Clio's Comments
History Alumni Newsletter
1986
June 26, 1986

Dear History Alumnus:

Summer has arrived and the halls of the Faculty Office Building are relatively quiet except for the four professors and their students who are spending their summer at the university. I am finishing up administrative odds and ends that remain from my first year as department chairman and will be off to Europe on Sunday for a vacation and at the end of the summer some research in twentieth century Austrian history. Dr. Burton, whom you have known as Department Head, has returned to full-time teaching. Profs. Barnes and Cotkin will be on leave this coming academic year and we feel most fortunate to have appointed two outstanding historians to replace them. Dr. Sarah Elbert holds the Ph.D degree in American History from Cornell University and is taking a leave of absence from her position at the State University of New York at Binghamton to teach for us and familiarize herself with western aspects of one of her areas of specialization, the history of the family in American agriculture. Dr. Kenneth Scherzer received his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1982 and has been a visiting assistant professor at Colgate University and Whitman College. Dr. Scherzer’s specialty is urban history and he has well-developed skills in quantitative methods. Dr. Scherzer will conduct periodic seminars for the history faculty on the application of the micro-computer to teaching and research in history.

If you have been gone from the department for more than a year, you would undoubtedly be surprised to find three green-on-black glowing screens in the main office. We acquired an ATT 6300 in the fall, which Jean Morton, our clerical assistant, uses almost exclusively in her work preparing materials for the instructional program. Once the ATT was on line, it became clear that we needed at least one additional computer, since Edna Bosch, the departmental secretary, and I also wanted to use it for administrative purposes. In December the department allocated $1,200 from discretionary funds donated by alumni and friends of the department for the purchase of a Compaq portable computer. We received an additional $800 from the School of Communicative Arts and Humanities to make this purchase possible. Finally, just last month, the School received 17 Monarch computers; one of these was allocated to the Department of History and it is on this machine that I am presently writing this letter to you. In the near future, we hope to be able to obtain another portable computer so as to give faculty members a reasonable opportunity of access when they want to do some writing in their offices. Another short-term goal is to add hard disk drives to our ATT and Monarch. All three of our computers are IBM compatible which gives us considerable flexibility among the machines. We are slowly retiring our old IBM Selectric typewriters on which the exams that you loved to hate were prepared and are replacing them with electronic typewriters that can be used as printers with all the computers.

All of our new technology, of course, costs money. When you are approached this fall through the Annual Giving Program, we would appreciate it greatly if you would designate a gift for the department. Every contribution helps, and the acquisition of our new Compaq portable computer is concrete evidence of the support which gifts make possible.

On the following pages, you will find news about faculty and friends from your Cal Poly years. We hope you enjoy reading the news. If you didn’t find time to respond this year, let us know what is going on in your life in time for next year’s newsletter.

Sincerely,

Chairman

Max K. Riedlsparger

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, California

"I understand the revisionists are hot on your trail, Professor Barnes!"
1969  Nancy Umbeck

My husband is a professor at Purdue University. Our children are Sara, age 11 and Ryan, age 5. I keep busy with family activities and women's ministry at our church.

1970  Diane Lenning

I received M.A. Secondary Education from Cal State University, Long Beach in 1976. I taught 5 years of high school music, social studies and traffic safety (driver training in public high schools) and 10 years private instruction of piano/violin. Presently I am conservator for estates appointed by court, dealing with attorneys, real estate, hospitals, courts, etc. I also am working with abandoned women in local shelters and pro-life issues dealing with unwed mothers and placement of infants.

My most notorious victory has been my recent (5 year) battle with a disease called systemic lupus erethymatosis (SLE) "Lupus" for short.

We have 2 children (both adopted): Jeff, 15 years - received (U.S.A.N) United States achievement award for trumpet (music) and scholastic achievement. Tanya, 11 years - plays flute and is in 6th grade.

My husband is a Certified Public Accountant and owns his own business. I have worked in the accounting business with him as office manager for 3 years.

Travels:
Hawaii - including Kuwaii and the renowned fern grotto and "Grand" Canyon
Florida - including Disneyworld, Kennedy Space Center and for those "I Dream of Genie" fans, Cocoa Beach. On to Southern states including Thomas Jefferson Davis' Home in Mississippi, and New Orleans "Bourbon Street."

We have also traveled to Yellowstone, Mt. Rushmore, Niagara Falls, New York City, Washington D.C., St. Louis, Grand Canyon, Indian Cliff Dwellings, Estes Park, Colorado (river rafting) etc. etc.

