

O'Dowd Relives Santa Barbara's Pirate Episode

BY CATHY RUDOLPH

APPROXIMATELY 55 HARDY souls braved a stormy Sunday, February 1 to hear Patrick O'Dowd describe one of the more dramatic encounters in early California history.

O'Dowd, a doctoral candidate of Prof. Emeritus Harold Kirker, spoke *in situ*, so to speak, from the restored *sala* (living room) of the historic Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara.

O'Dowd is Project Manager of the restoration of this large 1820s adobe, which served as the home and headquarters of Santa Barbara patriarch and leading Californio José de la Guerra, and was incorporated into the El Paseo shopping complex in the 1920s. Restoration of the *Casa* to its original configuration and appearance is a project of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

O'Dowd described the 1818 confrontation between Presidio *commandant* de la Guerra and Argentine privateer Hipólito Bouchard, putting it into a global context.

De la Guerra was a Spanish nobleman dedicated to serving Cross and Crown. Bouchard was a middle class Frenchman

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

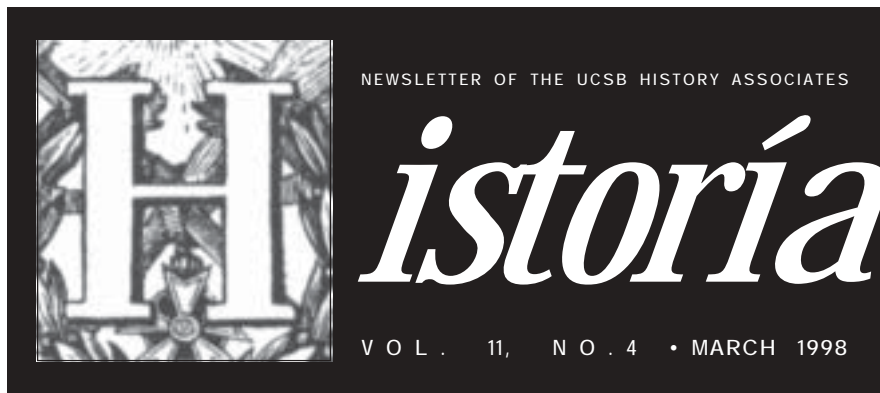
UCSB's Phi Alpha Theta Chapter Takes On Active Schedule for Year

BY TORI LINTON

THIS YEAR OUR campus chapter of Phi Alpha Theta has expanded beyond its traditional borders.

We recently adopted a program to help freshmen and sophomores with paper and midterm preparation. The midterm/paper workshop, offered during the fifth week of winter quarter, was a great success. Approximately twenty students attended.

We have also taken steps to become more active in the community; several of our members are currently volunteering at the Goleta Valley Historical Society.



Kalman to Detail 'Perils of Biography' At Associates' March Luncheon Talk

BY ANITA GUERRINI

BIOGRAPHIES ARE AMONG the most popular forms of historical literature. But, according to History Prof. Laura Kalman, they are also among the most difficult genres to master.

In her talk "The Perils of Biography," Prof. Kalman will tell the History Associates about the particular pitfalls she encountered along the path of writing a biography of Abe Fortas, Supreme Court Justice and adviser to Lyndon Johnson.

Prof. Kalman, who had never considered writing a biography before, decided Fortas deserved a biography after she read his obituary in the *New York Times*.

She believed his life was worth writing about, but she also felt that sense of personal connection which drives the biographer to immerse herself in someone else's life.

It is always preferable, she points out, if that person is dead, but in writing about a contemporary figure, the writer must also deal with the living — spouses, colleagues, friends and enemies — and the biographer may end up knowing more about her subject's life than any of them.

In the case of Fortas, there were also reams of manuscripts to wade through, including, says Prof. Kalman, some very dull court proceedings!

Both Fortas and Prof. Kalman are lawyers, and although that gave the biographer and her subject a special affinity, it also made it difficult for her to sort out the legal and personal identities of the subject.

