

# Telluride Newsletter

1984 January

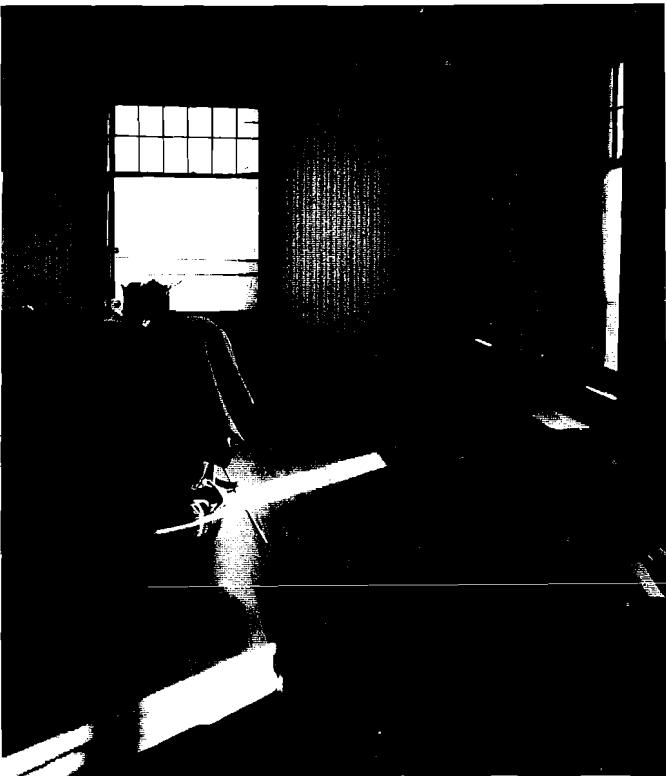
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## The Fall House

This fall's House faces a striking dichotomy of old and new housemembers. Since new members constitute nearly half of all Cornell Branch members (13 of 28), not only have their concerns as newcomers been particularly evident, but old housemembers have also had to adjust to an essentially new House. New members have challenged Telluride traditions, often learning very quickly the meaning and utility of these traditions from more experienced housemembers. Meanwhile, older housemembers have discovered new approaches to the tried-and-true through the fresh perspectives of first term housemembers. New members have brought to the House a real concern with and commitment to improving personal relations within the House as well as revitalizing established modes of intellectual interaction, such as public speaking.

The two most debated issues in housemeeting this semester were concern over the House not functioning well as a social community, and the blurb issue. Some new housemembers thought the House had a cold, reserved atmosphere, though they found it difficult to cite particular instances. Fortunately, things have loosened up and most of us feel better now. With the approach of fall semester blurb, debate also broke out about how to improve the process. Some housemembers doubted whether BlurbCom could be fair and accurate and questioned the validity of the criteria that would be used. But an advisory motion failed in spite of the fact that it mainly restated the existing means for input that housemembers have into the blurb process. In the end, three new housemembers were elected to serve on BlurbCom, in addition to its traditional membership.

Ideas and intellectual interchange remain important here. Some common topics of discussion: feminist issues and abortion, science and public policy, and national and international politics. Public speaking sparked off some of this discussion. So did our short-term visitors. Former Telluride Arnold Ben-



Late fall: The striped room's new stripes

nett (CB58) showed us his Emmy-nominated documentary on censorship in America. Political economist Amiya Bagchi from the University of Calcutta and social psychologist P.G. Klandermans from the Free University of Amsterdam gave us their international perspectives.

This semester the House has taken an interest in the theatrical arts. Housemembers have enjoyed group outings to Theatre Cornell productions and discussions with House guest Marshall Ogelsby who directed *The Crucible* for the Theatre Arts department while he stayed with us. Another House guest, Russian scholar and actor Paul Schmidt, joined housemembers Karen Amano and Michael Millette in performing a staged play reading.

Much of the dynamism of this fall's House comes from the freshman class. Perhaps the House's most vibrant member, freshman anthropology student Debi Ray-Chaudhuri (SP82 CB83) can be seen (and often heard) giving Kung Fu lessons to both willing and unwilling housemembers. One of Debi's most avid pupils is fellow freshman David Porter (SP82 CB83) whose varied academic interests include French literature. Laura Lombardi (SP82 CB83) from Rome, Italy studies biology, chemistry, women's studies, and Javanese and modern dance. She recently performed in a student-choreographed modern dance production on campus. Louisa Coan (SP82 CB83) has spent a very busy semester as a member of Cornell's varsity field hockey team while keeping up with Telluride and demanding classes like intensive Chinese. The House's freshman class is rounded out by the late-night team of Maria Guerrero (SP82 CB83) and Michael Millette (SP82 CB83) who can be found studying at any hour of the day except during the day. Quiet



Early fall: Renovations in process

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*Current housemembers Michael Greve and Andrew Barton*

yet incisive, Maria studies biology and chemistry. Michael, famous for his impeccable and perpetual ironing, enjoys government and philosophy.

