



THE KEY REPORTER

Alpers, Lindley, and Quiñones Keber Win 1996 ΦBK Book Prizes

Paul Alpers, David Lindley, and Eloise Quiñones Keber won the three Phi Beta Kappa awards to authors for outstanding contributions to humanistic learning in 1996. Each author received \$2,500 at the annual ΦBK Senate banquet, held in Washington, D.C., at the Embassy Row Hotel on December 6.

Literary historian Alpers won the Christian Gauss Award for *What Is Pastoral?*, published by the University of Chicago Press. Alpers is the

Class of 1942 Professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley.

Lindley, associate editor of *Science News*, won the Science Award for *Where Does the Weirdness Go? Why Quantum Mechanics Is Strange, but Not as Strange as You Think*, published by Basic Books. Formerly a theoretical astrophysicist at Cambridge University and at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, he has been an editor of *Nature* and *Science*.

Quiñones Keber received the Ralph Waldo Emerson Award for *Codex Telleriano-Remensis: Ritual, Divination, and History in a Pictorial Aztec Manuscript*, published by the University of Texas Press. She is professor of art history at Baruch College, City University of New York.

The awards committees were chaired by Herbert S. Lindenberger, of Stanford University (Gauss); Steven Vogel, of Duke University (Science); and Judith de Luce, of Miami University (Emerson).



Quiñones Keber, Lindley, and Alpers at the ΦBK Senate banquet last December.

ΦBK Senate Makes Some Important Changes

At its annual meeting in December 1996 the Phi Beta Kappa Senate voted as follows:

- To meet twice a year henceforth, with the second meeting to take place in May or June;
- To amend the ΦBK constitution to limit service on the Senate to two consecutive six-year terms (the current limit is three consecutive six-year terms); and
- To invite the ΦBK Associates to send to all Senate meetings a rep-

resentative who would have the right to speak but not to vote.

The senators also reviewed a draft of the Planning Committee's proposals for Phi Beta Kappa's future and suggested some revisions. The Planning Committee, headed by ΦBK Vice President Frederick Crosson, has been meeting for two years to produce this draft, and will meet again in the spring to incorporate revisions before presenting its report to the Council in September for action.

Anne Fadiman Named *American Scholar* Editor

Anne Fadiman, columnist and editor at large for *Civilization* magazine, has been appointed to succeed Joseph Epstein as editor of the *American Scholar*. Epstein, who has edited the journal since 1974, will continue at the post through 1997.

Fadiman is a graduate of Harvard University, where she was a contributing editor to *Harvard Magazine*.

From 1979 to 1988 she was a writer and editor at *Life* magazine. Her essays

and criticism have also appeared in *Harper's*, the *Saturday Review*, the *New York Times*, and the *Washington Post*, among other publications.



Photo by J. Ross Baughman

KEY NOTES

- The Future of ΦBK
By Arline L. Bronzaft
PAGE 2
- ΦBK Helps Provide Enrichment for D.C.,
Long Beach Teachers
PAGE 3
- ΦBK Brings Jefferson to
National Honor Society
PAGE 4
- The Case for Public Service
By Arlen Specter
PAGE 4
- Life Outside Academe
Philip Manbard
PAGE 5
- Chapter News, 1995-96
PAGE 7
- Association News, 1995-96
PAGE 8
- Phi Beta Kappa in the News
PAGE 10
- Association Secretaries, 1996-97
PAGE 11
- Letters to the Editor
PAGE 12
- Recommended Reading
PAGE 13
- ΦBK Installs New Computer System
PAGE 16
- Glymour to Give Romanell Lectures
PAGE 16

The Future of Phi Beta Kappa

By Arline L. Bronzaft, Chair, Middle Atlantic District

SOME 140 PHI BETA KAPPA members from across the country (e.g., California, Florida, Illinois, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Rhode Island) attended the October 26, 1996, symposium at Hunter College, New York City, organized primarily by the Middle Atlantic District of Phi Beta Kappa, on "The Present and Future of Phi Beta Kappa." The symposium served as a platform for the views of the panel speakers about the future direction of the Society, and as a forum for the suggestions from the general membership.

Because the ΦBK Senate will soon receive a document discussing the Society's future, compiled by the Planning Committee headed by ΦBK Vice President Frederick Crosson [see page 1], the *Key Reporter* asked me to summarize the high points of the symposium, in the hope that my report would encourage more members to send their own thoughts on the Society's future to Dr. Crosson.

David Caputo, president of Hunter College, gave the welcoming remarks.

In introducing the speakers, ΦBK Senator James P. Lusardi, the panel moderator, framed the discussion with a statement defining the topic. Dr. Douglas Foard, the Society's executive secretary, gave a brief but sweeping overview of how the Society operates, including the work of its governing bodies; the activities of the chapters, associations, and Associates; the programs the Society sponsors, including the Book Awards; and the Society's educational outreach efforts. Because many ΦBK members are unaware of what the Society is doing to foster liberal learning locally, regionally, and nationally, this overview was much appreciated. Dr. Foard also said that the Society will be investigating ways to heighten its visibility, and will explore the possibility of broadening its involvement in education issues; both measures have been strongly endorsed by the triennial ΦBK Councils.

President Charles Blitzer introduced his remarks by noting that when he assumed office two years ago, the Society had no committee for planning its future. He quickly realized that it is especially difficult for the Senate, at its annual meeting, and for the Council, at its triennial meetings, to take time from already crowded agendas to formulate such

plans. Thus he named a Planning Committee and announced that a planning document would be reviewed by the Senate and would be ready for action at the 1997 triennial Council, which will meet in Chicago, September 25-28.

Dr. Blitzer explained that it was unlikely that the national office would embark on new enterprises. He was pleased with the Society's modest educational program, whereby the Society helps chapters in some regions work with local teachers, but he did not expect this program to expand because of the Society's limited resources.

As to the future, Dr. Blitzer said that the central office needs to develop closer relations with its 248 chapters. Recognizing that the range of activities among these chapters is enormous, he acknowledged that those chapters having some difficulty could benefit from the assistance of the central office. Dr. Blitzer believes that the 50 ΦBK associations appear to offer the most promising way to tap the energy and commitment of our members in nonacademic professions. He added that there should be greater representation of these members on the Senate.

ΦBK Senator David Levering Lewis cast his remarks within a discussion of the "cultural wars of today." He urged the Society with its cadres of talent within its associations and chapters, as well as

through its prestigious publications, to commit itself to innovative ways of fostering discourse on the critical issues of the day. He advised establishing teacher institutes to imbue bright children with the Society's ideals, initiating prizes for high school students on "global village essays," and excerpting, in both the *Key Reporter* and the *American Scholar*, some of the lectures given by ΦBK scholars, as well as featuring pieces devoted to important topics discussed at chapter and association meetings. He noted, however, that the Society may have to change its "musty" way of doing business in order to undertake these initiatives.

Dr. Lewis urged the Society to assume a "forward role" in articulating and mediating the nation's urgent concerns. Otherwise, the organization will "deserve the reproach of irrelevant elitism and of passive participation in the steady decline of our democratic institutions."

ΦBK Senator Joan Ferrante reminded the audience that Phi Beta Kappa has always played an active role in current affairs (e.g., chapters early on discussed pressing issues of the time). She proudly recalled that the Society helped found the National Endowment for the Humanities. She explained how the Society's acceptance or rejection of institutions petitioning for chapters affects higher education in general; the prestige of those institutions that receive chapters is enhanced, and those that are denied chapters often work to improve areas in which they are weak.

Dr. Ferrante expressed support of an active role for Phi Beta Kappa in conserving the quality of education in this coun-



Pictured at the symposium are, from the left, David Levering Lewis, Donald Lamm, James P. Lusardi, David Caputo, Joan Ferrante, and Charles Blitzer.

try, which includes maintaining the quality of our primary and secondary schools. That is why, she said, she strongly endorses expanding the Society's educational outreach program. She believes Phi Beta Kappa to be well suited to do this because the ΦBK chapters and associations can work with their local schools.

As one of the few members of the ΦBK Senate who do not work in academe, Donald Lamm urged the Society to find ways to achieve a fair representation of its nonacademic members. With respect to the overall health of the Society, Mr. Lamm said that the national office should take action against chapters that fail to keep themselves vital. The best way for the Society to reach out to the community, he said, is through its chapters and associations, and he urged these groups to use the national Society's extensive records to learn the names of ΦBK members in their areas.

During the second part of the symposium the audience had a chance to speak up. As noted in *USA Today* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education* [see Phi Beta Kappa in the News, p. 10], the members urged the Society to increase its visibility, to work more closely with the public schools, to sponsor student scholarships, and to seek ways to improve liberal arts education. Greater visibility, one member commented, is especially important because many students are foreign born or the first generation in their families to attend college, and thus are not familiar with Phi Beta Kappa.

One speaker noted that many people attending the symposium were wearing their keys and suggested that wearing the key more often is a good way to promote the Society.

Nonacademic members in the audience offered to visit schools to discuss the ideals and goals of the Society and the importance of a liberal arts education in all professional fields. These members also called for broadening the Society's governing bodies to include more members outside the academic professions.

Some younger members asked for a larger role in shaping the future of the organization. Several members expressed the need for the Society to take a leadership role in encouraging academic excellence throughout the country, particularly by advocating higher standards in education.

Many people who attended the symposium suggested that other districts should follow the lead of the Middle Atlantic District and convene similar programs. We stand ready to help. ■

Phi Beta Kappa Helps Provide Enrichment For D.C., Long Beach Teachers

"The Potomac: A Capital River" was the theme of the fourth annual Phi Beta Kappa institute for middle and secondary teachers in Washington, D.C., held June 24-28, 1996. Serving as the institute's director, on Phi Beta Kappa's behalf, was Thomas Foggin, secretary of the Potomac River Basin Consortium, a local association of scholars devoted to protecting the river.

