The archives of Santa Barbara Mission will open to UCSB’s History Associates on Saturday, Dec. 11 for a private tour lead by Fr. Virgilio Biasiol, director of the Santa Barbara Mission Archive.

Founded in 1786, Mission Santa Barbara earned its nickname of “Queen of the Missions” when it became the official archive of the Franciscan Order in 1853.

“The archive is an invaluable source for the study of California missionary enterprise,” according to Associates President Patrick O’Dowd.

“It includes texts that the Franciscans brought with them when they came to California in 1769.”

A tour of this “amazing resource” has long been on the agenda, O’Dowd said. It particularly timely this year because the History department is conducting a search for Borderlands historian.

“This will give everybody an opportunity to see the variety of primary and secondary materials available locally.”

The tour will begin at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a box lunch in the Mission’s interior courtyard at noon. Cost is $10 for members and $15 for non-members.

Reservations can be made with the UCSB Office of Community Relations, (805) 893-4388.

Prof. R. Stephen Humphreys has been elected President of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), the largest learned society devoted to that field in North America for the year 2001.

The election represents a three-year commitment. Prof. Humphreys will serve as president-elect in 2000 and as past-president in 2002.

Well-known to members of the History Associates for his frequent briefings, Prof. Humphreys holds the Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud Chair in Islamic Studies at UCSB. He recently completed a three-year term as editor of the International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies (IJMES).

With 2,700 members, MESA represents almost every discipline and period from the origins of Islam to the present.

“This is well-deserved recognition for Steve, and a great honor for our department,” said History Chair Jack Talbott.

At UCSB, Prof. Humphreys was instrumental in creating the new program in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, which draws together faculty from Political Science, Sociology, Religious Studies, Art and Music as well as History.

Prof. Humphreys came to UCSB from the University of Wisconsin in 1990. His most recent book is *Between Memory and Desire: The Middle East in a Troubled Age* (Berkeley, 1999).
Associates Learn Goleta History With Autumn Stow

BY CATHY RUDOLPH

APPROXIMATELY 30 History Associates and guests spent a delightful Indian summer afternoon at the History Associates first event of the year Oct. 30 in the garden of Stow House.

They were greeted by the ever-gracious Anne O’Dowd, standing in for her ailing husband, Associates Board President Patrick.

Board Secretary Monica Orozco introduced Bev Schwartzberg, our guide for a fascinating exploration of Stow House.

Ms. Schwartzberg is a Ph. D. candidate with Prof. Patricia Cohen in the History department and has been the recipient of History Associates fellowships.

As an MA student in Public History, she served an internship with the Ventura Historical Society which gained her a reputation as a “museum expert” and led to her employment for two years as curator of Stow House for the Goleta Valley Historical Society, a position she only recently resigned in order to devote more time to working on her dissertation.

Following a sumptuous “country picnic” served on tables in the welcoming shade of the Stow House garden, Ms. Schwartzberg identified many of the surrounding trees and shrubs.

The foliage represents the “remaking of the Southern California landscape” with broad expanses of lawn and the importation of “exotic” plants by wealthy Eastern and Midwestern immigrants, she explained.

The new residents were eager to recreate the environment they left behind, as well as to show their status.

Ms. Schwartzberg went on to explain the role of Stow House in the history of the Goleta Valley and, by extension, Anglo-California history, and how it came to be acquired and preserved by the Goleta Valley Historical Society.

Stow House began as a modest wooden Gothic Revival cottage which served as La Patera Ranch headquarters.

La Patera Ranch was one of several large ranches purchased in the 1860s by William Whitney Stow, a quiet but powerful and influential member of the Southern Pacific Railroad administration.

He installed his son, Sherman Patterson Stow, as ranch manager and the house grew as Sherman’s family grew.

Ms. Schwartzberg pointed out how succeeding additions reflected the various architectural styles in vogue at the time of their construction.

Under the management of Sherman Stow and his son Edgar, La Patera Ranch became a showplace for California agriculture and a leader in the California “citrus gold rush” of the late 1800s.

Members of the Stow family occupied the house until the 1960s, when a new headquarters building was constructed and the house eventually came under the protection of the Goleta Valley Historical Society.

On a tour of the home, Ms. Schwartzberg pointed out the inter-connectedness of early California families, both Anglo and Mexican, many of whose descendants are still active in the community.

Artifacts in the house were donated by many Goleta Valley families and provide a fascinating picture of “change over time,” as part of the living, organic history of the Valley.

All attending learned a great deal about local and regional history from the very knowledgeable and entertaining tour leader.

With recipients like Bev Schwartzberg, Associates can be assured their donations to fellowship funds are important.