Outspoken sophomore Chris Black (CB83) pursues a major in computer science and an interest in government. Junior David Brown, a Deep Springer and a recent traveler to Southeast Asia and China, hopes to secure an independent major in political economy. Kurt Gilson (DS80 CB83), another Deep Springs refugee and the House's fun-loving unofficial handyman, is pursuing dual degrees from the Engineering School and Arts College in electrical engineering and government respectively. Spiritual leader of Telluride volleyball, senior Steven Valk (CB83), is a German area studies major with a strong interest in film. Karen Amano, who studies theatre under the guise of a comparative literature major, plans to enter the theatre professionally, as an actress. Graduate student John Morland (CB83), the Perkins fellow in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations, brings to the House his experience as an English teacher in Japan. Enigmatic comparative literature graduate student Jingyuan Zhang (CB83) of the People's Republic of China despairs her workload ("deadlines, no music!") but loves literature especially the work of Virginia Woolf.

Thanks to a creative and committed EnterCom, our parties this semester were a magical respite from a sometimes bleak social landscape. We kicked off our first party of the year with two hours of square dancing out on the front porch. It was a pleasant surprise to be outnumbered by our guests on one of the last sultry evenings of the summer. The fun ended when some thugs stole our keg taps, but hard-man Kurt Gilson caught them later when they tried to steal the kegs, and he "threw two of them into the gorge." Later in the semester, most of us donned strange costumes for the Halloween party. The visiting Board of Custodians opted not to wear the silly masks we bought them and came to the party as "normal people," something we haven't seen much of around here. In the Halloween spirit, housemember Steve Valk arranged a private screening of the movie *Psycho* so the House got terrified together. The Telluride Soccer Team under the leadership of Captain Steve

### TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

The *Telluride Newsletter* is published three times a year in Ithaca, New York.

Editor—*Nan Y. Stalnaker*

Staff—*Karen Amano, David Brown, Ahmad Majdoubeh, Michael Millette, Jennifer Pasternack*

Letters are welcome. Please write to 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, New York 14850.

Photograph credits: *M. Stefan Pazdziora*

Valk and Czar Andrew Barton (CB82 TA83) had another brilliant season with 0 wins and 6 losses. The team won a moral victory against the law school by losing to them only half as badly as last year. On a higher plane, sophomore Bernard Devin (SP81 CB82) helps us to break the chains of karma and tread the path towards universal enlightenment during his daily meditation sessions.

In the midst of all this, renovations to Telluride House have been proceeding, slowly. After months of plaster dust, varnish fumes and noise, it is now possible to begin to see the glory of Nunn's House re-emerge. The woodwork is particularly striking now that it has been refinished, and though there has been continual, not always intellectual, debate about particular colors, and the intensity, or lack of it, of the striped room's stripes, most people are pleased with the results. Yet to be added are the new light fixtures and yet to be resolved is the problem of finding furniture which can live up to the House.

The process of revitalization, thus, has been going on at all levels this fall. As in most processes of change, it has not always been comfortable but the rewards are beginning to be evident.

—Karen Amano and David Brown

## Faculty Resident Guests

### SUSAN AMUSSEN

Susan Amussen, who began her association with Telluride in 1982 when she taught a summer TASPA, has been a very visible and lively part of Telluride House as a faculty guest this fall. She came originally from New York City, and graduated from Princeton in 1976 with a B.A. in history, a member of the fourth class with undergraduate Princeton women. In 1982 she received a PhD from Brown University, developing her present interest in early modern England with emphasis on social and women's history. Following that she moved to Cornell on a two-year, post-doctoral Mellon Fellowship.

In January Susan will leave Cornell and Telluride to teach English History at Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut. Although Susan is looking forward to ending the peripatetic life she has led, ("I don't know where I come from anymore," she says), she has found the House a "friendly place to live. People are willing to talk about silly things as well as ideas." Susan added, "One of the nicest things about living at the House is that it has given me a chance to know students I would never have met otherwise." Many here have been glad to have the chance to get to know Susan, who has made a real contribution to House life this semester.