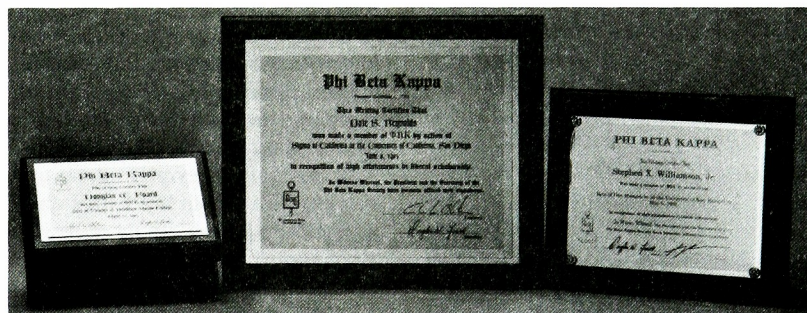
The teachers moved from one ΦBK campus to the next, studying the river from the perspectives of many disciplines. On the first day, American University faculty discussed the natural history of the Potomac River basin, as well as the bibliography on the river and ways to use the Internet to explore the subject in the classroom. At Howard University, the teachers discussed the African American experience on the river. Then the University of Maryland's chapter arranged for the teachers to visit the Great Falls above the city, where they studied the region's ecology.

Participants also visited Mount Vernon, where they heard about George Washington's vision of the river as a link

between the Atlantic coast and the Ohio Valley. Washington played a major role in the creation of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and some of his shares in that ill-fated venture later became part of the endowment of George Washington University. The institute ended at the university with a discussion, led by historian James Banner, of the reasons why the national capital was located on the Potomac.

In the follow-up evaluation session two months after the institute took place, the 30 participating teachers rated the program "outstanding" and asked for another week-long program in 1997. Planning for a program on the adjoining Anacostia River is now in progress.

Meanwhile, in Long Beach, Calif., the ΦBK chapter at California State University, with the help of the National Faculty, an Atlanta-based professional development organization, offered middle school teachers instruction in science and history. Over a two-year period the National Faculty is offering participating teachers summer instruction as well as weekend seminars during the school year.



Cherry Box, Three Kinds of Plaques Available

Four kinds of mounted metal replicas of your Phi Beta Kappa membership certificate are now available:

- 1. 7½" × 5⅞" × 2" cherry box for desk or coffee table, brass matted, \$75.
- 2. 8" × 10" stainless steel plaque, solid walnut base, \$75.
- 3. 11" × 13" brass-matted stainless steel plaque, solid walnut base, \$95.
- 4. 11" × 13" brass-matted stainless steel plaque, black base, \$95.

Check the item you want and send your name, chapter, initiation date, and shipping address (no P.O. boxes, please), plus a check for the appropriate amount made payable to Massillon Plaque Company, P.O. Box 2539, North Canton, OH 44720. All prices include postage and handling if shipped in the continental United States. Ohio residents are subject to 5.75 percent sales tax. If you prefer to pay by **Visa or MasterCard**, telephone (800) 854-8404 and ask for the Phi Beta Kappa Order Department. Allow 3 weeks for delivery. A portion of all proceeds will be used to support Phi Beta Kappa's programs.

For keys, replacement certificates, or other items, call Phi Beta Kappa directly at (202) 265-3808.

Phi Beta Kappa Brings Jefferson to National Honor Society

Phi Beta Kappa sponsored a historical presentation of Thomas Jefferson by Clay Jenkinson, a former Rhodes Scholar, at the 75th anniversary of the National Honor Society (NHS) in Minneapolis in November 1996. Some 2,000 high school students and teachers attended the conference. The NHS was founded in 1921 by Edward Ryneerson, a superintendent of the Pittsburgh public schools and a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Jenkinson addressed the students on "Leadership and Character" from a Jeffersonian perspective, and then met with students in informal groups to discuss the same topic. Joining him in leading these discussions were faculty members from local ΦBK institutions: Kevin Byrne, pro-



Clay Jenkinson as Jefferson

fessor of history at Gustavus Adolphus College; David Taylor, dean at the University of Minnesota; and Ruth Weiner, professor of political science at Carleton College. All three had worked previously with projects sponsored by the Minnesota Humanities Commission.

The presentations were so well received that Phi Beta Kappa has already been asked to present another major program at the NHS's fifth annual meeting in November 1997. The NHS elects to membership more than 200,000 high school students each year.

The Case for Public Service

By Arlen Specter

The *Key Reporter* offered me the opportunity to make the case for college graduates to consider careers in public service, which I was eager to do. I decided that the best way to go about this task was to share my own thinking when I decided to pursue public life and public service.

After law school, I joined a top Philadelphia firm as an associate. Every Friday morning our 20-member trial team gathered around the firm's glistening oak conference table to discuss the week's work and often to complain about the judges or the laws that impeded their views of justice. But the firm's elders were not willing to get into politics to improve the system by becoming state court judges or running for the Pennsylvania legislature. They considered that a step down.

After three years I decided to give up the firm's wall-to-wall life and move across the street to City Hall to become an assistant district attorney. I wanted to perform public service, gain trial experience, and get into politics. One of the partners tried to talk me out of it, warning me that I was throwing away a bright future.

But the roots of my decision actually began long before that, in Batchkurina, a village 160 miles from Kiev in the heart of Ukraine, where my father grew up at the turn of the century. Harry Specter lived with his parents, seven brothers, and one sister in a one-room hut with a dirt floor. As the only Jewish family in town, they were a convenient target for the villagers' slurs and the Cossacks' sport.

In 1911, when my father turned 18, determined to avoid the czar's heel and conscription in Siberia, and to seek freedom and opportunity, he walked clear across the European continent, alone, destitute, to sail steerage to America.

My father found a better life in America, but it did not come easily. He would rise before dawn and work past dusk, earning a living anywhere and any way he could: driving a truck in the coalfields of Pennsylvania, selling blankets to farmers in the winter in Nebraska; peddling cantaloupes door-to-door in the summer in Kansas; and finally opening a modest business, a junkyard in Russell, Kansas.

Next to his pride in his family, my father was most proud of his service as a buck private in the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. He sailed from the United States for France on June

4, 1918. One hundred days later, he was seriously wounded in action in the Argonne Forest. He carried shrapnel in his legs for the rest of his life.

In 1932 my father could not leave his family to join his fellow World War I veterans who formed a "Bonus Army" to march on Washington for a promised \$500 bonus. I can only imagine my father's horror when his comrades in arms, who had survived enemy fire in the French forest, were routed by federal troops in the nation's capital.

In a sense, I have been on my way to Washington ever since to collect my father's bonus. That is, I have devoted



Arlen Specter

myself to public service to try to ensure that government treats its citizens justly—the millions of hard-working Harry Specters—and pays its debts.

The greatest gift my parents gave me, perhaps, was education. My parents valued education highly because they had so little of it. My father had no formal education at all, and my mother, Lillie, went only to the eighth grade. At the age of five she had immigrated to the United States with her parents from a small town on the Russian-Polish border. When my grandfather died of a heart attack in his mid-40s, leaving a widow and seven children, my mother, the oldest child, had to quit school and go to work to help support the family.

My brother, two sisters, and I have been able to share in the American dream because of education. I prize my Phi Beta Kappa key [from the University of Pennsylvania, 1950], as I'm sure the readers of this newsletter prize theirs.

After college and a stint in the Air Force stateside at the Office of Special Investigations, I attended law school. If history is any guide, college graduates with Phi Beta Kappa keys will continue to troop to the nation's law schools. So a few words on a career in law and public service are in order here.

Over the years, I have come to understand that there are basically three reasons to practice law: for yourself, for your clients, and for justice.

For lawyers themselves, the law can provide compensation, security, and, I hope, fulfillment in a profession they find exciting and important. The lawyers' duty to clients is to be their zealous and informed advocate. Our adversarial system enables each lawyer to present his or her case, theoretically enabling truth to emerge.

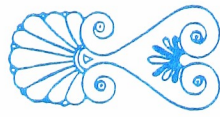
But the ultimate goal of the law, I came to realize, is justice. Justice requires lawyers, and all members of society, to give something back. "Pro bono publico," frequently abbreviated as "pro bono," literally means "a benefit for the public," or contributing to society.

When I was a young lawyer, my law firm, Barnes Dechert Price Myers and Rhoads, loaned me to the voluntary defenders' office for a month in 1958. From the pungent cells in the county jail to the only slightly less odorous atmosphere of the Common Pleas criminal courtroom, I represented indigent defendants. That stint gave me a feeling for public service that has stayed with me to this day. I left the security of the Barnes Dechert firm a year later.

I eventually served eight years as district attorney of Philadelphia, where I learned that the government wins its case whenever justice is done. I learned that the district attorney, a quasi-judicial official, is responsible for protecting constitutional rights as well as for convicting the guilty for criminal wrongs. I learned that a lawyer should seek to improve the administration of justice through reforms in the courtroom and in the legislature.

There are parallels, in almost any field you choose, to pro bono work and the pursuit of justice and the greater good. President Kennedy captured the approach in his famous inaugural line, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

To the recent college graduates who may be reading these thoughts, I encourage all of you to pursue your ambitions and your talents as far as they will take you, and to give something back in the process. Public service is a fascinating



Editor's note: Ambassador Philip W. Manbard (ΦBK, University of Southern California, 1943), a retired career Foreign Service officer, has resisted writing his own memoirs about his extraordinary life, but he recently agreed to be interviewed for the Key Reporter.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941, Manbard, a junior at USC, rushed to enlist in the Navy, but was enrolled in the V-7 program and told to finish college first. He then participated in the Navy's 15-month Japanese-language immersion training at Boulder, Colo. (When he went to Boulder to interview for the course, the first question he was asked was, "Are you a member of Phi Beta Kappa?" He was accepted even though his membership didn't come through for another week.)

