory and practice in the United States.

Dana L. Robert treats one facet of a similar subject in American Women in Mission: A Social History of Their Thought and Practice (Mercer University Press, Macon, Georgia, 1993).

John Christine Wolkerstorfer, SCJ, Pride in the Past, Faith in the Future (privately printed, 1997; order from author 515 So. Cleveland Ave., #102, St. Paul, MN 55116), relates the history of the Catholic Aid Association, a fraternal insurance company dedi-

cated to Catholics helping Catholics.

James T. Carroll, CFC, Americanization or Indoctrination: the Role of Catholic Indian Boarding Schools, 1870-1920, is a recently completed doctoral dissertation at the University of Notre Dame.

Kaye Ashe, OP, The Feminization of the Church (Sheed & Ward, 1997), probes the extent and nature of feminism as a social force affecting women's spirituality, language, ethics, ministry, and leadership.

### **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

Margaret Carney, OSF, whose dissertation, The First Franciscan Woman: Clare of Assisi and Her Form of Life, was published by the Franciscan Press in 1993, continues her research in the history of early Franciscan women while teaching at the Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University in New York.

Maria Tattu Bowen, a new subscriber to HWR News and Notes, is a doctoral student at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California, with an interest in Christian spirituality.

Barbara Misner, SMHC, reports that she has completed part one of the history of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, covering developments from 1845 to the death of founder Mary Theresa Scherer in 1888. The congregation was by then comprised of a motherhouse in Switzerland, five provinces in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and houses in southern Germany and Rome. Parts two and three are projected to cover the years 1888-1938, and 1938 to the present. Orders for volume one, publication expected this spring, may be placed with the author at 1500 O'Day St., Merrill, WI 54452.

Marian E. Harris, DHM, a doctoral student at Boston University School of Theology, is focusing her studies on Canadian and United States missions from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, with a particular interest in the changing nature of diakonia and women religious.

Constance Berman, professor of history at the University of Iowa, continues her research on two books, Cistercian Monks and Nuns (southern

France), and Sisters in Wealth and in Poverty (northern France).

Mary Roger Madden, SP, having recently completed a history of the National Catholic Stewardship Council (1963-1997), is currently engaged in researching and writing a study of the spirituality of Venerable Mother Theodore Guerin, founder of the Sisters of Providence, whose beatification is due to take place in Rome this year.

Mary Jeremy Daigler, RSM, has begun writing the first history of Mercy higher education in the United States with hopes of completing the manuscript by June. This congregation founded and continues to sponsor the largest number of colleges and universities of any group of women in the United States: 29 founded, of which 20 exist today.

### NOTICES

Competition opens March 1 for 1999-2000 Fulbright awards to faculty and professionals, with deadlines for various categories ranging from August 1 to November 1, 1998. U.S. citizenship and the Ph.D. or comparable professional qualifications are required. For information, contact the USIA Fulbright Senior Scholar Program, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 3007 Tilden Street, NW, Ste 5L, Box GNEWS, Washington, D.C. 20008. Telephone 202-686-7877. Web page (on-line materials): <<http://www.cies.org>> E-mail: <[apprequest@cies.iie.org](mailto:apprequest@cies.iie.org)> (requests for application materials only).

The Coordinating Council for Women in History will award a \$10,000 annual scholarship beginning in April 1998 to a scholar of excellence. Named the CCWH-Prelinger Scholarship, the award memorializes former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar Catherine Prelinger, and is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar who has not followed the traditional academic path of uninterrupted studies toward graduate degrees and faculty tenure. Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH, and hold the A.B.D. status or the Ph.D. at the time of application, the deadline for which is February 15. Contact person: Prof. Marguerite Renner, Executive Director, 1500 N. Verdugo Rd., Glendale College, Glendale, CA 91208. Telephone 818-240-1000, ext. 5461.

The Institute of Religious Studies in Australia will hold its fourth conference October 8-9, 1998, in Sydney. Papers connected with both men's and women's religious institutes, or on religious movements which have corporately responded to spiritual and social needs in Australian society, are invited. For information, contact Rosa MacGinley, PBVM, P.O. Box 280 Strathfield, New South Wales 2135.

The Women's History Catalog contains items helpful for promoting National Women's History Month in March. You'll need to augment with items pertaining to the history of nuns, but it's a start! A special feature this year is a photo timeline, "150 Years for Equality," covering eight generations of activism since the birth of the women's rights movement in the U.S. with the Seneca Falls declaration in 1848. The History of Women Religious is included among organizations supporting a comprehensive web site marking the Seneca Falls anniversary, <<http://www.Legacy98.org>>

Offices of the Archivists for Congregations of Women Religious have been relocated at Trinity College, Franklin & Michigan Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017.

Mary of Victory O'Brien, IHM, is the newly appointed diocesan archivist for the diocese of Savannah, Georgia.

Missing Members: please contact the editor if you have information on the whereabouts of Mary Hovanec (former address: 1226 W. 103 St., Cleveland, Ohio 44102); and Mary Ann O'Ryan (former address: 7406 N. Claremont Ave., Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 60645).

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