*Susan Amussen*

# Deep Springs Hosts ADSTA Alumni Reunion



Louis Assier-Andrieu

## LOUIS ASSIER-ANDRIEU

Louis Assier-Andrieu has been a visiting fellow of the Western Societies Program, Center for International Studies and a guest of the house this semester. He is an associate of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and teaches at the University of Paris, Nanterre, School of Law. His field is anthropology and the history of law. While at Cornell Louis has given several lectures, including a seminar here at Telluride entitled "Law and the Rise of Criticism: The Historical School of Jurisprudence." He has also worked on a book dealing with "theoretical issues raised by anthropological interrogations about law."

Although Louis will be glad to return to his wife Dominique and one-year-old son Jean, he is sorry to think of leaving the house. "I won't tell you, Jennifer," he said to me, "my general sentiment about these days, evenings, nights of chatting, laughter, and these emotions shared at Telluride, because to do so would force me to distance myself already, before it is time." We will all miss Louis and wish him the best of luck—and another trip to Ithaca—in the future.

—Jennifer Pasternack, CB83



Nan Stalnaker

The annual ADSTA Alumni Reunion was held at Deep Springs over the Labor Day Weekend. Forty-three alumni, and as many more other guests traveled to the ranch, with representatives from as early as the class of 1920. In addition to renewing old friendships and catching up on Deep Springs news, visitors enjoyed a number of notable events: Sunday morning, Mark Cannon (DS44), Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, gave a lecture on the Supreme Court and how it affects American life; Sunday afternoon, John Mawby (DS53), long a faculty member at Deep Springs, conducted a geology trip around the Valley accompanied by truckloads of students and alumni. Saturday evening, a community gathering in the main building was held to acquaint the alumni with the conditions at the ranch and to inform them of recent changes. Brandt Kehoe, President of Deep Springs since last June, spoke of the financial stability of the college, due in large part to the support of alumni and friends. Sue Pope, Assistant to the Deep Springs Fund-Raising Committee, noted that alumni giving of unrestricted gifts was greater than ever before. Part of the evening was given over to a discussion of the history of Deep Springs plumbing. The evening ended, suitably, with the ranch's version of home movies.

The weekend was accounted a great success. As one student reported in the *Deep Springs Newsletter*, "I actually enjoyed listening to alumni reminisce . . ."

## ADSTA Executive Committee 1984

President .....	Edwin M. Cronk
First Vice President .....	David A. Hodges
Secretary .....	L. Jackson Newell
Treasurer .....	Charles Christenson
Member-at-Large .....	Paul C. Szasz

## New Administrative Director

Welcome, Nan Stalnaker, Administrative Director as of November 1, 1983. When she began work, Nan was faced with a one-room office overloaded with furniture and machines that had to be crowded in because of ceiling repairs in the outer office. Now, two weeks later, she is settling in comfortably to the luxury of two rooms and the varied responsibilities of the position.

Nan received a B.A. in philosophy from Wheaton College in Illinois in 1963 and a PhD from Yale in 1973. Her special interest is in the philosophy of art, particularly the aesthetics of contemporary painting, and she has taught at Connecticut College, Illinois State, Ithaca College, and Cornell. She has lived in Ithaca for 12 years. Before accepting her position here at Telluride, Nan was Assistant to the Director of the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research.

Nan's husband Robert teaches philosophy at Cornell. She has two children, Tom (14) and Joanna (12).

"I find the organization itself fascinating, especially if you like obscure acronyms, and I am really enjoying Telluriders," Nan says. "I consider the intellectual life a fringe benefit, given my interests. But my main job will be to make sure the office is efficient, and at the same time personal, in the Telluride tradition."

Again, Nan, welcome and good luck.

—Jennifer Pasternack, CB83

# L.L. Nunn: The Purpose of the House

The question which lurks behind most discussions or debates at this year's House is: What are we here for? In a letter addressed to L.L. Nunn in 1910, David Wegg asked the same question. Wegg expresses his embarrassment at the fact that when people ask him what the purpose of the House is, he cannot think of a satisfactory answer: "As a result we have to give evasive replies to even those questions which we would like to answer were we able to do so."

L.L. Nunn's response to Wegg is interesting: "I hardly know the answer to make to your letter." He says that it is impossible "to state the purpose of a single life," and that the purpose of the Association cannot be "stated without narrowing it down to a falsehood." It might seem odd that a founder of an institution finds it hard to talk about the objectives of his own enterprise. But this is not surprising once we become familiar with Nunn's philosophy and examine it in the context of its origins in the American intellectual tradition.