After graduation he served in the Marines, and once the war ended, he sat for the Foreign Service exam. While waiting for an appointment, he accepted a job in China with Standard Vacuum Oil Company. The oil company promptly sent Manbard, already fluent in Japanese and competent in German and French, to Beijing for an 18-month course in Chinese.

On January 30, 1968, Manbard was a 47-year-old Foreign Service officer who had been serving as senior provincial adviser in Hué, South Vietnam, for only a few weeks. He awoke on the 31st to find Hué overrun by the Viet Cong; he was captured and marched north. He spent the next five years in solitary confinement—the highest-ranking civilian POW in Vietnam—before being released in March 1973 following the ceasefire agreement in Paris.

Q. Were there any indications in Hué that an attack was imminent?

A. We had reports of Communist movements, but it was hard to assess their reliability. Our military people said there was no problem—the Vietnamese 1st Division was close by and was fully capable of defending Hué.

Q. So what happened?

A. On the morning of January 31, I heard what sounded like firing on the edge of town. I dressed and went to the front window. I looked up and down the street and saw Viet Cong everywhere. I

field, and I am convinced we urgently need people in government who can provide leadership and tackle the enormous problems that our country, and the world, faces. Candidly, I'm a little discouraged to find so few people willing to get involved and participate. I urge you to consider a career in public service.

But you can make a contribution, and perform public service, in any number of arenas, public or private. I wish you the best of luck whatever path you take. ■

Arlen Specter, the senior U.S. senator from Pennsylvania, was first elected to the Senate in 1980. In the 105th Congress he chairs the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health, Human Services, and Education. He is also a member of the Judiciary and Governmental Operations committees.

had one phone call from my boss in Danang, then the phone went dead.

Q. What did you do?

A. I knew that the Viet Cong had identified my house, but I thought for a time that I could hide in a cubicle under the stairs. But I soon heard sounds that indicated they were torturing the servants. They were bound to find me, so I surrendered.

Q. You then began the trek north.

A. Along with a dozen or so other foreigners who had been living in Hué, I was marched, arms bound, up the Ho Chi Minh Trail, through rice paddies and mountainous jungles. It took more than a month, mostly on foot, and because I had been given a pair of ill-fitting boots, my feet had a bad time of it. My first "permanent" prison was in an area southeast of Hanoi. I was moved several times thereafter, but always was kept in isolation.

Q. How isolated were you?

A. The only people I saw for five years were my guards and interrogators. For the first year I was questioned by military men; convinced that all civilian POWs were spies, they tried to get me to confess to being with the CIA. There was some torture. After a year the questioning eased up. My principal questioner was a junior officer from what I assumed was the Foreign Ministry.

Occasionally I could hear someone being put into the cell next to mine, and once I was passed a note giving the tapping code; I promptly memorized it and destroyed the paper, but the Ameri-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

LIFE OUTSIDE ACADEME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

can who had passed it to me was moved out and I never had a chance to try it out. Later a German woman was put next door, and from one of the guards she wheedled a chopstick with which she eventually poked a hole in the wall between us. We exchanged notes through it whenever we could.

Q. What did they feed you?

A. I usually had two meals a day, consisting of a bowl of hot water flavored with cabbage or squash, or a fish tail, and a bowl of rice with pebbles in it. My weight quickly dropped from 180 pounds to 115, which is where it remained.

Q. How did you keep track of time?

A. I started to keep a makeshift calendar on the wall, but quickly abandoned the idea because I could not picture a target date of release and the thought of indefinite captivity was depressing. I figured that any prisoner release would be tied to election year politics, but I couldn't guess how many increments of four years it might take. I knew I would have to be patient. I completely lost track of time only once, when I nearly died from a staph infection in my spine before they finally called in a doctor from Hanoi.

Q. Did you get any news of the outside world?

A. My only source of news was an occasional propaganda bulletin. I learned of the U.S. success in space only by inference when an editorial in the propaganda bulletin included the phrase "The Americans may be able to put a man on the moon but they can't. . . ." The only magazine I glimpsed in my five years was one page from *Time*, commenting on Jacqueline Kennedy's having married Onassis. My Foreign Ministry interrogator thought this was fascinating!

Q. How did you occupy yourself for five years of solitary confinement?

A. I dwelt on the good things. I refused to succumb to self-pity. I'd go back and relive the happiest moments. I had a wonderful marriage and family. I played over golf courses I knew in my mind. When a baguette replaced the rice in my meals, I molded bits of the bread into a chess set. Playing chess with myself was good therapy; the problem was that I always knew what move the other player was going to make!

Q. Did your situation change in any way during the five years?

A. A little. In October 1972 I was given a letter from my wife, Peg [a former Foreign Service officer Manhard had met and married in Seoul]. She had written

hundreds, but this was the only one they delivered. It was undated because she thought that I was more likely to get her letters if the Communists did not have to explain why they had taken so long to reach me. Peg's letter was a ray of hope. Also, toward the end, my interrogator began to bring me books—a worm-eaten set of Zola's novels. When I asked for a dictionary, he even found me an old *Petit Larousse*, with some missing sections.

Q. Are you able to look back on your imprisonment without pain?



Philip Manhard

A. I feel that what is past is past. There's too much that is interesting and worthwhile now to worry about yesterday. In general, I noticed that our middle-aged prisoners survived captivity better than the younger ones did; in other words, people with more life experience seemed better able to sustain hope.

Q. What experiences had prepared you for enduring imprisonment in North Vietnam?

A. Well, I'd served in Asia—China, Mongolia, Japan, and Korea—for some years. In fact, I was sworn into the Foreign Service in the field—at the American embassy in Beijing in 1948—and was promptly shipped off to Tientsen as vice consul, just in time to help negotiate the closing of the consulate and the evacuation of the Americans remaining in China after the Communist takeover in 1949. As the only Chinese-speaking American official at the consulate, I handled all of the negotiations with the Chinese officials.

During the Korean War my principal responsibility had been to work with Chinese prisoners of war in Pusan. And of course I had been in the Marines.

I also had a superb education at Southern Cal, where I majored in international relations. In fact, I was fortunate to have a whole bunch of Mr. Chipses as my teachers there: Hans von Koerber, professor of Chinese, had, toward the end of World War I, been seized by the British in Tibet, who claimed he was a German spy and held him as a prisoner of war in India for some months. Claude Buss, head of the International Relations Department, had been captured by the Japanese at Corregidor. Others I remember warmly were William Clemens, my geology professor; Frank Baxter and Harry Reed, of the English Department; and René Bellé, of the French Department. ■

Philip Manhard ended his career in the Foreign Service with two years as ambassador to Mauritius. For a decade thereafter he headed Presidential Classroom for Young Americans, an organization that brings gifted high school seniors to Washington to view the political process first-hand. He and his wife live in McLean, Va.

Manhard's French professor, René Bellé, had this to say about Manhard in an interview published in the USC alumni magazine shortly after Bellé died in 1971.

I remember one of our best students, Philip Manhard, who disappeared at Hué in Vietnam, during the Tet offensive. . . . In 1943, he was an A student in German, an A student in French, and an A student in international law and diplomacy. Well, Uncle Sam gave him some tests and he was sent to a [Japanese language] school in Colorado. He was a Marine officer. And within one year he spoke Japanese fluently. After the war, he became one of the key diplomats at our embassy in Tokyo.

Now, here is the point—what kind of makeup was this boy? What kind of boy does the United States produce? Ah, the United States produced a marvelous German linguist, a marvelous French linguist, and he loved poetry and he loved baseball, too.

And when you send to Tokyo, or Rouen, or anywhere, young Americans as intelligent and as cultured—by God!—then you make friends, not enemies.

Chapter News, 1995-96

Each year the chapter secretaries are asked to file reports with the Society's headquarters, listing their new members and any activities they sponsor. Of the 208 chapters reporting last year, more than half had 99 or 100 percent acceptance rates, and three-quarters reported acceptance rates of 90 to 100 percent.

At the same time, many secretaries of large chapters reported that about one-fourth to one-third of the invitees had to be tracked down individually. At the **University of North Carolina at Greensboro**, half of the nonrespondents blamed "lost mail" or busy schedules for failure to respond; the other half "had to be convinced that joining Phi Beta Kappa was a worthwhile thing to do."

Many chapters reported making special efforts to improve acceptance rates, with varying results. The **Ohio State University** chapter reported sending the brochure about Phi Beta Kappa to each invitee in the original letter, and, for the first time, sending letters to parents congratulating them on their child's election. Even so, 30 of the 90 invited did not respond. The members of the Executive Committee then used e-mail, telephone calls, and second letters to contact the students, and encouraged the students to ask their department chair or adviser about Phi Beta Kappa. In the end, only one invitee formally declined, but nine others were noncommittal. The Executive Committee members felt "frustration at the lack of recognition and chagrin at the time spent on this enterprise."

At the **University of Michigan**, election is a "coveted honor," although some students are unaware of the significance of the Society until after they have been invited. "Frequently their parents are the ones who make sure that they join."

The **San Diego State University** chapter reported that its efforts to improve visibility by having members personally congratulate each student elected to membership paid off in acceptance rates (up 10 percentage points in the past year). The chapter has also worked to make the initiation ceremony more festive and memorable; along with a number of other institutions, SDSU awarded a rosette for each new member to wear on the graduation robe.

At **Colorado State University**, where the acceptance rate fell several percentage points over the rate for the previous two years, the chapter secretary noticed that two-thirds of the invitees who were not joining were science majors. Because

"contact by a faculty member is usually the key to persuade wavering students to join," the secretary reported that the chapter hopes to identify additional Φ BK faculty in the sciences.

A number of chapters—including the one at the **University of Texas**—are setting up Phi Beta Kappa home pages on the Internet, as well as planning to "implement a more personal approach to prospective members through their academic departments."