I have written a book of poetry with group bible studies. Also I have begun a book, of which I hope to publish next year. The book deals with how I have coped with a debilitating disease and continued on. I have hopes of writing music also, but don't see publishing of music for 2-3 years.

1971  Diane Forbes Peacock

Spent years 1972-84 accompanying National Park Service husband to various posts. Have had numerous adventures - bears in the backyard, scorpions in my salad bowl, linen closets, etc., temperatures to 129 and winter snowfalls of 8-12 feet that stayed on the ground for months at a time.

In 1984 we decided to embark on the most challenging adventure of all. We bought our own home in "civilisation" - a small town in western Nevada of 935 people - and it's only 115 miles to the grocery store!! My husband commutes to Death Valley National Monument and I work as a librarian assistant in the local school/community library. I am also co-leader for Girl Scouts, do story time (at the library) raise chickens and garden. We have 3 children - a 12 year old daughter and 8 year old daughter and son.

1972  Thomas M. Duggan

Since 1980, I have been a partner in the Bakersfield law firm of Klein, Wegis and Duggan, which consists of 13 attorneys and specializes in civil litigation. Currently, I am the lead attorney in the Stringfellow toxic disposal site litigation wherein I represent 5,000 people who live in Glen Avon, which is a suburb of the City of Riverside. In addition, I am representing injured individuals in several other toxic cases here in California.

In addition to my law practice, I am the Secretary-Treasurer of the Kern County Bar Association and have been on the Board of Directors for the past three years. The Board of Governors of the State Bar have also in the past appointed me to the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission, and beginning this year, I am the Vice-Chairman of the newly created State Bar's seven-member Client Security Trust Fund Commission, which is set up to compensate individuals who have been defrauded by attorneys. Next year I will be the Chairman of that commission.

On a personal note, I am married to Debra Schollard (Speech, 1974) and we have two daughters, Katie, age six, and Laura, age seven months.

1972  Jane Fiori

Since my Cal Poly days, I have completed an MA in German and Central European History at San Diego State University (1978).

I also worked for 10 years at John F. Kennedy University in the San Francisco Bay Area. For the first seven years I was Director of Admissions. During the last three I was Dean of Student Services.

I returned to school last fall and am working on a Ph.D. in Education Policy, Planning and Administration at the University of Maryland, College Park. I have a research assistantship with a new center just established by the Department of Education called the National Center
for Postsecondary Governance and Finance. I am enjoying living so close to all of the cultural and political activities in Washington, D.C.

1972 Shaune Montross

Shaune lives in San Bruno, California.

1973 Ann Benjamin-Matney

Since 1973, I have gotten my Masters in Library Science at San Jose State University. Currently, I am a high school librarian in Ohio. This past summer though, I was the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant. I studied the Grimm Brothers, their folk tales and implications, at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Although not a Lewis and Clark odyssey, several years ago I took a trip down a tributary of the Amazon in Peru. We were deserted by the guides and left to find our own way out of the jungle. One sad entry starts, "We ran out of crackers today," which meant that there was only jam and coffee left for food. It was lots of fun.

1973 Kathryn Bushman Taylor

Married Robert Noel Taylor on February 16, 1974.

Worked in a travel agency and then taught nursery school in Santa Monica, CA. until February, 1977 when I enrolled at Cal State Northridge in the Communicative Disorders Graduate School program.

Received M.A. January, 1982 in Communicative Disorders.

I worked for Los Angeles Unified School District as a classroom teacher for students with speech and language handicaps at the junior high level from September, 1980 to February, 1986.

I received state licensure as a Speech Pathologist in April, 1986.

Currently I'm on child care leave to care for my daughter, Kathrine Colleen (Kacy) born January 25, 1985 and working part time as a speech pathologist for home health care agencies.

We traveled to Europe in July/August, 1984 and found that I hadn't forgotten all the history information I learned while at Poly! Thanks for a good background in history which enabled me to really enjoy all the sights I saw!

1973 Gary Gionnette

B.A. History - Cal Poly 1973
M.A. History - San Diego State University 1976
Community College Teaching Credential, issued 1976.
Member Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Society, Cal Poly Chapter.
Married 15 years to Marian (Baake) Gionnette (whom I met at Cal Poly); we have five children between the ages of 2 months and 13 years. I have been employed by Safeway Stores, Inc. since graduation from Cal Poly. My current position is director of produce operations for the Washington D.C. division of Safeway Stores, overseeing produce operations for 166 stores which includes responsibility for total procurement and marketing of all the produce in this division. This includes total profit and loss responsibilities of the operation.

