

American Indian Libraries Newsletter



Volume XI, Number 2

Fall/Winter 1987

ISSN 0139-8207

FROM THE EDITORS

Kathy Kaya and Debby Schaeffer are the new editors of this newsletter. Many thanks go to our predecessor, Tom Blumer, for a job well done.

In order to bring you a newsletter that is of interest and relevant, we'd appreciate your submitting articles and news items you'd like to share with colleagues. You might also suggest information needs or interests for us to follow up.

One final request: Our mailing list is badly in need of revision. Please complete the form on page three and return to us. There is no charge to receive the newsletter. Please feel free to photocopy the form for anyone interested.

Our address is: Reference Department, MSU Libraries, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717. Phone: Kathy at (406) 994-5296 and Debby at (406) 994-5298.

1990 CENSUS INFO

John M. Ortiz
U.S. Bureau of Census

For the 1990 Census, the Census Bureau is planning a number of activities to provide accurate and important information about American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts.

Each housing unit in the country will receive one of two versions of the 1990 Census questionnaire: a short-form questionnaire containing a limited number of basic population and housing questions or a long-form questionnaire containing these basic questions as well as a number of additional population questions. In both forms, however, persons reporting in the categories "Indian (Amer.)," "Eskimo," or "Aleut" in the race item will be counted as such in the 1990 Census. American Indians will be asked to report the name of their enrolled or principal tribe.

In the area of tabulation, 1990 Census will provide data on American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts for the following geographic areas: United States, cities, counties, and statistical areas, including reservation and off-reservation trust lands, Tribal Jurisdiction Statistical Areas in Oklahoma, Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas, and Alaska Native Regional Corporations.

As part of the 1990 Census outreach effort, special activities are being undertaken to promote American Indian and Alaska Native cooperation with the 1990 Census. During the period of May 1985-September 1986, the Census Bureau conducted 12 regional meetings with representatives of urban American Indian organizations and tribal and village governments to inform them of 1990 Census plans and to obtain their advice on local situations and unique needs of

their respective areas. Similarly, the Department of Commerce chartered the 1990 Census Advisory Committee on the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations which was established to provide an organized and continuing channel of communication between the American Indian and Alaska Native community and the Census Bureau on the problems and opportunities of the 1990 Census. Moreover, in 1987, Census Bureau asked American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages to serve as the primary contact with the Census Bureau on the 1990 Census. This liaison will provide a direct line of communication between the tribes, villages, and the Census Bureau to raise awareness of the importance of the 1990 Census among American Indians and Alaska Natives, increase the participation of American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages, in the 1990 Census, and provide feedback to the Census Bureau on local situations in the American Indian and Alaska Native communities that could affect the 1990 Census.

If there are any questions on 1990 Census plans, please contact: John M. Ortiz, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Data User Services Division, Washington, D.C. 20233; (301) 763-1384.

The American Indian Libraries Newsletter is published quarterly by the ALA OLOS Committee on Library Service for American Indian People, Janice M. Beaudin (Winnebago), Chairperson. The Newsletter editors: Kathy Kaya and Debby Schaeffer. Subscriptions and address changes should be sent to Director, OLOS, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 944-6780. Manuscripts and letters pertaining to editorial content should be sent to Kathy Kaya and Debby Schaeffer, Reference Department, MSU Libraries, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717. SUBSCRIPTION RATES ARE: \$5.00 (individuals); \$7.00 (libraries, institutions, agencies); \$10.00 (foreign/overseas); \$2.00 (each back copy).

THE AMERICAN INDIAN AND THE CYLINDER PHONOGRAPH

From 1890 to 1942, the cylinder phonograph was used by ethnographers, travelers, and other interested researchers to record live performances of Native American music and spoken word in the field while many traditions were still actively practiced and taught. Like other historical documents, the cylinders have a special significance for communities struggling to regain lost or forgotten aspects of their cultural heritage. Until recently, however, many collections lay forgotten and neglected in storage at public and private agencies.