“The fact that these three women are wearing UC uniforms sends an important message about the value of diversity on UC campuses and on all college and university campuses.”

There was a snag however. NCAA guidelines prevent use of photos taken during regular season games for commercial purposes. So Coach Mark French carefully arranged a special shot in a preseason game of these three players in uniform whom he had determined would not be eligible to play at the time of the book’s publication.

Just when she thought everything was resolved and the book cover had been designed, NCAA problems popped up again.

“With frantic calls from the Press and equally frantic e-mails from my co-editor coming in telling me to ‘do something and do it quickly,’ I called Chancellor Yang’s office,” Prof. DeHart said. “That broke the logjam.”

Women’s America: Refocusing the Past, published by Oxford University Press, is a collection of articles and primary texts edited for use in courses in American women’s history.

Prof. DeHart, a nationally recognized leader in the field of women’s history, is a historian of twentieth century U.S. politics and policy who specializes on issues involving gender and
Department Grapples With Sixties

Editor’s Note: Since the first installment of Otis Graham’s “Contributions to a History of History at UCSB” appeared last April, one natural disaster after another has hit his current home in North Carolina. Characteristically, Otis shrugs off this coincidence.

“As you West Coasters may have noticed while awaiting your Big One,” he wrote recently, “Three hurricanes tried to come through my living room in this one brief year. Taking account of my exemplary life, De Lawd steered them away to the East at the last minute. I have been asked by locals to return to California, as De Lawd clearly of two minds on my merits.”

In printing Part II of The Graham Papers, Historia respectfully suggests that readers review their home insurance policies before continuing.

By OTIS L. GRAHAM

Because this was the Sixties, we youngish newcomers were ready to find fault with our elders, and foment rebellion.

They obliged by having some small faults. This gave us our chance to be, in our own professorish way, revolutionaries (reformers, really) in that era of challenging authority and democratizing the inherited systems.

Faculty in those days, especially younger faculty, were often deeply involved in the Sixties Revolution, especially the anti-war effort, but I will address only the “revolution” as it expressed itself inside the History Department.

The senior faculty who had hired us became our reformist target. What was to be reformed? They produced a reasonable amount of published scholarship, but to us ran things as an Old Boy network.

Promotions were handled by the over-ranking faculty and we sensed cozy tradeoffs at the top, where everybody seemed to get promoted every year.

Senior professors protected and favored their clients down in the ranks and among graduate students. In the egalitarian air of the Sixties, this seemed to us intolerable.

There were almost no women in History as we started that transitional era, two Asian-Americans (Chinese), no Latinos. Assistant professors had no role in internal personnel decisions. Students, grad and under-grad, had no voice at any point.

Looking back, it is hard to make these into capital crimes, and probably we exaggerated the problems in our undemocratic little world. But it was a time of reform, and we reformed.

Warren Hollister became Chair, and the High Standards flag went up the flagpole every morning. We took routine personnel actions out of the hands of the over-ranking faculty and put them in the hands of a committee drawn from all ranks.

Students sat on recruitment committees and had a voice in major personnel actions. We openly disagreed with senior faculty in meetings, and survived. We fired some people, an upsetting experience for any decent soul, and especially for our elders, who cherished Harmony.

I recall one case where an assistant professor published a book which we thought bad. He was let go, washed away by a resounding vote from our cohort. Henry Adams was aghast.

“If you publish a book, you get tenure,” he complained.

Not to us. Publish a poor book, and you get fired.

As my generation gained influence, we established the pattern: rigorous standards in hires, fires, and promotions, and no senior cronyism.

Many fights marked the path. I remember a discussion of whether to give tenure to a non-publishing assistant professor of congenial habits. An older historian portrayed the pain of leaving Santa Barbara.

To counter this sort of stuff, I made an emotional plea for (fictitious) Professor Smith with four kids, his family devastated when we did not hire him because we kept the less competent person already in place.

Hiring and firing and promoting were hard work, but our transitional generation understood that they are the trenches in the unending battle for UC excellence.

To be continued

Public History Shares California Heritage Grant

The California Council for the Humanities recently announced a major grant of $50,000 to the Goleta Community Heritage Project.

The UCSB Public History program is one of the partners in the grant, which will be administered by the project leader, the Goleta Valley Historical Society.

Other community partners include the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, SBCC Adult Education, the Goleta Public Library, the Old Town Goleta Culture Project, and Fairview Gardens/Center for Urban Agriculture.

The project is planned to draw local and scholarly attention to current and historical issues in the unincorporated community of Goleta.