Since my transfer to the East Coast three years ago from Southern California, one of my major hobbies is sightseeing and visiting the historical sites here.

1973 Catherine Pucheu Karcher

I have 2 children, John age 3 years and Christy age 2 years.
I work part-time teaching kindergym; member of Board of Trustees at both Playgroup Association for Christy and John's nursery school.

1974 Sally Craiw

I have been an elementary school teacher in Oxnard, CA since graduation. I am currently starting a program to receive a masters and credential in special education and a resource credential. I have been married to Wayne for ten years. We have two girls, a 6-year old and a 1-year old. My husband who also attended Cal Poly is now Vice-President of Hiflford Moving and Storage, Allied Van Lines in Ventura. We love to ride horses, fish and other outdoor activities.

1974 Marith J. Levers

I am still a probation officer. In Nov. 1985, I transferred from Santa Maria back to Lompoc and have more time to spend with my two horses. I am leaving for a week long trail ride tomorrow - so that's it folks; I need to get packed!

1974 Glenn R. Lindsey

B.A. History - Cal Poly 1974
M.A. Education/Counseling - Cal Poly 1975
I'm currently employed by the State of Montana State Auditor's office and am running for Montana House of Representatives as a legislative candidate. I am involved in political (conservative) issues. I have been married 18 years and have a 14-year old son.
I have been instrumental in starting a non-denominational charismatic church in Helena, Montana.

1974  Randall Spoeneman

B.A. History - Cal Poly 1974
Teaching Credential received in 1975

I have taught for 10 years, including 2 years at youth services, 6 years for San Luis Coastal (2 years history, 4 years special education). I was the varsity baseball coach for four years at San Luis Senior High. I am now teaching at Arroyo Grande High School, this being my second year. I teach world geography and U.S. History. I helped tutor the Arroyo Grande academic decathlon team in social science this year. I am also an assistant J.V. football coach and assistant golf coach at A.G.H.S. I am a native of San Luis Obispo as is my wife and have never moved from the area.

1974  Joycelynn Wilcoxson

Joycelynn lives in Visalia.

1975  Suzanne Archer Hodgdon

The research skills I acquired as a History major at Cal Poly broadened into a career in Information Research and Retrieval for various companies in the San Francisco Bay Area over the last ten years. I have analyzed and evaluated appropriate information dealing in the arts, the law, investment banking, and medicine. My last position was with Sohio (Standard Oil of Ohio) Petroleum Company, in San Francisco where I was involved as a Technical Records Assistant dealing with oil production in the Prudhoe Bay fields in Alaska. It was at Sohio that I met my husband, Richard L. Hodgdon. We were married in my hometown of Oakland, California, January 1985 and promptly moved to my husband’s home town of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I am presently not working, using my career skills only in a volunteer capacity at the local library. We are expecting our first child in July, 1986.

1975  Shaunna Sullivan

I'm practicing law locally with law firm of George & Collins with offices in San Luis and Los Osos.

1975  Corinne Adriene (Warren) Tampas

B.A. History 1975
Graduated from San Francisco State University in 1978 with a degree of Master of Business Administration.
Became licensed general building contractor in 1980. Built several homes and developed small subdivision.

Received Instructor Credential to teach at the California Community College level in the area of business and industrial management in 1981.

Entered Golden Gate University, School of Law in 1982 -- Graduated in December 1985 with a J.D./M.S. (Tax), i.e., joint degree in law and master of science in tax.

Currently studying for the California bar exam which will be given in July of 1986.

Recently married (March 15, 1986) to Christian W. Tampas. Chris received a post-graduate degree from Cal Poly in O.H. in 1980. Currently he is a building contractor in Santa Maria, California.

Hobbies -- studied French in the Southwest region of France for two summers (1980 and 1982) -- my husband and I enjoy traveling, especially to Germany where he was born and to Central America where I was born.

1976  Jess Magnia

I am now a high school counselor at Barstow High School.

I was also employed by Santa Maria Joint Union High School District, in Santa Maria. I was a high school counselor at Santa Maria High School.

This summer I will be employed with the Barstow district. I will be the Manpower Summer Youth Employment Program Director.

Cal Poly has prepared me to enter the field of education, and to do an excellent job.