L.L. Nunn's mind was the product of what came to be known as "the age of reform." Several nineteenth-century American intellectuals pinpointed materialism as the age's main problem and idealism as its solution. The influence of the idealism of Emerson, who was the leading reformer, remained strong throughout the century. Whether Nunn read Emerson or not (he was familiar with the German Transcendentalists, who greatly influenced Emerson), his philosophy, as evident from his writings, is Emersonian in many ways. Generally speaking, Emerson's works emphasize individual reform, especially the inner, as the basis for the universal. The impact of Emerson's ideas on nineteenth-century America was so strong that several of his contemporaries decided to implement a number of reform projects, which aimed at man's spiritual prosperity. Brook Farm, for example was established upon Emerson's delivery of "The American Scholar," a lecture in which he stressed the importance of a life of "thought and action." Another example was Bronson Alcott's school, which focused on the development of children's spiritual and intellectual potential, to arm them against the materialism of the times.

In his essays, Emerson distinguishes between man in "the degenerate" state (man as a materialistic or bodily being) and man in "the right" state. In the latter, the individual is known as "Man Thinking." Emerson describes his ideal man as the one who concerns himself with the important spiritual and intellectual questions and ignores the ways of the world. Telluride House, Nunn's reformation project, aims at strengthening and advancing the intellectual abilities of its members. Nunn wanted to bring together a group of "mature students," who will devote their attention to "the conduct of important affairs," instead of going wild "over football and shinny."

In 1880, L.L. Nunn gave an address entitled "The Moral Sense." In it he makes clear that his main concern, like Emerson's, is with man's moral sentiment. In Emersonian terms, Nunn asserts near the end of the lecture: "let the moral sense be active, and obey it. Life has times of breaking up, when every physical landmark is swept away, and the Soul is turned back upon things not seen."

Although Emerson was an eloquent preacher and philosopher, he was always aware of the limitations of language and of its inadequacy as a means of expressing the person's thoughts, beliefs, and "the inner truth." He felt uncomfortable when people asked him to explain or argue a point. The emphasis in his philosophy was on reforming the individual not by making him "talk" or "argue," but rather by encouraging him to listen, understand, and try to gain knowledge. The individual reforms himself and the world not by preaching but by "know-

ing." Nunn's philosophy is based, to a large extent, on the same principle. Telluride House aims at "broadening the field of knowledge" of its members. In one of his letters, Nunn stresses that one of the many aims of the House is to encourage its members "to know."

As an idealist (in the philosophical sense of the word) and transcendentalist, L.L. Nunn felt that he could not describe to people in specific and concrete terms the objectives of a philosophy too intuitive (and even abstract) to be pinned down so easily. Moreover, he, like other transcendentalists, was against telling others what to do. When Thoreau wrote *Walden*, for example, he stressed on the first page that he did not want others to follow *his* example, for they themselves are unique and rich in potential, and it should be left up to them to realize that potential in their own way. L.L. Nunn knew that too well. He knew that all he could do was to bring "mature students" together, provide them with an atmosphere which enables them to "think" and "know," and leave it to them to benefit from the Telluride experience each as he or she sees fit. In conclusion, I would like to say to people who *think* they know the purpose of the House and want others to follow their example, "Isn't it pretty to think so?"

—Ahmad Majdoubeh

## Looking Back: The 1970-71 House

"Members of the Branch regard themselves, and with considerable justification, as having enjoyed a good year," began the 1971 Cornell Branch Evaluation Committee's report at that year's Telluride Association Convention. Housemembers from that era are even less qualified in their praises: "the best house of my years at Telluride . . ." a number of them told this reporter. Current TA President, Jeremy Rabkin, a member of the freshman class of that year, attributed the good feeling about the 1970-71 House to a mixture of "good chemistry and extra resources." It was a year of questioning traditional Nunnian institutions, and of weighing the relative merits of formal and informal interaction in House life. It was a year of tension—of the most constructive sort—among political views ranging from classic conservative to Trotskyite. An extraordinary fresh-



Alan Bloom passes a frisbee to C. Vann Woodward circa 1970, CBTA

man class, the presence of Alan Bloom, and a live-in band were among the extra resources that, in varying degrees, had effects on the 1970-71 House.

The three graduating seniors, Tim Greening, Art Melzer and Robert Kraynak, would go on to study government or economics in some form. In fact, most of the House was involved in Government and History (the "Hist-Gov Axis") and engaged in friendly sparring with the large group studying literature. The idea that the study of history or government, and especially political theory, was an integral part of participation in a Nunnian institution, was a conviction of some housemembers, a conviction often discussed.

Professor Alan Bloom, a frequent guest that year, provided a further stimulus to discussion of political theory. Professor Bloom, a noted pupil of Leo Strauss, and editor of Plato's *Republic*, was at that time teaching a Plato class Fridays, and one on Thucydides on Saturday. Friday nights he stayed and talked at Telluride House, an opportunity that many housemembers found exciting. Bloom's commanding and vigorous personality made a strong impression on the House, and reportedly inspired some underclassmen to study government.