The "judiciousness" of judges mean that they put their personal opinions aside in writing decisions; Prof. Kalman reports her delight in finding a penciled "Yech!" in

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



Prof. Laura Kalman

In addition to these new activities, we have continued many of our old traditions. Our normal meetings have been supplemented by our ongoing lecture/movie series. During winter quarter we watched "The Siege of Firebase Gloria," a movie about an American base during the Vietnam War, and a documentary on the Titanic.

These movies have been extremely successful in bringing in many new members. The chapter will view "The Mission" next quarter.

Also next quarter, Phi Alpha Theta is planning two road trips. The first will be to

CONTINUED 1 ON PAGE FOUR

Read The Evaluations From Hell!

ED. NOTE: Just in time for UCSB's end-of-quarter evaluations, Prof. Sarah Cline submits the following, which came from the MIT Course Evaluation Guide in 1991:

"This class was a religious experience for me... I had to take it all on faith."

"Text makes a satisfying 'thud' when dropped on the floor."

"Have you ever fallen asleep in class and awoke in another? That's the way I felt all term."

"In class I learn I can fudge answers and get away with it."

"The recitation instructor would make a good parking lot attendant. Tries to tell you where to go, but you can never understand him."

"Text is useless. I use it to kill roaches in my room."

"In class the syllabus is more important than you are."

"Problem sets are a decoy to lure you away from potential exam material."

"Recitation was great. It was so confusing that I forgot who I was, where I was, and what I was doing—it's a great stress reliever."

"He is one of the best teachers I have had . . . He is well-organized, presents good lec-

CONTINUED ON P. 6



istoria

Vol. 11, No. 4 March • 1998

Editor

Anita Guerrini

Graduate Editor

Christina Ziegler-McPherson

Published by the UCSB
History Associates

Tales of Swashbuckling and Derring-Do

CONTINUED FROM P. 1
fighting for the ideals of *liberté, égalité, fraternité* wherever he could find an opportunity.

He began his career in the service of Napoleon and was a participant in several important naval battles. Following Napoleon's decline, he found his way to Baltimore, Maryland, which was a hotbed of support for Latin American "freedom fighters" seeking independence from Spain, much to the distress of then-Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, who was negotiating with Spain for the purchase of Florida.

Bouchard eventually joined the naval forces of the Rio de la Plata (as Argentina was then known) and was granted letters of marque, giving him legal license to harass and destroy Spanish shipping and naval forces throughout the world.

Following great success as a privateer throughout the Pacific Ocean, Bouchard sailed to Alta California at the very fringes of Spain's empire. After sacking and pillaging the capital at Monterey, he selected the Rancho Refugio as his next target.

The Ortega family, owners of this large land grant, were known to be great supporters of Carlos III—as well as the wealthiest smugglers in California. During the looting and burning of the Rancho, three of Bouchard's men were taken prisoner by Santa Barbara Presidio forces (including a contingent of armed Mission Indians), which ultimately led to the confrontation between him and de la Guerra.

On December 6, 1818 Bouchard's two ships sailed into the Santa Barbara harbor, posing a major threat to the tiny military force at de la Guerra's disposal. Marching his small force continually around a small hillock within sight of the harbor, de la Guerra was able to



Patrick O'Dowd demonstrates period piece from De la Guerra era.

deceive Bouchard into thinking he had a much larger force.

After some negotiation and "musket-rattling," the two commanders agreed to a prisoner exchange, after which Bouchard sailed south to ransack San Juan Capistrano before leaving Alta California waters forever.

O'Dowd pointed out that in this confrontation, the Old Order, in the person of de la Guerra, and the New Order, in the person of Bouchard, met face to face right here in the small *pueblo* of Santa Barbara on the very fringe of the civilized world.

And though Bouchard's raid was the only military manifestation of the struggle between them in Alta California, to the south the struggle raged from 1810 to 1821, when the Old Order fell to the newly-created Republic of Mexico and Californios were required to declare their allegiance to this New Order.