Barstow is a nice place to live. The people are very nice, and the weather is nice and warm!

1976  Deborah Palmer

I just completed law school at the University of Oregon, earning my J.S. (Thanks Dr. Hallman for encouraging me!) I will be in Reno, Nevada this summer preparing for the Nevada bar exam. I will work as a judicial clerk for a year in Minden, Nevada for the Lake Tahoe District Court. I also plan to take the California bar in February. It looks like the Eastern Sierras are home.
I have an eight month old daughter with lots of curly brown hair and big blue eyes. She is crawling and very talkative. She's already been to law school many times! Prior to law school, I spent eight years at Hearst Castle, from extern to full time guide. I was extensively involved with the union there.

1977 Glenda (Brown) Highland

After obtaining a teaching credential in 1979, I did extensive substitute teaching (several long-term positions for entire semesters) for the Atascadero School District - mostly at the high school. Due to a pregnancy and a move in 1982, I've been unemployed. I'm now a mother of two - Jim born in 1983 and Joanne born in February of this year. I'll be staying at home "teaching" for at least 3 more years - which will also give my husband time to become more established in his career with Fish and Game. (We live at a fish hatchery and really enjoy it here.)

1977 Susanne J. Redalje

I just accepted a new position at the University of Washington as Head, Chemistry-Pharmacy Library.

1978 Brian Lincoln Hill


1979 Cathy Allee

After graduation from Poly, I worked for TRW-Vidar in SLO, for about 2 years, both as an electronics assembler, then a payroll clerk. I then returned to graduate school at the University of Denver, Colorado, received my Main Librarianship and Information Management in August of 1981, with a concentration in children's work.

Returning to California, I took temporary work with a visitors and convention bureau in Ventura, while looking for a position. Began my first professional position as a children's librarian with the Kern County Library System, in Bakersfield. After 2 years there, I accepted a position with the Santa Barbara Public Library, Goleta branch, and moved back to the coast. I spent 2 years there.

Recently, I have accepted a position with the Santa Maria Public Library as their children's librarian, and have happily returned to the central coast, with a move to Arroyo Grande.

My traveling always seems to be trips to Hawaii, where I can totally relax.

1979 Amy D. Pike

I graduated from law school in June, 1985. I presently work in the legal department of San Diego Gas & Electric Company where I have worked as a law clerk the last three years. (I worked full-time attending law school at night.) Due to this rigorous schedule, my travels and activities have been very limited, but I have loved my work and now intend to take advantage of more free time (including a visit to Cal Poly)!

I want to thank Professor Krieger for the opportunity he gave me to work at Hearst Castle. That exposure to the public, and those years of experience at public speaking have helped me personally in a million ways and opened doors for me professionally along the way. I was always grateful that he believed in me and recognized some ability (although hidden by extreme shyness) those many years ago. That experience produced the greatest metamorphosis and confidence for the hard work that lay ahead - THANK YOU!

1979 Leigh A. Moylan

I have been working as a media broker with The Holt Corporation since January, 1983 in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. I became the first woman in the broadcasting industry to complete a radio station sale in 1984 and have sold many properties since. For obvious reasons, I have become the "west coast expert" in our office, and I make it a point to list as many properties on the west coast as possible! (Last spring I sold KBOQ-FM in Monterey/Carmel, and I am close to completing another sale of an FM station in Monterey this spring.)

I bought a house two years ago in Bethlehem which I share with my 3 cats, one of which moved out from California with me - Simeon, named for my great memories of working at Hearst Castle as a tour guide after I graduated from Poly.

I have remained active with my sorority, Gamma Phi Beta, and was very recently appointed the Province Collegiate Director of Pennsylvania. I am very excited about this appointment and look forward to working with the six college chapters I will oversee.

I have also been honored with the "Outstanding Young Woman of America" award for the years 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985.

I am quite happy living in Pennsylvania. I live at the foot of the Pocono Mountains, and we are less than 2 hours from New York City and under an hour from Philadelphia. The biggest problem I have is trying to maintain any kind of tan during the cold winter months of Pennsylvania!

I am in the phone book so if any former classmates ever find themselves out in this neck of the woods, feel free to give me a call as I am always a little homesick for my friends on the west coast!
1980  Jill Blackburn

I am currently working for IBM Corporation in Monterey, CA. I am the Executive Secretary to the marketing manager in NMD. In 1982 I spent 1 year studying French at the Sorbonne in Paris, France. In January 1986 I will be going back to school to finish my MBA.