In response to increasing concern about these valuable materials, the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress launched the Federal Cylinder Project in 1979 to coordinate the preservation and duplication of wax cylinder recordings, especially those located in various federal agencies throughout the country. The Federal Cylinder Project has begun distributing copies of the recordings of Native Americans to the communities in which they were originally recorded. The dissemination of electronically filtered cassette copies has been made possible by a grant from The Ford Foundation. For more information, please contact: Dorothy Sara Lee, Director, Federal Cylinder Project, American Folklife Center, The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540; (202) 287-6590.

PUBLISHERS & DEALERS

Tom Lippert
American Indian
Resource Center
Los Angeles County
Public Library

The American Indian Resource Center of the Los Angeles County Public Library purchases books from seventy publishers and dealers, all of which send catalogs. If you would like a list of names and addresses of these publishers and

dealers, please contact: Tom Lippert, Librarian, American Indian Resource Center, 6518 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, CA 90255; (213) 583-1461.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR OLOS

Effective February 8, Sibyl Elizabeth Moses will be the Director of the Office for Library Outreach Services (OLOS). Moses' most recent position with the New York Public Library was as librarian in the Economic and Public Affairs Division. In this position, Moses also served on the Research Libraries Council's Legislative Relations Committee, lobbying legislative officials. She was also the project archivist at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

AIIA sends a warm welcome to Ms. Moses!

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING
DISSERTATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Bobby Wright, the new head of the Center for Native American Studies at Montana State University (Bozeman), has been awarded the 1987 Award for the Outstanding Dissertation in Higher Education, the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

The award was given for Wright's doctoral thesis, "Piety, Politics and Profit: American Indian Missions in the Colonial Colleges." The study examines 17th and 18th Century Indian missions in the colleges of Dartmouth, William and Mary, and Harvard. In addition, he looked at the ill-fated Henrico College, which, despite substantial endowment of land and capital, was never established. These colleges were founded, in part, with money donated to educate American Indians in the hope of converting them to Christianity.

But Wright found that most often the money collected to further the education and religious conversion of Indians was used to fund other projects, such as paying for the passage of immigrants, for the founding of an ironworks, or to construct buildings which never served Indian students.

"With relatively few Indians in higher education today, I just supposed that these efforts were not as sincere as they were assumed to be," said Wright.

With relatively little institutional commitment to advancing Indian higher education even today, I suspected that the colonial efforts were not as pious and sincere as they professed to be," said Wright. The Indian College at Harvard, during 40 years of existence, graduated only one Indian, and he died within a year of receiving his bache-

YES I WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING AMERICAN INDIAN LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: () _____

lor's degree. The College of William and Mary had similar results after 80 years in existence, even though its Indian program had been generously funded.

Instead of assuming that the colonial administrators motives were always pious, Wright looked at documents detailing how the funds contributed for Indian education were spent. The charity was most often spent for projects other than Indian education. Based on how the funds were used, Wright documented economic and political motives in addition to the pious motives which were always cited.

Wright also found that besides the limitations due to this financial mismanagement, there was a persistence of Indian cultural patterns and religion. Only when war and disease had disrupted the tribes did Colonial Indians begin to embrace Christianity.

To prepare his thesis, Wright spent a quarter at the College of William and Mary, and several months at the Newberry Library in Chicago.

"I never knew as my research went from one institution to another whether my thesis would be upheld by the evidence. I could not be sure that the story would be the same across institutions and over two centuries," said Wright.

Wright is a Chippewa-Cree from the Rocky Boy Reservation. He received his doctorate in adult and higher education from Montana State University. Wright said that he is the only one of six children to even graduate from high school.

"I give a lot of credit to my Mom for encouraging and supporting me in my higher education," he said. His parents are Antonio and Mary Jane Rego, who now live in Longmont, Colorado.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
50 EAST HURON STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60611