“Although home to 73,000 individuals, Goleta does not have local government,” explained History grad student Bev Schwa–rtzberg, one of the grant writers.
**Grad Students Explain Issues In UCSB's TA Union**

**Editor's Note:** Several readers have asked for information about the reasons for, and effect of, the TA strike at UCSB last Fall. We asked two PhD students who have kept abreast of affairs for a report. John Baranski is working on U.S. public policy with Prof. Mary Furner. Nancy McLoughlin works with Prof. Sharon Farmer on medieval Europe.

**BY JOHN BARANSKI & NANCY MCLAUGHLIN**

The seven-year battle at UCSB for an academic student employee union has entered a period of uncertainty. This uncertainty is reflected in the views towards unionization in the History department.

There are student employees and faculty who believe a student employee union is not necessary. They say big unions are likely to make changes that the administration cannot afford and are incompatible with the academic workplace.

Pro-union student employees and faculty believe that only a union can improve the quality of undergraduate and graduate education, especially at a big factory-like institution, because nobody else has the power to influence UC administrators. And they believe that only a union will make their workplace more democratic.

In December 1998, History department student workers joined other UC student workers in a successful strike for the right to have a union.

History teaching assistants struck to reduce section size. Smaller sections would improve the learning conditions of undergraduates and provide more time for teaching assistants to do their own academic work.

Additionally, striking Teaching Assistants, with Teaching Associates, Readers, and Tutors, wanted to improve their compensation and benefits and have a say in their workplace.

History faculty agreed with these goals and wrote a letter in support of striking student workers. Pro-union students and faculty believe that only a union can achieve these goals.

This year UCSB student employees followed student workers at seven other UC campuses (UCSF was not included) by voting for union representation. Contract negotiations began immediately.

The United Auto Workers represents student employees but the relationship between the UAW and UCSB student employees has been stormy. UCSB student employees have struggled with the UAW international over local control.

Nevertheless, some history students believe that only a big union, like the UAW, can improve working conditions at UCSB.

Others disagree. They fear the loss of local control over union matters not only conflicts with the purpose of a union, which is to have a say in the work place, but could also lead to a contract that fails to achieve the goals of UCSB student employees.

Some of these history students joined student employees in other departments to form United Student Labor. USL is run by UCSB student employees and is committed to democratic unionism, building community, and improving the working and learning conditions at UCSB.

Support for two different unions at UCSB and the lack of information about current contract negotiations contribute to the uncertainty surrounding union matters.

A UAW contract is scheduled to be finished by January 2000. What that contract will mean for the history department, how that contract will be implemented, and whether that contract will reflect the goals of academic student employees at UCSB is uncertain.
Confessions of a Millennium Grinch

I give up. The semi-educated technocrats and media half-wits who dote on them—modern incarnations of H. L. Mencken’s “booboise”—have won again. Let the millennium begin.

What’s the occasion for this outburst, you ask?

Last January I broke my own long-standing rule and wrote something for the Santa Barbara News-Press—an intentionally light-hearted reflection on how revealing the approach of a millennium can be of a culture’s values and concerns. In passing, I pointed out that the millennium does not begin until 2001.

The hate mail surprised even me. One guy sent copies to the Chancellor and the chair of the Math department (thereby showing he knows even less about the university than he does about the calendar).

I tried leaving them for Paul Sonnino, who at least is used to getting this kind of stuff, but he just spat on them and put them back in my mailbox.

So you can imagine my reaction when Janet Marrletto (Class of ‘67) wrote to ask, “I would realllllllly appreciate an article on the concept of ‘millennium.’ Specifically, when does one end and the next one begin?”

What I said in the News-Press article was that the only reason we are celebrating 2000 as the millennium is because it’s important to computers—the now-infa- mous Y2K problem. (Maybe the best thing I’ve read in all the interminable Y2K literature was the spoof by the person who had made all Y-2-K changes, but still couldn’t understand why saying Sundak, Mondak, Tuesdak, etc. would make such a difference.)

I guess I also said that another reason for the frenzy this year is because people can’t count. Maybe that’s what got me the fan mail.

In any case, Janet’s request led to a delightful correspondence.

What prompted her to write was the first installment last April of Otis Graham’s memoir about the growth of the History department in the 1960s. (The second installment appears elsewhere in this issue.) She, like so many others, loved it.

“He was one of my professors,” she wrote, “I must say that my education at UCSB has enriched my life beyond measure—the combo of a double major in French and History has helped me “appreciate the splendor of life.....on a daily basis.”

Janet also made me realize what I should have written in that article.

“Do we start counting from zero or one?” she asked.

With a new quarter comes the return of the inevitable blooper.