1980  Kristin King Morana

I'm working part-time as a secretary for Biagini Properties, Inc. (The building I work in is "historical." It is located downtown San Jose in San Pedro Square. It is the old Farmers Union Building — supposedly built before the 1906 earthquake. It is owned by San Jose Mayor Tom McEnry.)

I was married on February 8, 1986 to a 1977 electronical engineering Cal Poly graduate, Horace Morana. We met in Saratoga, CA.

Through Horace I have met a neat group of Cal Poly grads (in engineering) who were very active in Poly Phase. We meet often for parties etc. and our special event is a camping trip at Big Sur - Memorial Weekend. This year I believe is the 14th anniversary to Big Sur.

I'm still very close to my roommate from school - Janet Neill — she graduated in dairy science, lives in Merced and works for Landmark Genetics. We see each other often.

Finally, my Dad, Omer King is a Cal Poly graduate - his major was soil science. He will celebrate his 30 year graduation anniversary in December 1986.

Well that's about it - Cal Poly has always been special to me. We visit SLO every once in awhile. I was also born in SLO shortly after my Dad graduated.

1980  David McKenzie

I own my hardware business with my family. I have married a beautiful woman and have one boy named Ian. I am also very glad I attended Cal Poly and would do it again.

1980  William T. Miller

Presently enrolled in Cal State Long Beach Business School. I have been employed by National Cinema Supply Corporation since graduation, and am now the branch manager of the Santa Ana, California office.

1980  Barbara Silver

Immediately after graduation, I attended law school at U.C. Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. I graduated in 1983 and drove around the U.S. for 4 months. I then practiced for two years in the Bay Area in the field of civil litigation until May 1986. I am leaving May 21, 1986 for a six-month vacation to Europe. I will be traveling primarily in France, Italy, Greece, England and the USSR. I plan to return in late November and will practice law in San Francisco or New England.

1981  Caryl (Feldpouch) Rombough


Life since graduation has not been exactly uneventful. Not really wanting to move out of the area after graduation, and the fact that I did not go for a teaching certificate, I really limited myself to job opportunities. After having had one job that shall remain a memory, I have been happily employed as a secretary for a major insurance company since April of 1984. As secretary, it is my job to help in any way I can, new clients, prospective clients and established clients with their insurance needs. As a multi-lines company, it is my responsibility to have a working knowledge of all that the company has to offer the public. A great challenge, but one that I really enjoy. Shortly after graduation, March 6, 1982, to be exact, I married a great guy that I met while attending Cal Poly - but not a fellow student. No. Strange as it may sound, our paths had been crossing for some twelve years before we actually met. But when we met, well, that is "history." Small joke!

My husband and I are very involved in the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary (respectively) in our local area. I have been our Unit Secretary for two years in a row and am just now finishing my second year as president. I consider these two accomplishments a major personal feat and can attribute this to the curriculum that I was required to take while a student at Cal Poly. Support courses such as speech and logic, philosophy and theory, those which you may at first consider useless, are so essential in giving the student the well-rounded education that Cal Poly does so very well.

Though I may never make a million dollars annual gross income, there is no amount of money in this world that can take away the ever so rich and rewarding education which I received at Cal Poly. To Cal Poly, my professors and my classmates... Thank you so much.


I'm in the signal corps stationed with the 2nd armored division near Bremen, West Germany.
1981 Marcia A. McGee

It took 20 years between my Associate Degree and Bachelor's Degree. But now things seem to happen in a quicker succession.

I am currently the Chair of the Democratic Central Committee of San Luis Obispo County and enjoy meeting all the involved folks of this and other counties, along with the political candidates.

I recently began working with the San Luis Obispo County Employees Association which is the union for county employees. Great job, great people and a real learning experience.

Mike (my husband) and I just returned from a Hawaiian vacation.

1981 Henry A. Zevely

After my last class at Cal Poly I spent two years in Paris studying rhetoric with Professor Schwob at Paris III at l'Institut de Linguistique et Phonétique de la Nouvelle Sorbonne.

Most of 1984 I spent at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor at the Rackham Arthritis Research Unit, where I wrote a guide to Paris, using "text edit" on the Michigan terminal system. I hope to expand on it, adding personal anecdotes making it more appealing to an American student tourist, who has a few months to spend in that fascinating city.

I now live in Palm Desert where I have a new rheumatologic practice.