Meetings of the Revolutionary Marxist Caucus each Sunday afternoon in the striped room, led by housemember and economics major John Burkett, provided a forum for political discussion of a rather different nature. Among the 4-5 participants in each week's readings, there were always 2-3 housemembers, ready either to take part in the discussions, or to debate the conclusions.

Seminars were plentiful that year, partly due to CBTA's continued sponsorship of the Cornell Forum and receptions afterwards. One session by Tom Hayden reportedly showed the "fragmentation and confusion on the house left." Others were held for German philosopher Hans Gadamer and William Kunstler. Robert Faulkner, a political scientist from Boston College, and Nathan Glazer, a sociologist from Harvard, gave Acaff seminars, while Cornell students led seminars on *Tristan und Isolde* (grad housemembers Tom Darter and Dorothea Steiner), Conrad, personality, political science and "People's Peace Treaties." Guests of the house included Professor Donald Lancaster, Asian studies, Professor Donald Patterson of Oxford University, Semitic Studies, and Mr. Madugba I. Iro, a graduate student from Nigeria.

There was searching examination of the role of formal institutions and formalized life in the house. The unpleasantness of several rather severe public and semi-public debates in the Fall house by "champions" of various ideological positions, as well as a desire to be more than a formal self-governing community, contributed to a house consensus that ". . . the informal tends to be . . . compatible with the way in which the house ordinarily discovers a direction in life . . ." (Dave Retondo, 1971 Newsletter). Public speaking and FGRC receptions remained important, but in the eyes of housemembers, it was the lively and vigorous intellectual life which made the house a successful one. As a result, a reexamination of "antiquated" procedures was recommended by the house to the 1971 Convention.

*To be continued*

—Michael Millette

## James E. Baxter

Dr. James E. Baxter, DS42 CB46 TA46, and his wife, Professor Annette K. Baxter, were tragically killed when a fire swept through their home in Point-O-Woods, Fire Island on September 18. Dr. Baxter, a specialist in treating the psychological problems of patients undergoing surgery, was clinical associate professor of psychiatry at the Cornell University Medical College-Payne Whitney Clinic. He also served as associate attending psychiatrist at New York Hospital. Professor Annette Baxter was a founding member of Barnard Women's Center and of the Barnard College Archive, and was one of the early proponents of women's studies as a scholarly discipline. She held the Adolf S. & Effie Ochs Professorship in American History at Barnard College. Her work included major studies of Henry Miller, and most recently, a history of women in American society.

Dr. Baxter had a long association with Telluride dating from 1942 when he attended Deep Springs for a year. Subsequently he served as a lieutenant in the Navy, stationed in the Pacific. In 1946 he returned to Cornell Branch of Telluride, and then went on to Georgetown University School of Medicine, graduating in 1951. He was married in 1955 to Annette Kar of New York City, who at that time was teaching American Civilization at Barnard College.

At a memorial service for the couple, Robert Gatje, DS44 CB47 TA46, a close friend of the couple for almost forty years, noted that their remarkable marriage, which was both unconventional and traditional, was "the secret of their extraordinary achievements as man and woman." He went on to say "Without each other, I don't believe either could have generated that enormous surplus of love and wisdom which helped nourish all of us here today and so many others. Their homes were always open, their time so freely given to groups, to causes, but mostly to individuals." And, he added, "They gave more of themselves than we ever had time to return."

Speaking of Dr. Baxter, Dr. Marilyn Karmason, his close

associate, spoke of his enormous range of intellectual pursuits. His publications and lectures included "Psychiatry and Religion," "The Symbolism of Rene Magritte" and "Death and Grieving." Dr. Baxter was nationally known for his study and treatment of patients with severe kidney disease. Recently, with his colleague Dr. Bernard Landis, he was conducting a study of brain function in patients following open heart surgery. With other colleagues he was in process of completing a four-year study of diabetic patients, investigating the relationships between stress, insulin requirements and blood sugar levels.

As a member of the Cornell medical faculty, he organized inter-disciplinary teaching sessions and courses in psychiatry and ethics. He was involved with many programs in his local community through the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association. Dr. Karmason also recalled that "frequently Jim and Annette invited groups of medical students to their home to discuss the philosophic complexities of medicine . . . as well as to enjoy one of Jim's celebrated dinners. There was no hour too late for a patient or colleague to telephone him and to receive his wise counsel."