Following O'Dowd's talk,

refreshments were served on the verandah of the Casa and tours of the restored portions of the building were conducted by History Associates and Trust Board member Kathleen Brewster and by Trust archaeologist Michael Imwalle.

Biography Talk

CONTINUED FROM P. 1
a margin.

As both a lawyer and a historian, Prof. Kalman was uniquely qualified for her task of writing the biography of Fortas. A native southern Californian, she received her B.A. from Pomona College, her J.D. from UCLA, and her Ph.D. in history from Yale. She joined the UCSB history faculty in 1982.

Abe Fortas: A Biography was published in 1990.

Kalman will talk to the History Associates at noon on Tuesday, March 10, at Andria's Harborside Restaurant. For reservations, call (805) 893-4388.

Faculty Talks, Publications

THE INDEFATIGABLE **Robert O. Collins** informs us that "Dr. Livingstone has been lost in Hollywood and will probably not be found until March." Check your local listings for exact date and time on the History Channel. Bob's latest book, *Africa's Thirty Years' War: Libya, Chad and the Sudan, 1963-1993*, co-authored with J. Millard Burr, is scheduled for publication with Westview Press.

Frank Frost's excavation report, "Tectonics and History at Phalasarna," was published in *Res Maritimae*, the proceedings of an international conference held on Cyprus in 1994. Also in the volume is a paper by Elpida Hadjidaki (PhD 1987) on the 5th century BC shipwreck she is excavating off the coast of Alonisos, Greece.

Asst. Prof. **Alice O'Connor** gave a talk at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, entitled "On the Trail of The 'Urban Underclass': Race and Class in American Sociology." The lecture was sponsored by the Midwest Consortium for Black Studies and the Center for African-American Urban Studies and the Economy. She also spoke to the League of Women Voters of Ventura County on the historical roots of recent welfare reform and its implications for California.

Asst. Prof. **Hyung Il Pai** will appear on a panel at the new Getty Museum in Los Angeles Mar. 11. Her talk on "Nationalism and the Politics of Culture in the Representation of Korean Identity" is part of a series on "Shared Inheritances" sponsored by the Getty Research Institute. The Mar. 11 panel will focus on Insadong, Seoul as a case study of "Sites of Origin and Marketplaces of Identity."

UCSB Historian Finds Link To Explorer Vasco da Gama

DESPITE THE IMPORTANCE of Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama to world history, there is very little documentation on his life, and almost all of that documentation was published in the nineteenth century.

But UCSB History Prof. Francis A. Dutra was able to supply a new piece of information in January at the III Encontro sobre Ordens Militares held at Palmela, Portugal (site of the headquarters of the Order of Santiago).

Before presenting his paper "Os Fornos da Ordem de Santiago e Seus Comendadores, 1550-1777" ("The Oven-commanderies of the Order of Santiago and their Commanders, 1550-1777"), Prof. Dutra announced that he had discovered the year that Vasco da Gama had become a knight in the Order of Santiago.

"Although one date might seem insignificant, given the fact that scholars know so little about Vasco da Gama's life and almost all the documents known were published in the late 19th century, this new discovery is a major find," Prof. Dutra explained.

The timing of the announcement had special significance because 1998 marks the 500th anniversary of Vasco da Gama's arrival in India after a voyage that left Lisbon on 8 July 1497.

"In 1898 Joaquim Inácio de Brito Rebelo published a document found in the order's archives," Prof. Dutra reported. "It was list of those attending a General Chapter of the Order of Santiago held in Santarém with an appended list of sixteen new knights (including Vasco da Gama)."

However, Prof. Dutra explained, Brito Rebelo was not certain whether the General

Chapter was held in 1477 or 1481, and he gave the impression that the two lists were written immediately after the General Chapter.

The list of those attending the General Chapter is particularly interesting because Estêvão da Gama, father of Vasco and one of the senior knights in the order, was in attendance.