1981 Matt Gargiulo

It looks as if the History Club (Cal Poly Historical Society) has come a long way in 3 short years. I would like to think that is in part because of the groundwork we accomplished three years ago rather than in spite of it.

I am currently teaching and coaching at Washington Union High School just outside of Fresno, CA. I am about half through my master's although it has been put on hold for over a year now. I'm contemplating going back to school full-time but nothing is for certain. All things considered I had a wonderful experience at Cal Poly and feel very well prepared for graduate school. I would like to thank the department for emphasizing written expression and analysis as these are the skills that have primarily been required for success on the graduate level. Please give a special hello to Dr. Mayo, Dr. Barnes, and Dr. Cotkin. I feel that through you I have been prepared well for any avenue I may wish to pursue.

Hello to Sabrina Harmon and Blake Miller!

1982 Sabrina Harmon

Yes, I'm still in SLO! I have received my certificate in Legal Assistantship from UCSB Extension and am employed as a legal assistant with a SLO insurance defense law firm.

1982 David Juchau

M.A. History (U.M.) - 1984
Currently attending graduate school, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
Just now finishing my reading and preparation for the General Exam (orals and written) - will probably take them in December '85 or January '86.

1982 Blake Miller

Employment - Teach 7th and 8th grade social studies at Judkins Jr.
High; Department Head of Social Studies - teach 1 period of boys P.E.
- basketball coach

Travel - went to Maui and Oahu in summer of '85

Graduate School - slowly working on a M.A. in School Administration

Fun stuff - played in 3 basketball leagues - run - bicycle and work out on Nautilus religiously.

1982 Brian Miller

Subsequent to graduation, returned to Cal Poly and earned a teaching credential, Social Studies. Spent four months in Washington D.C.

Returned to California and am currently employed as a social studies teacher at San Luis Obispo High School, in my first year.

For the umteenth time, I am back at Poly as of summer '86 to work towards a credential in math. I've found (though I always knew) that math teachers are much more in demand than social studies teachers. Plus, the logic of math counterbalances the theory of history, keeping me on my toes!

Thanks for keeping me abreast of happenings in the History Department!

1982 Jennifer L. (nee Stofer) Church

After graduation, I traveled alone in Europe for 4 months, then attended the Sorbonne in Paris for a semester. I returned to California and took a job with an investment management firm in L.A. in June, 1983. I bought a townhouse in the San Fernando Valley in March, 1984. In late 1984 I was introduced by a friend on the East Coast to a Santa Maria native-turned-naval aviator, and in May 1985 we
were married in Naples, Italy. We honeymooned in Venice and in Yugoslavia, and I returned to L.A. My husband, Casey, joined me here in December 1985. I still work for the same firm, where I am a securities trader. My husband is still in the Navy, stationed in L.A. doing officer recruiting. We have just bought a new (35-year old) house.

1983 David Olson

I am currently employed as tour guide at the Hearst-San Simeon State Historical Monument. I find the work fulfilling and the atmosphere enchanting. Not only a place to share historical events but a visual display of the art created over centuries ago.

I have also continued as an applied artist working mainly in wood. I create figures in the round that vary in size from small to large. I find inspiration for my works in the surrounding "Garden of Eden" that is the Central Coast. I can also say that the many and varied art pieces in the "Castle" collections have had some effect on me. I have worked there for three years now and see new things on every tour.

I feel fortunate to be doing the two things I care so much for yet making a living at the same time. I am happy here and this June will make 10 years in Morro Bay. I have an interest in teaching and may do graduate work in the future. In my spare time I like to play tennis, bicycle and go for motorcycle trips around the county. My idea of getting away is a backpacking excursion into the Sierras or a week of skiing at Tahoe.

There it is in a nutshell and thank you.

1983 Marie (Wassel) LaForge

I graduated from UCLA graduate program in U.S. History December 1985, (masters). I have been accepted into the Ph.D. program at UCLA but I am taking a break now. Since January 1986 I have been teaching full-time at Coast Christian School (private school). I teach junior and senior high - U.S. History and World History. I love it. Next year I hope to work at a community college.

Personal life: My husband (Mark) and I are still very happily married and just bought our first (small) house.

1984 Sharon Carroll

I just started a new position at Morgan Stanley in May. I transferred from the Mergers and Acquisition department to Mortgage Finance. Instead of working for analysts, I now get to do the actual thinking work. It was a set up. It was very hard for me to leave my old position because I loved the two guys that I worked with a lot. But the new job should be better for me in the long run.