Perhaps the most fitting tribute one can pay a person is to take his words to heart. The following passage, with which Dr. Karmason concluded her remarks, was taken from Dr. Baxter's writing:

Grief has been shown to be a process, an essential process in the experience of the person sustaining the loss. Technically, again, it is a matter of freeing up the emotion that had been attached to the dead, so that that emotion can be available, as it were, for other persons or other objects. And also, importantly, so that that emotion will not remain transfixed, immobile, in the psychic mechanisms, in the mind and spirit, of the grieving person. Immobile there, it can impede the person in his efforts to move ahead into useful and rewarding activities.

# Travels with Lucien or three weeks on the road with Mr. Nunn

What do you make of it? Three otherwise healthy people, all of them connected closely with recent classes of Deep Springs and Cornell Branch, decided to jump in a car and speed around the country in late June and early July, 1983; 8,000 miles in three weeks. Their goal? To see too much of America and look for the last surviving first-hand recollections of a small, intense man who lived out west one hundred years ago. Weeks of planning an itinerary in May and making appointments with these men, all of whom were connected to Deep Springs or the Telluride Institute before 1926, finally culminated when our '75 Dart hit the road out of Ithaca on June 18. We were armed with a small grant from ADSTA to cover the costs of cheese, crackers, unsavory motels and the sap of life, coffee plus gasoline.

We were armed with equipment—a fancy tape deck, a microphone, and a "Beats All!" brand 100-page spiral notebook. Our destination points—Tucson, Tempe, Deep Springs, San Francisco, Boise, Salt Lake City and then back to Ithaca—added up to 7,800 miles. It's easy to go that far in your head. It only becomes difficult when you have to sit through it. But Dean Moriarity had done it, and we were eager to try.

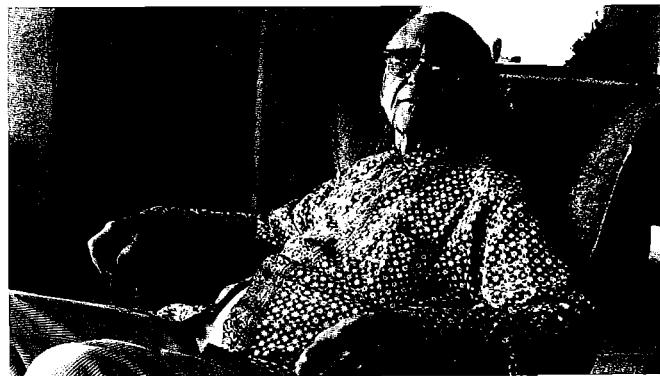
Three exhausted weeks later, we had found isolated moments of bliss floating in vast seas of 60-MPH boredom. The interviews themselves lasted from one to two hours, and we had no serious car trouble; when it was over, I had collected eight 90-minute tapes and one promised set of written answers from Harold Cole (TA11), Robert Mansfield (DS25 CB28 TA25), W. Wayne Clark (TA11), Isham Railey (DS22 CB25 TA24), Robert Aird (DS21 CB23 TA24), Arthur "Si" Ross (TA16), and Walter Welti (DS17 CB20 TA19). I can't describe each interview in detail—that would take a book. But every single interview contained invaluable, previously unknown information about Nunn and the early institutions.

Harold Cole, the first interviewee on the list, is one of the two surviving Constitutional Members of Telluride Association. Cole now lives in a suburban home in the hills outside of Tucson, and we talked there for two hours. His mind is clear at 94 years of age; he was born in 1889. Cole's father was an attorney and associate of an original Telluride Power Company stockholder, Ezra Rust, during the first decade of this century. But the Cole fortunes were wiped out in the panic of 1907; because Harold was a promising boy who could not afford college, Rust recommended him to Nunn in 1909 and he was interviewed by Nunn and an associate, "Doc" Nightingale, in New York City in 1910.

Cole remembers meeting Nunn for lunch at a hotel, being interviewed all afternoon, staying for dinner and then continuing the discussion into late evening in Mr. Nunn's room. In April 1910 he boarded a train in Nyack, New York for Grace, Idaho. He arrived at that outpost at 6:30 am, April 10. It was below 20 degrees, snowing and windy, and Cole had brought no coat. "I stood there waiting for someone to show up," he recalls, "and I can remember thinking, 'What in the dickens have I gotten myself into?'"

"I am the only surviving pinhead," Mr. Cole asserts, but he's wrong—perhaps a half dozen men who worked for the Telluride Institute remain alive. Cole remembers receiving \$20 every month for his work in Nunn's power plants—"pin money, we called it, and I think that's why we were called 'pinheads'." But he and his classmates received an education in the classics for their labors, and they also got the promise of someday going on to study at the new Telluride Association headquarters at Cornell.