Quite a few chapter secretaries voiced concern about the lack of participation of Φ BK faculty in the chapter's activities. Some participate only rarely, some never. One secretary said, "Our chapter is stable, but I have the impression that many of the senior faculty have abandoned the Society." Another secretary said a major problem is the "aging of active members. Those who reach retirement feel, understandably, that they have done their part, and they withdraw from regular participation. Young faculty either have no interest in supporting the organization or feel too pressured by other demands on their time to participate."

One chapter secretary at a small college said, "This past year we had several student members who contributed far more to the health of the chapter than many faculty did." Another secretary characterized the chapter as vital, "although the burden of the chapter's responsibilities is borne by only a handful of dedicated members."

The chapter secretary at a noted woman's college reported, "Student interest continues to be strong; we have a much harder time encouraging active participation by Φ BK faculty." The chapter secretary at the **North Carolina State University** chapter reported active participation by students at that new chapter.

Miscellaneous Awards

Many chapters made annual awards of various types; only a sample are mentioned here:

In celebration of its 25th anniversary, the **Manhattan College** chapter founded the Brother Abdon Lewis Garavaglia-Phi Beta Kappa Endowment to pay the initiation fees and to purchase keys for students who are elected to Phi Beta Kappa and need financial help to join.

The **Grinnell College** chapter has named its Φ BK scholar's award competition for Joseph F. Wall, who died last year, and its sophomore book awards for

Neal Klausner. Both Wall and Klausner had served on the Phi Beta Kappa Senate.

The **Washington University** chapter has named its book award for freshmen in honor of Burton M. Wheeler, a Φ BK senator who retired this year as professor of English and religious studies.

The **Colby College** chapter gave cash awards to two sophomores and two juniors, as well as book awards, from the Carol Bassett Fund, to the Math Department and to the library.

The **Franklin and Marshall College** chapter gave two \$1,000 scholarships to sophomores from disadvantaged backgrounds who showed meritorious academic progress in their freshman year.

The **University of North Carolina at Greensboro** chapter annually awards the Josephine E. Hege Award, funded by a bequest from this longtime member of the History Department, to an outstanding initiate for research.

The **University of Kentucky** chapter sponsored two awards for scholarly research and writing (\$700 and \$300).

The **University of California, San Diego**, chapter gave \$500 graduate fellowships to two initiates.

The first two initiates to benefit from the new \$50,000 fund to support Phi Beta Kappa activities at **Randolph-Macon College** [Key Reporter, Spring 1996] were Anthony W. Lineberry and Stacy C. Boyd, who received their awards from the donor, John Werner, in May 1996. The chapter also made an award to an outstanding local high school English teacher, Jane DeBernado, of Ashland, Va.

The **University of California, Santa Cruz**, chapter gave \$100 awards to two outstanding high school seniors and invited the winners and their parents to the initiation ceremony.

The **Virginia Tech & State University** chapter sponsors an essay contest (\$500 prize); the contest is named for a former provost, John D. Wilson, who encouraged writing in the curriculum.

The **Gettysburg College** chapter this year established a Phi Beta Kappa book award program, under which a member of the chapter presented dictionaries to the valedictorians of the seven county high schools at each school's awards ceremony. The chapter also invited members of the first-year honorary society to attend the Φ BK Visiting Scholar lecture.

The **University of Colorado at Boulder** chapter awarded \$6,000 fellowships for graduate study to two initiates, Michael Cushman and Enrique Maestas. The fellowship fund was established in 1992 to honor the late Katharine Bruderlin

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CHAPTER NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Crisp, a 1906 graduate and ΦBK member who founded the Denver Botanic Gardens.

Faculty Awards

Faculty recipients of annual ΦBK chapter awards for excellence in teaching or research included the following:

- Marie Borroff, Sterling Professor Emeritus of English, and Louis Dupre, T. Lawrason Riggs Professor of Religious Studies, at **Yale University**.

- William Bartels, associate professor of geological sciences, and Jeffrey Carrier, Merton Chickering Professor of Biology, at **Albion College**.

- Political scientist Stephen K. White, at **Virginia Tech & State University**.

The **Arizona State University** chapter awarded plaques to two faculty members for distinguished service to the chapter: Charles Fimian and Robert Marzke.

In 1992, David S. Atkinson (Yale University, 1942) and his wife established a fund in honor of two dedicated teachers at **Yale**, H. F. Byrnes, and R. B. Sewall. The award (currently \$1,800) is given annually to the teacher designated by the dean and undergraduates as having provided the most help to his or her students.

Notable Activities

To celebrate the 100th year of Phi Beta Kappa at **Colby College**, the chapter held a brunch for returning alumni on Alumni Weekend. It proved to be such a pleasant event that the chapter plans to do it every year.

Some 175 undergraduates and 10 alumni attended a Planetarium and Internet Show sponsored by the **Temple University** chapter in February 1996 to encourage undergraduate interest in Phi Beta Kappa.

For three years the chapter at **Saint Louis University** has cosponsored with Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, a series of nine lectures, to increase Phi Beta Kappa's visibility on campus while fostering the exchange of ideas within the university. This year the chapter inaugurated a Phi Beta Kappa book award, to recognize faculty publications in the liberal arts and sciences. The prize, intended to honor a scholarly work of interest to the general reader, carries a modest cash award. The awardee delivers a lecture at the award ceremony. The first work selected was William Rehg's *Insight and Solidarity: The Discourse Ethics of Jurgen Habermas*.

The **University of Tennessee** chapter has revived its book-of-the-semester discussions.

Association News, 1995-96

Since 1877, groups of Society members in locations across the country have been organizing themselves into associations for social, cultural, and educational purposes. The news about the associations summarized here (compiled from the annual reports of the associations' secretaries to headquarters) is by no means comprehensive, but emphasizes new or expanded efforts.

Questions about organizing new associations or chartering existing ones should be addressed to Linda Surles at the Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Awards to High School Students

The **Greater Houston** association raised a record-breaking \$193,000 at its 22nd annual ΦBK Scholarship Dinner, where the top-ranking high school senior in each of 61 area high schools received a \$2,000 scholarship. Since its founding in 1974, the association has raised more than \$1.3 million—much of it in corporate

donations—for more than 1,000 students. Fran Smith received a plaque for heading the scholarship committee for 20 years. Recipients of the association's Outstanding Alumnus Award were Harry and Macey Reasoner. Ben and Margaret Love received the Outstanding Contribution to Education Award.

Other groups targeting high school seniors include the **Omaha** association, which awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to an outstanding senior at an Omaha public high school, and the **Sarasota-Manatee** association, which gave \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds to 25 high school seniors, as well as 134 "certificates of merit."

The **Indianapolis** association awarded 16 bookstore gift certificates to high school juniors.

The **Wake County** (North Carolina) group awarded two \$100 prizes to high school participants in its writing contest.

The **Oklahoma City** association made three \$1,000 scholarship awards to high school seniors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



Students and staff at Nimitz High School in Irving, Texas, celebrate the arrival of volumes of the Library of America, a gift from the North Texas Association of Phi Beta Kappa and the Brown Foundation, sponsor of Classics in Texas.

Support from the Sheltering Institution

A number of chapter secretaries expressed particular appreciation for support from the college president or other administrative officers (e.g., **Arizona State University**, **Chatham College**, **College of St. Catherine**, **Elmira College**, **Duke University**, **Hamilton College**, **Haverford College**, **University of Michigan**, **Ripon College**, **Rockford College**, and **University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee**). At Hamilton, the college president held a dinner for 10 junior initiates and selected faculty. At the **University of California, Santa Barbara**, the College of Letters and Science provided \$400 for staff support this year and has promised \$500 for 1996-97.

For the second year, **Virginia Tech &**

State University awarded \$2,000 scholarships for the 1996-97 academic year to nine juniors inducted into the ΦBK chapter in May 1996.

At **Elmira College**, where the college president and academic vice president are both ΦBK members, more than 13 percent of the student body is recruited through a scholarship program for high school and prep school valedictorians and salutatorians. During their first week at Elmira, these students are introduced to Phi Beta Kappa at a dinner hosted by the chapter. In addition, in celebration of Elmira ΦBK chapter's 50th anniversary in 1990, the chapter initiated the chartering of Phi Eta Sigma, the national freshman honor society, on campus. Two ΦBK members serve as faculty advisers and encourage the initiates to aspire to ΦBK status. ■

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The **Chicago** association gave book awards to 73 valedictorians at Chicago public high schools (total value, \$2,000).

This year the **Phoenix** association substituted a special mailing to members who have supported the scholarship fund in the past for its annual phonathon, and raised almost as much money as before with less work. The group continues to award eight scholarships (\$600 each) to seniors in area high schools.

The **Washington, D.C., area** association awarded U.S. Savings Bonds (\$600 each at maturity) to three area high school seniors. In addition, three area students received \$500 grants for summer school, and three students received tuition credits (\$2,000 each) toward fees at George Washington University or American University.

The **Inland Empire** group attracted 192 persons to its annual luncheon to present certificates of achievement to high school seniors in the Spokane-Coeur d'Alene area who had a 4.0 grade point average (and thereby to introduce them to Phi Beta Kappa).

The **Cleveland** association attracted 410 persons to its awards banquet, where it presented a four-year scholarship (\$750 per year) to one outstanding high school senior and 130 certificates to other outstanding high school seniors.

The **Newton**, Massachusetts, association gave a \$100 book award to one senior at each of two local high schools.

Awards to High School And College Students

This year the **Southern California** association raised the value of its cash awards to 10 ΦBK initiates for graduate study (from \$1,100 each to \$2,000, for a total of \$20,000), gave a total of \$31,000 to 27 international students for graduate study, and gave \$1,000 to each of four high schools (to provide four \$250 awards at each).

The **San Diego** association increased (from two to four) the number of \$500 scholarships it awarded for graduate study by ΦBK initiates at San Diego State University and the University of California, San Diego, and increased the number of books it awarded (to outstanding juniors in the public high schools) from 41 to 48.