I'll be moving in July as I've lived in Pasadena for a year, my roommate is moving down to San Diego soon, so I feel it is time for me to move on. I'm really getting excited about finding a new place and decorating it.

Well that is it for me. Anything exciting going on at Cal Poly? I am anxious to see the newsletter to see what everyone else is up to!

1984 William F. Helms (Bill)

William graduated from the Army Officers Basic course, Fort Benning, Georgia. He completed Airborne training at Fort Benning, now assigned to the 23rd Infantry in Korea, with the rank of First Lieutenant.

1985 Nancy Keith Kelly

What have I been doing since graduation? What a fine question...let me think back that far...Let's see...over the summer, I worked as a guide at San Simeon, along with other CPSU persons and had a terrific time!!!

In September, I moved up to the Bay Area, and lived with some friends in Saratoga, while I was in hot pursuit of a job!!! Around the middle of October, I landed a temporary position at Apple Computer, which has since become permanent. I am working in the Public Relations department, and am really enjoying it. Mostly, I work with Product Publicity and the Editorial Loan Program. The working world is a bit different from that of academia, but, there are some advantages, like being able to afford food!

It is a bit funny, being a history major in the computer industry...but I have a common answer for all those people that ask the age old question, "What are you going to do with a history degree?" I merely reply that I went to college for an education, not just to study one mere subject. I also happen to be a firm believer in the liberal arts...I guess that it is genetic, seeing that I come from an entire family of liberal arts majors!!

I have also found out that it is not entirely what you already know once you graduate from school; it is what your capacity is to learn once you are on the job.

Besides work, I have been keeping fairly busy, I have a new home that I am constantly working on, plus once the summer gets here, I can get more involved with my bicycle touring club. Even though I am out of school, I'm still doing a bit of reading...old habits of being a History major die hard, I guess. Any good suggestions from any professors?

That's about it for me...it would be great to hear from anyone else up here in the Bay Area!!
1986  Rick Crawford

I am waiting acceptance to the Poly credential program and hope to be teaching one year from this fall.

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The following three people didn’t graduate from Cal Poly, but filled out questionnaires and returned them to me (how nice!). They sound like interesting people, so I decided to share their comments with you!

Stephen N. Russell

I graduated from Sierra College with a Liberal Arts AA. Am now employed at Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center as a Postal Distribution clerk working part-time permanent. I’m a full-time trekker (as in Star Trek). I’m single and 31 years old, and did attend Cal Poly from September 1979 to June 1981. My major was history but if I were to return to Poly I would seek my major in Marketing/Bus. Admin./International Trade. I’m seeking to become a member of the Foreign Service working as Commercial Attache. I plan to take the test this fall. I’m fascinated by high tech, trade, the defense industry, exotic cars or replicas, like to travel, au natural sunning, exotic cuisine, investing, maybe buy some franchises, involved in buyouts, the military mystique, would like to live in or around Carmel or in or around Irvine-Newport Beach area in Orange County. I love diversity especially in skills for anyone’s job or career. I favor SDI and defense buildup. I know solutions can be found to the homeless issue facing us. As you can see I’m not very history minded. I require challenges, boldness in this life to be a success overall!

Rick Kennedy

I did not graduate from Cal Poly, but spent two wonderfully happy years studying history there from 1976-78. I am this year completing a Ph.D. in American cultural history at UC Santa Barbara. Looking back, I would like to tell my professors at Cal Poly that their small classes and smaller department prepared me well and that I remember them better than most of the huge factory-style classes I encountered in the UC system. As a teaching assistant, I have often been asked by students why I left Cal Poly to finish up at UCSB; many of them are hoping to transfer from Santa Barbara to San Luis Obispo.

Zachary Widdes

I am involved in general contracting and developing in the Van Nuys area. I am married and have 2 children. My interests are water skiing, surfing, snow skiing, bicycling, roller skating.

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TIM BARNES is continuing his research on Loyalism during the American Revolution. He will be on sabbatical leave during the winter and spring quarters 1987 to conduct research in various British archives to permit him to co-author a joint project intended to answer the still unanswered question of how revolutionary was the American Revolution. Specifically, his research focuses on Loyalist-held garrison towns.

LLOYD BEECHER conducted research on the interaction of the strategic requirements of U.S. military planners with civilian, political and economic objectives in sub-Saharan Africa, 1937-1958. As an outgrowth of his highly popular course on the Vietnam War, Dr. Beecher has become involved in developing Vietnam War veterans centers and will be involved in the coming years with a program to develop knowledge among secondary teachers in the tri-counties area about the Vietnam War.