Prof. Dutra, the world's leading authority on the Portuguese Order of Santiago during the fifteenth through the eighteenth centuries, examined the above-mentioned document at Portugal's national archives and was able to determine that the General Chapter was held in 1477 and that both lists were written after February 1493.

"In the past scholars believed that the sixteen knights on the appended list became knights in either 1477 or 1481," Prof. Dutra reported. "Using fragments from the order's *Livro da Matrícula* for that time period, I was able to show that because

the sixteen knights are listed according to precedence by the dates they became knights, it can be determined with a great deal of certainty that Vasco da Gama became a knight in the Order of Santiago in 1488 since the man following Gama on the list became a knight in Santiago on 3 January 1489."

Prof. Dutra has recently published (December 1997) an article on Vasco da Gama and has two additional studies of Gama in press.

His paper on the thirteen oven-commanderies, all located in Setúbal, a few miles from Palmela, was the first detailed study of the ovens themselves, their annual receipts and the identification and social background of the approximately ninety commanders who held them.

A specialist in Brazilian and Portuguese history, Prof. Dutra came to UCSB in 1967 after teaching at Oklahoma State and St. Bonaventure Universities.



Prof. Francis A. Dutra

From The Chair

Department CAT-Scan

IN ACADEMIA, A PROGRAM review is something like going in for a really thorough physical. The process takes a good year. It involves a lengthy self-diagnosis, followed by visits from teams of experts both from other departments at UCSB and from History departments at other universities.

Our Department is now near the end of this process. We have been poked and probed, X-rayed and Cat-scanned and put through our paces since last Spring, and now are awaiting the doctors' report. This has been our first checkup in ten years, and even without the report I don't think it's premature to say that—despite a couple of near-death experiences (such as the California Recession of the early '90s and flood of early retirements that followed) the patient is in pretty good shape.



The first thing an academic Rip Van Winkle would notice about the Department now as opposed to ten years ago is the number of new faces. Between planned and unplanned retirements, only a handful of us are still around from those days.

The History of Public Policy was just a track in the Public History program ten years ago. Now it has a national presence and is recognized as the flagship program in the UC system.

We have developed strengths in a number of subjects that cross the geographic divisions of our discipline. Now students can study gender, religion, science, state formation and critical theory with historians in every part of the Department.

COWHIG—the Cold War History Group—is probably the best example of this blurring of geographical boundaries. The brain child of Fred Logevall (U. S. Diplomatic) and Toshi Hasegawa (Russian), COWHIG now brings together faculty and students with research specialties on every continent. There is no other program like it west of the Mississippi.

Ours has always been a Department with heavily interdisciplinary interests, but there has been a leap in the number of our faculty who have joint or affiliated appointments in other departments and programs. Just to name a few, Asian Studies, Women's Studies and Islamic Studies all are anchored by History faculty.

This is a very unique situation. In other universities, historians often are placed in other departments according to their interests. Ancient Mediterranean historians

History Chapter Arranges Ambitious Spring Agenda

CONTINUED FROM P. 1
California State University, Bakersfield in April for our annual Regional Conference. Two of our members will be presenting papers at the conference.

In May, we will be trekking to Los Angeles to see the new Getty Museum.

Our Gamma Iota chapter is currently selling T-shirts as a fundraiser. The funds will go towards our annual banquet and the purchase of senior honor cords.

These high quality shirts are available in all sizes and are selling for \$12 each. The shirts have a comic on the back and "UCSB HISTORY 1997-98" on the front. Order forms and

samples of the T-shirt design are available in the History Department main office.

Please contact Christian Villaseñor at 893-2992 by March 12 for more information. Orders will not be accepted after March 13th.

Last year Phi Alpha Theta adopted an open membership policy. This policy allows any student, regardless of major and GPA, to participate in our activities.