The **Kentuckiana** association almost doubled the number of dictionaries it awarded to high school seniors this year (from 32 to 60), thanks to the Providian Corporation, which underwrites the program. The group also awarded \$500 to April Marshall, a University of Louisville senior, for academic achievement.

Awards to College Students and Teachers

The **Northern California** association, which increased its membership last year to 1,720 (up from 1,423), also increased the number of its \$3,000 scholarships to ΦBK initiates from 10 to 12 (for a total of \$36,000). This association also made teaching awards (a certificate and \$500 each) to Richard J. Hoffman (history) and R. Rivera Pinder-Hughes (urban studies) at San Francisco State University; H. Mack Horton (East Asian languages) at the University of California, Berkeley; and Timothy J. Lukes (political science) of Santa Clara University.



Two recent graduates of Queensborough Community College, Elizabeth Anne Lyoe-Elder, left, and Jaime Lee Iolant Cohen, were the 1996 recipients of \$2,000 scholarships from the Phi Beta Kappa association of New York. Each year the association awards scholarships to a liberal arts major and a science major from a community college.

The **Denver** association awarded \$500 scholarships to two ΦBK initiates for graduate study.

Among the associations that make awards to students at neighboring colleges and universities that do not have ΦBK chapters are:

- **Northeast Florida**, which gave five \$500 scholarships toward education at the University of North Florida or Jacksonville University.

- **Pitt County** (North Carolina), which increased the number of its \$100 awards to East Carolina University graduates (from two to three) and the number of Jefferson cups awarded (from 14 to 23).

- **Coastal Georgia-Carolina**, which gave copies of Phi Beta Kappa prizewinning books to libraries of Armstrong State College, Georgia Southern University, and Savannah State College.

- **South Florida**, which gave two deserving students who had finished high school after dropping out \$250 each for books and tuition at Miami Dade Community College.

New Associations' Activities

Some 176 people attended a meeting in March 1995 called to assess interest in forming a Phi Beta Kappa association in **Atlanta**. Officers were elected and the association secretary reported 113 members in 1996.

The **Greater Tampa Bay** association began its activities with a banquet in November 1994 attended by 94 members of Phi Beta Kappa and a similar number of guests. Betty Castor, the new president of the University of South Florida, was the speaker. The group plans to award \$500 scholarships to two outstanding high school seniors at public high schools in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties beginning in 1997.

The **East Central Indiana** association sponsored a competition at the state's residential school for gifted and talented students, and made two awards of \$200 each, based on portfolios of the students' writing in the sciences and humanities.

The **Western New York** association, which was organized with 120 members in November 1994, has an impressive list of activities, including a mentor program for students in the Buffalo public schools, monthly coffee shop gatherings, general meetings with lectures, several tours, attendance at a Buffalo Philharmonic concert, and a newsletter. This year the group's Service Committee donated \$100 to the National Honor Society chapter at Seneca Vocational School, and presented \$15 bookstore gift certificates to each of the 28 members of the chapter.

Miscellaneous Awards

At its spring meeting and third annual celebration of its Excellence in Teaching program, the **Greater Milwaukee** association gave \$500 cash awards, plus plaques, to two high school teachers judged to have "best furthered ΦBK ideals and mission."

Some 250 persons attended a dinner in honor of Tinsley E. Yarbrough, 1995 Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor at East Carolina University, who won the **Pitt County** association's Distinguished Professor Award.

The **Southwestern Michigan** association awarded \$20 gift certificates from a regional bookseller to 11 high school seniors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The **North Texas** group sponsored essay competitions at high schools in two school districts, awarding a \$1,000 first prize and a \$500 second prize in each district.

The **Charleston** (West Virginia) association gave \$50 awards for books to 13 high school valedictorians.

Miscellaneous Activities

The **San Diego** association continued its biweekly study circles, in which a dozen or so members discuss books studied by the group, and attended occasional cultural events related to the topics for this year: literature and modern art. The association also sponsored three "Sunday Salons" on Chinese culture, Lafcadio Hearn, and other Westerners in Japan and India. At the annual banquet and lecture in November 1995, James W. Cobble, professor of chemistry at San Diego State University, discussed changing priorities in graduate education.

The **Chicago** group has an active bi-monthly book discussion group, meets bimonthly for potluck dinners in members' homes, and publishes a quarterly newsletter.

The **Sarasota-Manatee** group held three well-attended luncheons, including one at which David Ebitz, director of the Ringling Museum of Art, was the speaker. The **Washington, D.C., area** group held six luncheon or dinner meetings with speakers on topics ranging from medicine in the ancient world to the restoration of historical portraits.

The **Denver** group sponsored a picnic, two field trips (to a dress rehearsal of *The Flying Dutchman* and to NORAD), and four other meetings with lectures. The **Kentuckiana** group also sponsored a picnic, as well as two lectures this year.

About 45 persons visited the Harriet Beecher Stowe House and attended each of two dinner meetings with speakers sponsored by the **Greater Hartford** group.

The **Northern California** association's monthly activities included a variety of museum tours and a winery tour.

The **Scarsdale/Westchester** association holds four or five dinner meetings with discussions each year.

Members of the **Minneapolis** association visited an inner-city high school to learn from the teachers and students what is being done to encourage academic excellence there.

The **Delaware Valley** association compiled a directory of its members, which it distributed free.

Phi Beta Kappa In the News

October Symposium Reported in *Chronicle*, *USA Today*

Phi Beta Kappa's symposium on the future of the Society, held October 26, 1996, at Hunter College in New York, was briefly summarized in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (Nov. 8) and *USA Today* (Nov. 6).

Writing in the *Chronicle*, Mary Geraghty reported substantial support at the meeting for the view that Phi Beta Kappa "might not survive if it simply continued to sponsor programs primarily for its own members and quietly to invite top students to join each year." She noted that many who attended the meeting "said the group should increase its visibility in high schools, through such activities as sponsoring scholarships, as well as on college campuses," and "should seek more opportunities to support and improve liberal arts education."

Although the Society's national president, Charles Blitzer, was quoted as saying that "we are not in a position to undertake directly any new national initiatives," Geraghty noted that Blitzer "did endorse the idea of changing the Society's governing board, the ΦBK Senate, to make it more representative of the membership. All but one [sic] of the 24 senators work in academe, even though only 10 percent of the Society's 450,000 members are academics."

USA Today writer Mary Beth Marklein reported that people who attended the symposium had also suggested increasing the Society's visibility "by creating a Web page and by identifying promising first-year students." She also reported support for working with the public high schools and expanding existing scholarship programs.

Washington Times Recaps ΦBK Acceptance Story

In an article titled "More Achievers Say 'No, Thanks' to Phi Beta Kappa" (Nov. 11), *Washington Times* writer Carol Innerst reported conflicting views on whether anti-elitism was an important factor on university campuses where some invitees were not accepting membership in Phi Beta Kappa. Lynn Pasquella, president of the chapter at the University of Rhode Island, was quoted as

ΦBK Senators Dove, Gregorian Make News

In December, Rita Dove, professor of English at the University of Virginia and former U.S. poet laureate, received the \$250,000 Heinz Award in the Arts and Humanities for 1996. In January, she received a 1996 Frankel Prize, the highest official recognition in the United States for leadership in the humanities, which carries a cash award of \$5,000.

Also in January, Vartan Gregorian was named president of the Carnegie Foundation. He will leave the presidency of Brown University in July.

saying, "Often first-generation college students are under enormous pressure to downplay their academic achievements, or there's a sense of exclusion from the community when they go back home." In contrast, Cheryl A. Foster, secretary of the same chapter, said, "The elitist charge . . . comes from faculty" not students, who are often ignorant about the organization.

Alice Tan, a 1993 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and first-generation American, told the *Times*, "At first I didn't know what it was. Fortunately, my roommate had been one the previous year and I realized it was a great honor." Tan went on, "*Elitist* to me suggests exclusivity based on class or financial status, and I don't think that is what Phi Beta Kappa is about. It recognizes students who worked hard at a university and went out of their way to make the most of their educational experience."

Tan expressed the hope that Phi Beta Kappa would do more outreach. "The charter says its mission is to recognize and foster academic excellence. It's clear that we recognize, because we hand out gold keys. But how are we fostering it?"

Richard F. Ellis, secretary of the chapter at the University of Maryland at College Park, told the *Times* that he had never known of a student to decline membership because the organization is "elite," but that he has had applications for membership from a number of students who had not been invited, and appeals to join from some graduates who had rejected membership in the 1970s and 1980s.

Innerst briefly mentioned the October symposium in New York and quoted the national ΦBK secretary, Douglas Foard, as saying that the Society will probably begin efforts to educate precollegiate groups about the mission and meaning of Phi Beta Kappa.

ΦBK Association Secretaries, 1996-97

Alabama

- * Northeast Alabama—Dr. George E. Whitesel, 907 Second St. NE, Jacksonville, AL 36265.
- * Southeast Alabama—Dr. Emma Coburn Norris, 1857 Galena Ave., Montgomery, AL 36106-1909.

Arizona

- * Phoenix Area—Mrs. Doris Krigbaum, 1230 E. Loyola Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282.

California

- * Northern California—Dr. Madeleine Babin, 50 Kevin Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5427.
- * San Diego—Ms. Marjeta D. Six, 3326 Calavo Dr., Spring Valley, CA 91978.
- * Southern California—Mrs. Virginia L. Hornak, 5034 Palomar Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356.

Colorado

- * Denver—Ms. Adrienne Bendel, 582 S. Carr St., Lakewood, CO 80226

Connecticut

- * Greater Hartford—Ms. Marilyn Pet, 235 E. River Dr., #1601, East Hartford, CT 06108.

District of Columbia

- * District of Columbia Area (Washington, southern Maryland, and northern Virginia)—Mrs. Suzanne Smith Sundburg, 1317 Fort Myer Dr., Arlington, VA 22209.