Cole vividly described his time working at Grace & Olmstead



Harold Cole, TA11, at 94

in Utah, as well as the first Telluride Convention in Olmstead in 1911, his move to the Association's house in Boise in 1912, his enrollment at Cornell in 1913 and the following three years of study. He graduated in 1916 and worked for 37 years as a Distribution Engineer for Detroit Edison. His son, David Cole, attended Deep Springs in the mid '40's.

Cole's companion in TA11, W. Wayne Clark, never knew him. But Clark is now Cole's sole surviving classmate; his association with Telluride goes back even further, to days when he was a boy in Fillmore, Utah. "I used to wander up the canyon in Beaver, Utah, where Mr. Nunn's men were building a dam," Clark said. "I thought they were absolutely the greatest thing going, and eventually I began working on the crew." Clark became the manager of the Telluride Power Company in Texas at Mr. Nunn's request in 1915. "Unknown to him at the time, I had secretly married in Utah in 1914," Clark recalled. "Mr. Nunn, as a rule, didn't want me or any of his boys getting married until we had finished our educations. But I loved Lois, and we went ahead and did it anyway. We lived separately for the first few years of our marriage."

Nunn eventually found out about Clark's marriage in this way: "He invited me up from Texas to go with him to the World's Fair in San Francisco. When I arrived, we were making preparations to go and I told him, 'You should know this, Mr. Nunn, I'm married.' His reply was, 'I suspected you were.' Then he said, 'You can't go to San Francisco with me,' and he wrote me a check. My wife and I went to the World's Fair as our honeymoon present from Mr. Nunn." Later the Clarks were involved as Construction Foreman and Cook during the construction phase of Deep Springs. "I always thought he didn't like me," Mrs. Clark remembered, "but I eventually found out differently. I was cooking for a crew of about 20 on a small wood stove in a tent at Deep Springs in 1918, and he came up to me one day. He was very intent and he said, 'you know, you're not just 100 percent efficient. You're 150 percent efficient.' I'll never forget how happy that made me."

These and other excerpts from Cole, Clark, Mansfield, Aird, Railey, Ross and Welti rang in my ears and on our tape deck through the vast, beautiful deserts of Arizona, Nevada, and Oregon, the grasslands of Wyoming, and the excruciatingly boring interstates of Nebraska. When it was all over and the Dodge finally pulled into its driveway, I wanted to put everything away and have no part of it for a while. But now, the remaining work on the first phase of this project is becoming more urgent with the passing of time. The remaining tasks include writing follow-up letters to all interviewees, and the co-ordinating and copying of a separate body of tapes collected by former Deep Springs Dean Chris Breiseth in the last eighteen months. Two more trips—to New York City and Washington—need to be made. And then the 40-some hours of tapes will have to be transcribed if the project is to proceed. This would take a trained typist many hours of hard labor, but it would provide the raw material for a fascinating collection of interviews. Once the collection has been edited and annotated, such

a manuscript would probably be worthy of publication within the Telluride and Deep Springs communities.

I am now asking ADSTA to make its final commitment to this project by paying for transcriptions of these tapes; I foresee an edited version of 96 to 120 pages which would be similar in structure to many contemporary oral history volumes, such as Studs Terkel's *Working*. Unedited, the transcribed tapes will survive as an invaluable resource to any future historian of Nunn and his legacy. I am convinced that this man's story would make an excellent historical biography, and I'm tempted to try it someday. But for now the tapes are there, and they can be added to Telluride's papers in Cornell's Olin Library. The immediate and pressing task is close to completed.

But for the long term, information is still being gathered in a completely haphazard fashion here in Trumansburg. I am interested in learning more about the original alumni, life in the Institute, and the first seven years of Deep Springs, and I'm particularly interested in hearing from any Nunn family members. Among the relatives of the original alumni, I would be grateful to know of any old photographs, letters to or from Mr. Nunn, mementos and other material that directly relates to the work of Telluride Association prior to 1925. I'd also like to give warm thanks to all of the alumni and friends who have participated in the project so far; my conversations with these exceptional people will always be happy memories. And finally, I'd like to wish a happy anniversary to Lois and Wayne Clark, who will be celebrating 70 years of wedded life together in Walnut Creek, California in 1984.

—Brad Edmondson, DS76, CB80  
RD#3, Box 580,  
Trumansburg, NY 14886

## Williams TASP: 1983

Our subject was the splash, cut, scream of America in the 60's; to be precise, American Cultural History, 1960-1974. It was a course simultaneously about language and history, a critical examination of the thoughts and values behind and beyond rhetoric. We all have many indelible memories so let me share a few snapshots for posterity.