National membership still requires a 3.4 GPA, but we believe that any student interested in history should have the opportunity to be involved. Membership is open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Our next meeting is scheduled for early spring quarter. If you are interested in more information, please sign the sheet posted outside of the History Peer Advising office, Humanities & Social Sciences Building 4036, or send an email to me at unlntv00@mcl.ucsb.edu.

Tori Linton is President of the Gamma Iota Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta.

Associates' Board Member Wins Award

MARY LOUISE DAYS, History Associates Board member and former treasurer, a 1989 graduate of the UCSB History Department, received an Award of Distinction from the California Council for the Promotion of History at their annual conference in Ventura last fall.

The award recognized her work in preserving and promoting the history of Santa Barbara.

Ms. Days recently retired from her position on the City of Santa Barbara Historical Preservation staff, where she was known as the unofficial city historian of Santa Barbara.

She has also been a longtime advisor to many projects of UCSB's Public History program.

Her replacement on the City staff is another UCSB graduate, Christine Savage Palmer (MA 1992).

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

If you are a grad trying to get in touch with an old classmate, or a community member or alum with an article or story, why not drop us a line?

Send your letters to:
Editor, *Historia*
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

'I Got a Job! I Got a Job!'

"I GOT A JOB! I got a job!"

As readers of "Doonesbury" know, that's the happiest cry in higher education today. And UCSB History PhDs continue to make it, landing tenure-track jobs in a highly competitive market.

Erik Ching (Rock) has accepted a position at Furman University. Recipient of History Associates Fellowships in 1993 and 1994, Erik finished his dissertation on "The Social Origins of Power in El Salvador" in 1997. He has been teaching this year at Highline College in Seattle.

Rick Barton (Hollister/Farmer), familiar to readers of *Historia* for his disasters stories filed from Paris, has opted for the safer confines of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he will begin a tenure-track career as assistant professor of History in the Fall. Rick finished his dis-

sertation on patronage in medieval France in 1996. This year he has been teaching at Yale.

Two other graduate students landed jobs while still completing their dissertations.

Ron Morgan (Cline) received two offers, and accepted a position at Biola University. He will finish his dissertation on sainthood in Latin America this Spring.

James Burns (Collins) has accepted a position at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. James' dissertation on "British Propaganda in Africa" will be completed this Spring. Winner of the Department's Mayberry Award (outstanding graduate student) in 1995, James is the father of History poster girl Megan Burns.

Current and former History grad students achieved on other fronts as well.

Gaston Espinosa (Garcia) is the 1997-1998 Cesar Chavez

Dissertation Fellow at Dartmouth College. He presented a paper at the American Academy of Religion Conference in San Francisco in November. This spring he will be making presentations on Chicano/Latino religion at Dartmouth, UCLA, Yale, and the University of Chicago. He was also in a 10-minute KCET segment on Latino Religion in Los Angeles on *Life and Times* in October.

Scopas S. Poggio (Collins) has been awarded the Gradu-

ate Division Dissertation Fellowship for Spring 1998.

Nancy Stockdale (Gallagher) will be a visiting fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford University, UK, this summer.

Andy Johns (Logevall) will present a paper at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) conference in June titled "Eisenhower, the Republican Party, and the 'Democrats' War,' 1960-1969."

If It's Midterm Time, There Must Be Bloopers!

NANCY STOCKDALE is threatening to retire the blooper trophy. This latest, which comes from a History 4B midterm, wins her yet another free lunch at the History Associates event of her choice: "Jesus himself was burned at the stake after he was charged with heresy."

Nancy, are you sure you don't make these up yourself?