Florida

- * Northeast Florida—Prof. John Garrigus, Department of History, Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, FL 32211-3394.
- * Sarasota-Manatee—Mrs. Martha G. Fleming, 3885 El Poinier Ct., Sarasota, FL 34232.
- * South Florida—Mrs. Agneta C. Heldt, 3024 Kirk St., Miami, FL 33133.
- Tampa Bay—Prof. James B. Halsted, Department of Criminology, University of South Florida, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., SOC 107, Tampa, FL 33620-8100.

Georgia-Carolina

- Atlanta—Dr. Karina L. Miller, 1956 River Forest Rd., Atlanta, GA 30327.
- * Coastal Georgia-Carolina—Dr. George B. Pruden, 13 Old Mill Ct., Savannah, GA 31419-2824.

Illinois

- * Chicago—Dr. Esther Sprenkel Segel, P.O. Box 64-2622, Chicago, IL 60664-2622.
- * East Central Illinois—Dr. Bailey Young, History Department, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920.
- * Southern Illinois—Prof. Raymond Wacker, School of Accountancy, Southern Illinois University, Mail Code 4631, Carbondale, IL 62901.

Indiana

- East Central Indiana—Dr. James Pyle, 4301 W. University Ave., Muncie, IN 47304.

* Chartered associations. Charters are granted by the ΦBK Senate.

- * Indianapolis—Mrs. Sue Stewart, 3001 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, IN 46220.

Iowa

- * Sioux City—Mrs. Marjorie C. Meyer, 2412 Allan St., Sioux City, IA 51103.

Kentucky

- * Kentuckiana—Dr. Scott D. Johnson, 4129 Brentler Rd., Louisville, KY 40241.

Louisiana

- * Southwestern Louisiana—Dr. Mary R. Meredith, USL Box 43570, Lafayette, LA 70504.

Maryland

- Greater Baltimore—Mr. Mark T. Jensen, 3925 Keswick Rd., Baltimore, MD 21211.

Massachusetts

- Newton—Dr. James T. Barrs, 4 Bay Rd., Milford, MA 01757.

Michigan

- * Detroit—Ms. Carol Poosch Klein, 31720 Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI 48025.
- * Southwestern Michigan—Dr. Laurel Grotzinger, 2729 Mockingbird Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

Minnesota

- * Minneapolis—Mr. George A. Warp, 4824 Thomas Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55410.

Missouri-Kansas

- * Greater Kansas City—Ms. Rhonda Smiley, Ferrellgas, 1 Liberty Plaza, Liberty, MO 64068.
- * Northeast Missouri—Ms. Carol Race, Rte. 3, Orrick Rd., Kirksville, MO 63501.

Nebraska

- * Omaha—Mrs. Margaret A. Wiltse, 14017 Pierce St., Omaha, NE 68144-1633.

New Mexico

- * Los Alamos—Mrs. Rosalie Heller, 301 El Viento, Los Alamos, NM 87544.
- Southern New Mexico/El Paso—Ms. Ann P. Boylan, Rte. 1, Box 635, Anthony, NM 88021.

New York

- * Long Island—Prof. Sharon D. Abramson, Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY 11530.
- * New York—Dr. Stanley Novak, Apt. 23J, 205 West End Ave., New York, NY 10023.
- * Scarsdale / Westchester—Dr. Lloyd Raines, 29 Argyle Rd., Rye Brook, NY 10573.
- * Upper Hudson—Dr. Frances L. Allee, 24 Providence St., Albany, NY 12203.
- Western New York—Ms. Kathy Hallborg, 48 Windermere Ave., Amherst, NY 14226.

North Carolina

- Guilford County—Mrs. Ann Braxton, 7971 N.C. Hwy. 65, Summerfield, NC 27358.

- * Pitt County—Dr. Tinsley E. Yarbrough, Department of Political Science, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

- * Wake County—Ms. Sarah D. Williamson, 1801 Craig St., Raleigh, NC 27608.

Ohio

- * Cleveland—Mrs. Margaret Robinson, 2602 E. Overlook Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44106.
- * Toledo—Mr. Lyman F. Spitzer, Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, 1000 Jackson, Toledo, OH 43624.

Oklahoma

- * Oklahoma City—Ms. Elaine Thompson, 1202 Belford, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Pennsylvania

- * Delaware Valley—Mrs. Evelyn S. Udell, 124 Annasmead Rd., Ambler, PA 19002.

South Carolina

- * Piedmont Area—Dr. B. G. Stephens, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, SC 29303-3663.

Tennessee

- * Chattanooga—Prof. John D. Tinkler, 1012 Hanover St., Chattanooga, TN 37405.

Texas

- * Greater Houston—Ms. Nancy E. Garfield, 3838 Piping Rock Rd., Houston, TX 77027.
- * North Texas—Mrs. Patricia Anne Krebs Irvin, 5423 Hilton Head Dr., Dallas TX 75287.
- * San Antonio—Dr. Matthew D. Stroud, 13703 Pebble Walk, San Antonio, TX 78217.
- West Texas-Eastern New Mexico—Dr. Pamela A. Cooper, Texas Tech University, University Library, Lubbock, TX 79409-0002.

Virginia

- * Northern Virginia (see D.C. Area)
- * Richmond—Mrs. Ellen H. Massie, 12283 Mount Hermon Rd., Ashland, VA 23005.
- * Shenandoah Valley—Dr. Charles Blake, Department of Political Science, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

Washington

- * Inland Empire—Dr. John Morey Maurice, Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, WA 99220-3258.
- * Puget Sound—Mrs. Myra Lupton, P.O. Box 84103, Seattle, WA 98124.

West Virginia

- * Charleston—The Rev. W. F. Marsell Jr., 2606 Virginia Ave. SE, Charleston, WV 25304-1036.

Wisconsin

- * Greater Milwaukee—Ms. Kimberly Barskaitiki, 7936 21st Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143.

Letters to the Editor

'Postculturalism'

In his essay "Welcome to Postculturalism" (Autumn 1996), Christopher Clausen claims that already "the major constituents of real cultures—family, religion, ethics, manners, impersonal criteria for distinguishing between truth and falsehood—have shrunk almost to the vanishing point as authorities over individual behavior" in the United States, and that the entire world is fast approaching this postcultural condition.

Insightful as it is, Clausen's analysis does not examine the possibility (which he himself unintentionally hints at) that his vision of a world cut loose from all moorings may well be falsely extrapolated—and we should all hope that it is. The hint lies in his opening paragraph, where he borrows Gary Chapman's reference to the "nativist, patriotic 'family values' *apparently ascendant* in the American middle class" (italics mine).

Clausen and Chapman apparently have little sympathy for this family values group, if it can be so monolithically labeled. But whether or not one sympathizes with this phenomenon, it seems clear that it is ascendant precisely because it taps into a deep need.

I believe that Clausen underestimates the forces that religion and family still represent. More important, I believe he underestimates the potential for these forces to become reinvigorated in a positive way—even in the absence of traditional, closed cultures.

Clausen might respond to my point of view, as he did to Walt Whitman's, by saying, "It would be nice to think so." I believe it is *necessary* to think so. I say this not just because most of us favor survival, but also because of the possibility that some truths are neither relative nor inherited but—dare we consider it anymore?—absolute.

At least there is some hope in this: the family religion, ethics, manners, etc., have not *yet* vanished as "authorities over individual behavior." I would challenge readers to resist the postcultural mindset, in which all guideposts for living become equally dubious, and to find ways to reinvigorate our families, churches, and other institutions that still have a profound ability to sustain us.

Marcia Rieffer Poulsen, Lodi, N.J.

Christopher Clausen replies:

"Welcome to Postculturalism" has inspired letters both from family-values

supporters who denounce its liberalism and from multiculturalists who attack its conservatism. More pleasantly, it has elicited letters of praise from readers left and right.

Ms. Poulsen's thoughtful response expresses the hope that family and religion remain stronger forces than I implied. She may be correct. There are certainly some influences working against postculturalism as I define it; whether they can reassert themselves effectively, and if so in what forms, remains to be seen.

If multiculturalists could learn that a selective tolerance is not the only conviction worth having, and if people of Ms. Poulsen's persuasion more often conceded that Christianity is not the only source of worthy values, it would be progress.

More Testimonials And Suggestions

I have followed with great interest the recent dialogues in the *Key Reporter* on the relative esteem in which Phi Beta Kappa is held by current undergraduates. Permit me to add my contribution.

Upon graduation from Rutgers College (ΦBK, 1974), I was hired at Hunterdon Central Regional High School in Flemington, N.J., and have immensely enjoyed my career there ever since. My membership in Phi Beta Kappa was viewed as a definite plus for employment, and ΦBK members who apply for positions in my department certainly get a second look, as their undergraduate record merits it.

It disturbs me to encounter periodically the anti-intellectual bent of some educators, as well as some members of the general public, who feel that public service—in the public schools, government service at all levels, or other occupations that contribute to the public good—is a second-class occupation. We do our society a disservice by encouraging our best and brightest to spurn the public schools for employment.

I suggest that the *Key Reporter* do a special issue which features ΦBK graduates who have entered the teaching ranks in the public schools, as well as other areas of public service. Such an emphasis would help display the diversity of ΦBK members' career choices, and challenge the impression that ΦBK members are an intellectual elite concerned only with life in higher education or the research community. The article on Senator Richard

Lugar in the Autumn 1996 *Key Reporter* is a fine example of this approach. . . .

William R. Fernekes, Flemington, N.J.

As a newer member of Phi Beta Kappa [Kenyon College, 1990], I believe the reason why younger members perceive ΦBK membership so differently from older members is due in part to the way college graduates now secure jobs. Internships are weighed more heavily than course work; extracurriculars are seen to be more revealing about personality traits than exceptional grades. With this emphasis on practical experience over academic performance, it should come as no surprise that a distinction, even one as noteworthy as ΦBK membership, is valued mostly as a time- and place-specific recognition and not as a key to future success.