ROBERT BURTON has devoted the bulk of his time to preparation of the new general education course on the modern world and to pre-publication reviews of texts in world civilization. He is actively involved in the study of Chinese in anticipation of a Fulbright exchange lectureship in the Peoples Republic of China.

GEORGE COTKIN is actively involved in research and writing on William James. He will complete his manuscript on James during his sabbatical for the year 1986-1987. He has published an article on James this past year. Most recently, he lectured on the photographer Robert Frank at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston.

DON GRINDE continues to be active in his research on native Americans. He is the author of an article "Yamassee Family Ecology" soon to be published in an anthology by the University of Utah Press. He has received a summer research grant of $4,000 for work on the political theory of the Iroquois in Washington and New York City and has recently been recognized for his scholarly work by election to Who's Who in American Indians.

BARBARA HALLMAN is the author of the recently published and favorably reviewed Italian Cardinals, Reform, and the Church as Property, 1492-1563 published by the University of California Press. She is presently engaged in research for an article "Cardinals as Family."

DON HENSEL has been active in research into the theory and application of simulation gaming. He recently presented a paper on this subject at a meeting of the National University Continuing Education Association and will present another paper on the "Teaching of the Pullman Strike" through gaming at the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association in August, 1986. In conjunction with his course on American warfare, Dr. Hensel made travel-study visits to battlefields of the Second World War in Europe and battlefields of the Mexican War in San Diego County. He is an applicant for funding
through the CSU Academic Improvement Programs to further develop simulation-gaming for courses in American history.

DAN KRIEGER spent spring quarter in London, England as a faculty member with the London Study Program, sponsored by the School of Liberal Arts. He is actively involved with the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society and several other community organizations.

BARTON OLSEN is working on developing the format for a book in which Houghton-Mifflin is interested on the Trans-Mississippi West. Dr. Olsen is also a director of the local branch of a Salt Lake City historical/genealogical research library.

MAX RIEDLSPERGER is continuing research on the Austrian Legion terrorist activities from Nazi Germany against the Austrian Republic in the period 1933-38 and has recently received an invitation to co-author several chapters in a proposed published symposium "Austrian Nazism after 1938." He plans to do the necessary research and write while on leave during the academic year 1988-89. He has devoted much time to the writing and editing of materials for use in the new general education course on the modern world supported by a grant from the Department of Education for the internationalizing of the curriculum at Cal Poly. Riedlsperger has also reviewed a number of manuscripts on world history for publishers and is a member of the Task Force on International Aspects of Education in the CSU.

ROBERT ROSENBERG is on the Faculty Early Retirement Program and teaches half time for two quarters.

JOHN SNETSINGER is a regular reviewer for publications in Diplomatic History and has attended a number of important national professional meetings recently.

QUINTARD TAYLOR is continuing his research of the Seattle black community which has generated four published articles and an article "The Forging of a Black Community: Seattle's Central District," currently under consideration for publication by the Pacific Historical Review. He is presently applying for a Fulbright Fellowship to teach Afro-American History at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria, for the year 1987-1988.

This year has been filled with fun activities for Historical Society members. To begin with, during fall quarter we held an informal talk about the London Study Program which is sponsored by the School of Liberal Arts. Several professors and students told our group about what fun, exciting and educational their quarter in London was. In October we held a dance featuring "Secret Service" as a fund raiser. With a few dollars to spend, we took a trip to the Monterey Aquarium.

Winter quarter was a busy quarter as the Society held another fund raiser, this time the showing of a film, "The Battleship Potemkin." Dr. Riedlsperger, our Department Chairman, gave a short talk on the period of time the film portrayed, along with a bit of the film's history. The next couple of months we planned our display and food booth for Poly Royal. Our display was on the Prohibition era in San Luis Obispo for which we received third place in the School of Liberal Arts competition. We sold popsicles from the food booth and were happy to have made a small profit!

To conclude a great year, we had a very enjoyable end of the year faculty-student potluck. Such notables as Dr. Riedlsperger, Dr. Barnes and Dr. Snetsinger attended and made the whole occasion very special. We hope that our successors will continue excellent faculty-student relations and have more functions such as the potluck.

Best wishes and a happy year!

Paul Cooper, President
Cal Poly Historical Society, 1985-86

David Eckstrom, Secretary/Treasurer
Cal Poly Historical Society, 1985-86