Hard on her heels this month were two entries from Ben Zulueta, which he found on midterms for Asian American

Studies 2:

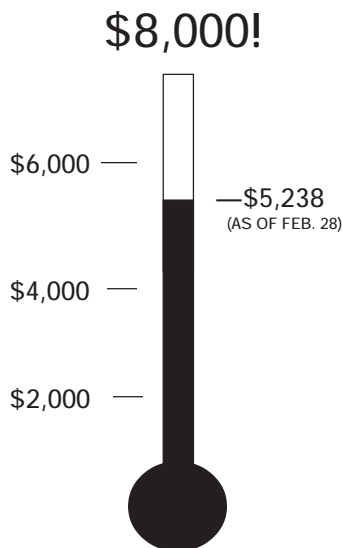
"As the capitalist country develops, there is a demand for cheap labor and the development of the third world country becomes distorted. This distortion causes many of the third world citizens to become displaced and confused, and is the main reason many of them look outside their country for stability." Writes Ben, "I don't know if they are confused, but I sure am."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Temperature Rising—But Not Enough!

The History Associates' fund-raising thermometer only managed a \$500 rise since the last issue, leaving almost \$3,000 of the JoBeth and Don Van Gelderen Challenge to be matched. Every dollar you contribute to the History Associates Graduate Fund or the Dick Cook Fund makes two that go to support History students. You don't want JoBeth and Don to walk off with that money, do you? Send your check (made out to appropriate fund) to:

Office of Community Relations
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106



VAN GELDEREN
CHALLENGE CHART

Departmental Checkup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

(to name a field close to home) are often in Classics departments instead of History departments. The same goes for Women's historians, Asian historians and Islamic historians.

Here, all of the historians are in one department. It makes for rich opportunities to broaden one's reach, and I doubt that we would want it any other way. But it's time for UCSB to realize that we are really serving the needs of more than one department.

Now that I think of it, this physical puts us in more than just "good shape." We are robust, and maybe even a little feisty!

H. A. Drake
Chair

Dont Miss Out

YOU'LL WANT TO KEEP informed as the UCSB History Associates begin a new year. To renew your membership or to 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 to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

*

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 Scholarship 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

Bloopers and Map Bloopers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

Ben's second entry: "Many Chinese who work for Americans do not complain about the type of work they do because they are in fear of their employers and some are in fear of being turned into the INS." Or, as Ben puts it, "Beware of becoming what you fear."

Another entry from a History 4B mid-term came from Kevin Chambers: "The Black Death was also know as the Pneumatic Fever."

Evaluations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO

tures, and creates interest in the subject. I hope my comments don't hurt his chances of getting tenure."

"I would sit in class and stare out the window at the squirrels. They've got a cool nest in the tree."

"He teaches like Speedy Gonzalez on a caffeine high."

"This course kept me out of trouble from 2-4:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays."

"Most of us spent the 1st 3 weeks terrified of the class. Then solidarity kicked in."

"TA steadily improved throughout the course... I think he started drinking and it really loosened him up."

"Information was presented like a ruptured fire hose— spraying in all directions—no way to stop it."

As Kevin puts it, "This should frighten anyone accused of being full of hot air."

In related news, Susan Snyder (Farmer) sends the following item from Italy, where she is studying this year:

"I just had to share this story. I was sitting in the internet shop where I check my e-mail here in Florence, and the two American students sitting next to me were discussing the recent Iraqi crisis. One of the students told the other that we were going to war and that the US government was telling all the students in the Middle East to go back to the States for their own safety. The second student's eyes widened, and she asked, 'Does that include us?' The first student replied, 'You know, I've never really looked at a map.'

Writes Nancy, "Now I know what to tell my 4B students the next time that one of them asks me why it's so important that they can all place silly places like Florence on a map."

Susan's email provoked the following vintage wit from Frank Frost:

"Remember that Ronald 'I was at Buchenwald' Reagan convinced the American boobocracy that Nicaragua was two days' drive from the U.S. border and that Grenada was a mortal threat to the U.S. although it is closer to Africa than anywhere on the north American continent. Always give map quizzes. Otherwise you are depriving the KMart night manager program of a vast recruiting pool."



istoria

NEWSLETTER OF THE UCSB HISTORY ASSOCIATES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93106

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara
California
Permit No. 104