Clearly, the fundamental question of this entire debate is one of reputation and image. If Phi Beta Kappa wishes to transform its reputation in the minds of young and future members, it will need to boost its role not only within the academic community (engage in activities above and beyond the induction ceremony) but also, and perhaps more important, step up its involvement with the nonacademic community as well.

In a world where interactivity and involvement are highly prized and a "what have you done for me lately" attitude prevails, Phi Beta Kappa would not be wise to rest on its laurels.

Melissa A. W. Stickney, Bay Village, Ohio

The summer 1996 issue of the *Key Reporter* asked people when and where they wore their ΦBK keys. I wear mine [University of New Hampshire, 1956] on a gold bracelet as part of my working outfit. I work in the public health sector surveying medical laboratories for compliance with federal regulations. My surveys include laboratory work performed in doctors' offices.

Laboratory regulation is relatively new to physicians, who bitterly opposed the legislation and therefore are often hostile to my presence. Many physicians have ΦBK keys and display their certificates along with their medical credentials. I find that there is a distinct change of attitude if I refer to my membership, for it is hard to be hostile to someone who shares an equal distinction. They may still view me as an intrusion but I'm a smart intrusion.

Sylvia Miskoe, Concord, N.H.

Editor's note: More responses to the query about key wearing will appear in the next issue, along with more listings of multigeneration ΦBK families.

RECOMMENDED READING

BOOK COMMITTEE

Humanities: Svetlana Alpers, Frederick J. Crosson, Michael Griffith, Simon McVeigh, Robert P. Sonkowsky, Eugen Weber

Social Sciences: Louis R. Harlan, Thomas McNaugher, Catherine E. Rudder, Anna J. Schwartz

Natural Sciences: Ronald Geballe, Russell B. Stevens

Michael Griffith

The Size of Thoughts: Essays and Other Lumber. Nicholson Baker. Random House, 1996. \$25.

Baker's essays on the obscure or picaresque are a delight, whether he's mounting a quixotic defense of the old card catalog ("Discards"), explaining the mechanical intricacies of showing films ("The Projector"), poring over mail-order ads in which books appear as props ("Books as Furniture"), or romping through "The History of Punctuation." He writes with extraordinary resourcefulness and charm, managing to be both finicky and scatological, often simultaneously.

There are weaker pieces: a wedding toast, a recipe, two bits of unaltered detritus from his novel-writing. But self-indulgence is the essence of Baker's art. I can think of no writer so minutely attuned or enthusiastically devoted to the way his synapses fire, to following his every velleity to see where it leads, narrating all the while. Baker takes great joy in his habits of mind; and when the mind is as versatile and ingenious as his, the reader can share—albeit with the embarrassments of intimacy—his enthusiasm.

Ship Fever and Other Stories. Andrea Barrett. Norton, 1996. \$21.

These are intricately imagined, impeccably written stories, most of which use science and scientists as their milieu. In the dazzling "English Pupil," Barrett shows us an aged Carolus Linnaeus—the great champion of taxonomy—battling the sudden encroachments of disorder as his memory fails. It's a premise handled with delicacy and empathy. The collection's centerpiece is the title novella, in which a young Canadian doctor cares for refugees from the Irish famine of the mid-1840s at a remote quarantine outpost on the St. Lawrence River. Barrett heartbreakingly details the effects of typhus and starvation, along with the gruesome conditions that produce them, but the story isn't merely history in the dress of fiction: Lauchlin is a fascinating character, and the reader suffers along with him

not only amid the horrors of Gross Isle but in his private life as well. *Ship Fever* recently won the National Book Award for fiction.

Large Animals in Everyday Life. Wendy Brenner. Univ. of Georgia, 1996. \$22.95.

These clever fictions about young women groping through various weirdnesses toward the equivocal promise of "adulthood" put one in mind both of Lorrie Moore (in their focus, and in Brenner's expert use of pop icons) and of Padgett Powell (in the constant stream of well-orchestrated bizarrerie). The stories range from "I Am the Bear," in which a woman dressed as a polar bear glad-hands kids in a grocery store's freezer section and learns a hard lesson about androgyny; to "The Child" and "Success Story," perhaps the most conventional pieces here, and both excellent; to "The Oysters," an unorthodox tale narrated in part by oysters and strawberries. The book is uneven: some stories ("The Round Bar," for instance) turn on unanchored absurdities, and Brenner occasionally resists closure a bit too resolutely. But she writes, in this auspicious debut, with grace and brio.

Free City. Eric Darton. Norton, 1996. \$18.

Darton's first novel is a cautionary tale about science and capitalism set in a mercantile European city during the Enlightenment's beginnings. It consists of 40 days of ever more frantic journal entries by an inventor named L., telling of his attempts to thwart his patron and rival, Roberto, a Faustian figure who aims to make technology serve his dreams of dominion. In summary this sounds ponderous, but the delight of this book is in its exuberant language, its archaisms and coinages ("I am torn in twain, thrain, and quatrain!"), and in its wondrous characters. These include L.'s famulus, Adela, an herbalist prone to sinister visions; elaborate E. T. A. Hoffmann-style automata; and L.'s co-conspirator, Friedrich, a duck—one of Roberto's pet projects—who resents his master for having taught him several languages, thereby alienating

him from his brethren: the other waterfowl now seem hopelessly dim. The brief novel is a bit underdeveloped, and a few sesquipedalian words recur too often for comfort (undercutting the reader's sense that the diction's dazzle is spontaneous), but this is a very impressive debut.

Derby Dugan's Depression Funnies. Tom De Haven. Holt, 1996. \$23.

The narrator of De Haven's third novel is Al Bready, a prolific writer of comic strips and pulp novels. He handles the dialogue on "Derby Dugan," a very successful strip inked by its creator, the likable misanthrope Walter Geebus. When Geebus is hospitalized after a stroke, there's a mad scramble to fill the void, and Al—in his scrappy, amused, ironical way—tries to muddle through and preserve "Derby." De Haven's version of '30s New York is marvelous: brisk, hyperkinetic, filled with vivid talk and characters.

But the wisecracking humor conceals (imperfectly) an element of darkness, cynicism, desperation: we learn about the murder that broke up Al's family; about the ambitious understudy who tried to kill Geebus with arsenic; about the hard-living, captious world of cartooning, where suicides, dirty tricks, and *Schadenfreude* were common. De Haven's affectionate portrait of the golden age of comics works like the best of those serial strips: beneath the bright, cartoonish fun is a powerful sense of the dangers that lurk—violence, unhappiness, betrayal.

Louis R. Harlan

George Eastman: A Biography. By Elizabeth Brayer. Johns Hopkins, 1996. \$39.95.

George Eastman was a most important figure of the early American industrial era—an inventor, businessman, and major contributor to qualitative improvement in the photographic and film industry. He has long deserved a well-researched biography that could explain photographic technology to lay readers; evaluate Eastman's business practices; give an account of Eastman's thoughtful philanthropic contributions to the University of Rochester, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Tuskegee Institute (now University); and explain his decisive influence on countless lives in Rochester and elsewhere.

This fat volume goes a long way toward meeting these needs, though its explanation of the technology of evolving photographic processes leaves something to be desired. The rich social and family life

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

RECOMMENDED READING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

of this bachelor genius is fully and interestingly presented, but the account of business decision making is too cluttered with detail, and we learn more about Eastman's eagerness to spend all his accumulated wealth in his lifetime than about the effect of his donations on his favored institutions. The book would have benefited from more vigorous editing.

Natives and Strangers: A Multicultural History of Americans. By Leonard Dinnerstein, Roger L. Nichols, and David M. Reimers. Oxford, rev. ed., 1996. \$25.

The three authors are experts on one or more aspects of American ethnic and racial diversity. They succeed rather well in their effort to place immigrants, American Indians, and African Americans within the broad evolutionary development of American society. Beginning with the string of tiny, isolated colonial settlements along the East Coast, they show how whites interacted with Africans and American Indians in each of five periods, and how immigration was central to national social, economic, and political development in each period.

Although one of the authors' purposes is to integrate the experiences of racial, religious, and national minorities to explain our uniquely hybrid modern American culture, friction between minorities and the majority is also a theme. This is a good primer for coming to understand how the struggle for equality that epitomizes the American national ideal is more complex and perplexing than simply *e pluribus unum*.

Walt Whitman's America: A Cultural Biography. By David S. Reynolds. Knopf, 1995. \$35; paper, 1996, \$19.

"I contain multitudes," wrote Walt Whitman in *Leaves of Grass*. This biography is a valuable addition to the already large Whitman literature because it shows how he became young America's quintessential poet. It traces the many uniquely American cultural and social strands of the mid-19th century that Whitman absorbed and that shaped his thought, feeling, and writings. Although he was an Easterner who lived most of his life in Brooklyn, Manhattan, New Jersey, and Washington, he soaked up the ideas, movements, and fads of his day—spiritualism, Civil War patriotism, melodrama, mesmerism and music, free love and homoeroticism.

The poet of democracy also contradictorily shared the white racism of his time

and place. The multitudes he contained changed over time as the country and its cultural currents changed, as the biographer shows through the subtly changed content of successive editions of *Leaves of Grass* and Whitman's later writings. In his last years, Whitman moved toward conservatism and even self-parody.

Trolley Wars: Streetcar Workers on the Line. By Scott Molloy. Smithsonian, 1996. \$36.50.

Molloy combines labor history with the history of technology in this account of the first mass transit systems in the compact, highly urbanized state of Rhode Island. The Civil War greatly stimulated Rhode Island's burgeoning textile and other industries. To move its expanding population between home and work, horsecar companies arose as "the people's carriages." Middle-class suburbs arose, and the classes rubbed elbows on the horsecars. The horsecar companies were locally owned and paid their conductors well for their 14- to 16-hour days. Conductors often served for decades on the same route and established close personal rapport with regular passengers.