A tie among the grad student offerings. Amy Caldwell turned in a pageful from essays about monotheism (always a sure blooper topic). From these the judges select “God may be unfathomable, but he should be open to negotiation.”

A closer second was, “If

The Inevitable Blooper: God and Vietnam

Fredrik Logevall’s critical study the America’s Vietnam has been published by University of California Press. In Choosing War: The Lost Chance for Peace and the Escalation of War in Vietnam, Prof. Logevall refutes prevailing theories that war was inevitable and argues that it could have been averted.

A Logevall student, Andy Johns, has won the Michigan Historical Review’s Student Essay Prize for “Achilles’ Heel: The Vietnam War and George Romney’s Bid for the Presidency, 1967-1968.” It will be published in the Spring 2000 issue.

Mike Osborne and Anita Guerrini are spending the academic year in Paris as the first UCSB participants in the recently negotiated exchange between UCSB and the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique.

Robert O. Collins’ essay, “In Search of the Nile Waters, 1900-2000,” has been published in The Nile: Histories, Culture, Myths, you say something and can’t prove it, you die. Simple.” (In this case, the student seemed to have God mixed up with course requirements.)

The Vietnam War produces almost as many bloopers as God.

John Coleman submits “The Ho Chi Minh Trail was a very long tunnel that the Viet Cong dug underground from Hanoi to Saigon so they could move VC fighters and supplies at night. It turned around the war because the Americans except for Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon couldn’t cross the border to attack it.”

John’s comment, “Not only a mammoth feat of engineering (which might have been even greater should they have dug it aboveground), but it reveals the true fighting spirit of our presidents.”

The Bloopmeister was oddly silent this round, but Alec Callow submitted one of his all-time favorites: “Columbus came over on the Nina, Pina, and the Santa Fe.”

And Josh Fogel demanded the prize for this answer on a recent History 189A exam: “He helped agriculture by drugging the rivers.”

Finally, an anonymous entry from a former TA: “If the Vikings were to attack a city in France the fiefs would run behind the castle’s walls and fight them back from there.”

Which provoked the instructor to comment, “Real estate that defends itself!”
**Heritage Grant**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"Unlike Santa Barbara, it has no distinctive image drawing on its history and public planning, and it thus receives little attention as a community.”

Project activities are intended to improve documentation of Goleta Valley history, expand community archives, and involve residents in explorations of crucial issues facing the region in the new century.

Special events, which will run from January 2000 through early 2001, will focus on four key themes: Environment, Housing, Employment, and Community Culture.

Events will include walking and bus tours, public symposia, a reading and discussion group and exhibits.

**Millenium Grinch**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

"Everyone I know counts from one to ten NOT zero to ten. So, doesn’t it make sense that a new century would begin with one as well?"

Janet realized what all the number freaks missed: we don’t count years the way we count other things. Basically, we don’t count a year until it’s over—which is why you’re not 1 year old at birth.

My advice in the News-Press was that it was both smarter and cheaper to celebrate the millennium on Dec. 31, 2000. Janet’s advice is better. She writes, “I plan to celebrate from 1999 through 2001 to be safe!”

If you want to know about the millenium, ask somebody else. But if you ask me, I say UCSB’s History department turns out some pretty smart cookies!

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**Join Us!**

Another great year of UCSB History Associates' events is under way. You'll want to keep posted about events in the History Department as well. To renew your membership or join for the first time, just fill out this form and mail it with your check or money order (payable to UCSB History Associates).

Enclosed are my annual membership dues of $

- Active $30
- Corresponding 15

(Available only to students and residents outside of Santa Barbara County)

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:

- $25 to obtain a UCSB Library card
- $gift to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
- $gift to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.

Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for membership in the Chancellor’s Council.

Name: ______________________
Address: _____________________
City/Zip/State: ______________________

Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered a charitable donation.

Please make your check payable to the UCSB History Associates and return it to:

UCSB Office of Community Relations
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2100

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**Honors, Awards**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**Heritage Grant** edited by H. Erlich and I. Gershoni (Boulder, 1999).

**Ben Zulueta** (Badash) and **Jamece Brown** (Harris) have received President’s Dissertation Year Fellowship from the Graduate Division. The awards will run from Winter through Fall, 2000.

**Dennis Ventry** (Brownlee) is co-editing a book for The Urban Institute Press on the subject of “tax justice.” The book will features essays by an interdisciplinary group of contributors. Publication has been set for next summer, with an aim of influencing the 2000 Presidential election.

**Ken Osgood** (Logevall) has written entries on “The Origins of the Cold War” and “Eisenhower’s Foreign Policy” for an edited collection entitled History in Dispute.