All that began to change in the 1880s. Electrification, monopoly control, outside ownership, and alliance with the corrupt Republican political machine transformed this benign industry into an

oppressive monster. Electric trolleys moved faster than horsecars, but there were more accidents and worsening relations with both the labor force and the public. Growing labor tension led to unionization, a 10-hour law that the Union Railroad refused to comply with, and a long, violent strike in 1902. Because the company was identified with the political machine, the public took the side of the strikers. In the end, however, the strike collapsed and many strikers lost their jobs. Calls for public ownership never materialized, and the machine remained in power until the 1930s. The research is thorough and the story is presented in all of its complexity, but the author should have given the reader more guidance through the maze, and a few maps would have helped. The book seems overpriced for 238 pages.

Ronald Geballe

Marie Curie. Susan Quinn. Addison-Wesley, 1995. \$16.

Since the biography of Marie Curie by her daughter Eve, published in 1937, there has been no major attempt to deal with the life of this renowned scientist, winner of two Nobel prizes. Quinn states that her intent has been to present evidence that Curie was "not just a singular, exceptional woman (although she was indeed that) but also a woman who

the American Scholar

Subscribe now and look for these articles in the Spring 1997 issue . . .

- Revolution in the Library, by Gertrude Himmelfarb
- Bogie in Africa, by Jeffrey Meyers
- Talcott Parsons, My Teacher, by Renée C. Fox
- Heaven's Net: The Meeting of John Donne and Johannes Kepler, by Jeremy Bernstein

. . . plus poetry, book reviews, and an essay by the *Scholar's* editor, Joseph Epstein. To subscribe, just complete and return the form below. The Spring 1997 issue will be mailed in early March.

The American Scholar / Department 12

1811 Q Street, NW • Washington, DC 20009

Please enter my subscription to the *American Scholar* (delivery of first issue: 6-8 weeks)

☐ 1 year \$25 (\$24 payment with order)

☐ 2 years \$48 (\$46 payment with order)

☐ 3 years \$69 (\$66 payment with order)

Add \$3 per year for Canadian/foreign postage.

Name

Address

City

State ZIP

☐ Payment enclosed ☐ Please bill me

experienced the same difficulties as other women with strong opinions and ambitions." Quinn gives a graphic portrayal of the constrained life of a girl and young woman with undeniable promise and determination growing up in late-19th-century Poland. As a mature woman, despite wide recognition for her accomplishments, she experienced "defeats and humiliations at the hands of the Academy of Sciences as well as the proper bourgeoisie and the outrageous right-wing press." Her personal life both with her physicist husband Pierre and after his untimely death was as passionate and dedicated as the scientific one that we are ordinarily permitted to view. Quinn has given us a carefully researched, fully rounded treatment.

Our Evolving Universe. *Malcolm S. Longair. Cambridge Univ., 1996. \$34.95.*

Although there seems no dearth of books that tell of the advances in understanding the evolution of the universe, it is worth calling to attention particularly accessible ones. Longair, on account of his distinction as an astronomer and his success as a popularizer, was invited to present the 1990 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures for Young People, a series with lineage dating back to Michael Faraday, whose lectures were the inspiration for this book. It is an account of the vast range of disciplines that underlie our present state of knowledge. The account is a pleasing one, told clearly, with many helpful illustrations. At the end, Longair recapitulates by citing what he takes to be nine facts of cosmology and four great remaining problems.

Creations of Fire. *Cathy Cobb and Harold Goldwhite. Plenum, 1995. \$28.95.*

To quote the authors, this is "a humanized history of chemistry; one that tracks social history along with chemical history and portrays the personalities of the people creating the history as well as the events themselves." Their work is divided into three main sections, from 100,000 B.C.E. to the late 1700s, from the beginning of chemistry as a science in the 1700s to World War I, and the current period based on the effects on chemistry of the quantum physics that began with the 20th century. Far from being a technical work, this book covers well the diversity of cultures, climates, personalities, and locales in which chemical knowledge has been gained.

Newton's *Principia* for the Common Reader. *S. Chandrasekhar. Clarendon/Oxford, 1995. \$120.*

Newton's stream of thought in his great intellectual achievement is almost

impossible for everyone today, physicist or otherwise, to follow because his demonstrations are couched mostly in geometrical language, a tongue abstruse for us because we have neglected it in favor of the more direct language of calculus (which, of course, we owe to Newton and his rival Leibniz). The eminent scientist Chandrasekhar, recently deceased, received the Nobel award in 1983 for studies of astrophysics and other phenomena. In these studies he necessarily developed a profound knowledge of and admiration for Newton's work. For a decade in his later life, he analyzed the *Principia*, constructing modern versions of the proofs and convoluted discussions that led Newton to the formulation of the universal law of gravitation. Chandrasekhar has given us a work that, as he states, "cannot substantially differ from what any other serious student can construct," but we should be grateful that he has done this monumental task for us.

Anna J. Schwartz

International Monetary Cooperation since Bretton Woods. *Harold James. International Monetary Fund and Oxford, 1996. \$45.*

Commissioned by the IMF to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1944 conference that established the Bretton Woods international monetary system, this study is outstanding for its readability and detailed coverage of the period, until 1971, of pegged exchange rates and the subsequent disparate experience of managed floating exchange rates and European efforts to fix them en route to a single currency. Even a reader conversant with much of this history will find the author's discussion informative. James offers mainstream views on the developments he examines, some of which are critical of the IMF's performance. He does not allude to research that both challenges those views and questions the *raison d'être* of international institutions.

Accounting for Tastes. *Gary Becker. Harvard, 1996. \$35.*

Readers of this collection of essays will learn some of the ways in which Becker has expanded the scope of economics. In a dozen chapters, divided into two parts, on personal capital and social capital, the Nobel laureate explains his views on how tastes are formed and how they affect consumption. The normal approach to preferences in economics ignores experience and social forces. Becker retains the assumption that individuals behave so as to maximize utility, but extends "the

definition of individual preferences to include personal habits and addictions, peer pressure, parental influences on the tastes of children, advertising, love and sympathy, and other neglected behavior." These influences are summarized in two stocks that are part of the total stock of human capital: personal capital and social capital. People's behavior responds not only to the goods and services offered for sale, and to the prices at which they sell, but also to the effects of advertising, peer pressure, and social and cultural experiences. If personal and social capital stocks rise or fall, future consumption will change.

Chapter 7, "The Economic Way of Looking at Life," is a revision of the Nobel lecture that Becker delivered in Stockholm in December 1992. It covers four topics that illustrate Becker's formulation of individual preferences in his economic analysis of social issues: discrimination against minorities; crime and punishment; human capital; formation, dissolution, and structure of families.

THE KEY REPORTER

volume 62 □ number two
□ winter 1996-97

Editor: Priscilla S. Taylor

Consulting Editor:
Douglas W. Foard

The Key Reporter (ISSN: 0023-0804) is published quarterly by the Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C., and additional offices.

This newsletter is distributed free each quarter to every member of Phi Beta Kappa for whom we have a current address. No responsibility is assumed for views expressed in articles published.

Letters to the editor are welcome; those selected for publication will be edited and condensed as necessary.

For nonmembers, single copies are available for \$2; one year's subscription is \$5. Printed by the William Byrd Press, Inc.

Copyright © 1997 by the Phi Beta Kappa Society. All rights are reserved. The Phi Beta Kappa name and key are registered trademarks of the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Postmaster: Send change-of-address notices to: *The Key Reporter*, Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street NW, Washington, DC 20009-1696.

Phi Beta Kappa Installs New Computer System

In December 1996 the Society installed a new \$400,000 computer system based on a combination of Microsoft's Windows and the iMIS association management system. Although the Society's records have been computerized since the 1970s, the new system will enable all chapter, association, and member records to be on a database driven by the Windows NT operating system. The Society expects to open a Web site and to publicize e-mail addresses in the spring.

For the record, each year the names of about 15,000 to 16,000 new initiates are added to our rolls (the number increases each triennium, as new chapters are admitted), and some 5,000 members' names are moved to our "lost" files because their mail is returned with no forwarding address. Each year also an undetermined number (substantially fewer than 5,000) are moved to the "deceased" file.

Last year more than 10,000 names that had been in our "lost" file were restored to the active file as chapters supplied current addresses for their members.

Former Reviewer Count Dies

Earl W. Count, who reviewed books on anthropology for the *Key Reporter* for four decades, died on November 22, 1996, in Walnut Creek, Calif. For more than two decades he headed the anthropology department at Hamilton College; he spoke and wrote in 10 languages.



Photo by Cutty McGill

Beverly Sills, head of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, right, received the ninth annual ΦBK Associates Award at the group's banquet in New York City on October 26, 1996. Jane Alexander, head of the National Endowment for the Arts, gave the principal address at the banquet, which took place at the American Museum of Natural History.

Glymour to Give Romanell-ΦBK Lectures At Carnegie Mellon in Early April

Three lectures on the history of the theory of relativity and Pittsburgh's association with it will be given on April 2, 3, and 7 by Clark Glymour, the alumni professor of philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University and Romanell-Phi Beta Kappa Professor of Philosophy for 1996-97. Glymour's lectures, which will be presented at Carnegie Mellon, are open to the public. For details, telephone Vanessa

Calvin at (412) 268-1077, or e-mail her at tango@andrew.cmu.edu.

The Romanell-ΦBK professorship, established in 1984, recognizes the recipient's "distinguished achievement and potential contribution to the public understanding of philosophy" and carries a stipend of \$6,000.

The winner of the professorship for 1997-98 is Susan Haack, professor of philosophy at the University of Miami.

THE KEY REPORTER

PHI BETA KAPPA
1811 Q Street NW
Washington, DC 20009-1696

Tel: (202) 265-3808
Fax: (202) 986-1601

Periodicals Postage
PAID
at Washington, D.C.,
and additional entries