Williams welcomed us in characteristic style. The area itself is breathtaking, an idyllic setting for a TASP. With the violence and tension of the 60's in our minds it was nice to see that colleges and trees remained. Among the sights: a road, often travelled by us, which wanders through Williamstown and is populated by fireflies, frogs and an oddly lit house—fantastic and bizarre, it is the property of a former architect; a "mountain" that we climbed, eating pistachio nuts, to get a more panoramic view of the Berkshire countryside; it was exquisite.

One memorable weekend the tennis courts of Williamstown hosted a tournament. Failing to find Wimbledom—say Williamstown fast—"Biff R. Southworth" and "Kurt B. Castlebaum," clad in Hawaiian shirts took to the court to do battle (for TASP honor?) with another doubles team. We lost the match 7-5, 6-2 (TASPorts are not, perhaps, our greatest asset) but won an important moral victory. The scene was amazing; cheese and cold cuts, Sprite with lime, the TASP crowd on the lawn, cheering the heroes on, with a cult-like chant of "No Parking" upon the raising of such a sign.

Lest I leave you with the impression that we were not the most scholarly of TASPers, let me say more about the seminar itself. Our professors were both male and bearded English profs. One was an exuberant man, vivacious and intense. The other was more softly spoken, remarkably natural in discussion. They were brilliant! They instilled in us a powerful tool of analysis, a truly critical eye. We had something of the same thing in our factota, too, where the mixture of subtlety and in-

tensity was wonderfully balanced, from Shakespeare reading to barbecued-burger burning. They livened up the entire summer for us. They even taught us a thing or two about volleyball, German opera and pasta making. As Alice might have said, TASPIer and TASPIer.

—Aaron Retka, SP83

## TASP Alumni News

■ Steven Coulter, SP78, is in his first year of an MD-PhD program at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Medicine.

■ Dr. Alix Handelsman, SP70, was married July 16 to Andrew D. Christie, Jr. Dr. Handelsman is beginning a practice in pediatrics in Rochester this fall. Her husband is an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of New Hampshire.

■ Stephen Hanan, formerly Stephen Kaplan, SP63, sang and was host at a concert of New York street performers as part of a New York Folk Festival last September. A former street singer, Hanan recently received a Tony Award nomination for his performance as Growltiger in the Broadway musical "Cats". The *New York Times* said that Hanan, "who belts out Broadway show tunes and Italian arias while accompanying himself on a concertina, is far from an orthodox folkie." Hanan nonetheless finds the essence of street performance in its spontaneous grass-roots appeal. Hanan observed, "When you think about it, all the enormous institutions we have for the performing arts are very sophisticated evolutions from somebody who had a specific talent jumping up on a table and putting it out in the marketplace."

■ Joanne E. Hochberg, SP73, was married to Matthew Armstrong August 6 in Ithaca.

■ Jan Masaoka, SP68, who lives in San Francisco, is the associate director of the soon-to-be Japanese American Library. She is married to Paul Rosenstiel, and has a daughter, Sayoko Theresa Rosenstiel, born April, 1982. She spent last summer in Tokyo, visiting John Gathright, SP68, his wife Sanae and their son William Thomas Gathright, born in August 1983. Gathright is co-founder of the computer services company Microbase.

■ Molly Miller, SP75, who received her MS from MIT in molecular biology, is now at Cornell in a PhD program in applied plant breeding.

■ David Scobey, SP71, writes to say that he is now working on a PhD in the American Studies Program at Yale. His subject is the social conflict in the streets of New York City between 1880 and 1920. His wife, Denise Thal, has a job with a non-profit group that does support work for co-ops and worker-owned businesses. The couple lives in the Boston area.

■ Arthur Stock, SP79, spent the summer completing a solo bicycle journey from New Haven, Connecticut, to Aberdeen, Washington. He expects to graduate from Yale this spring with majors in philosophy and economics. Currently he is the editor of *Zirkus: A Yale Literary Journal*.

### 1983 TASPers Preferred

Matthew Brand .....	Cornell II
Richard Chin .....	Cornell I
Harold Christy .....	Cornell II
Varun Gauri .....	Cornell I
Sanjiv Gupta .....	Cornell II
Susie Jolly .....	Cornell II
Sarah Kass .....	Cornell I
Wendy Katz .....	Cornell II
Melissa Lane .....	Cornell I
Becky Pinnick .....	Cornell II
Anjana Shrivastava .....	Cornell II

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## News from Alumni and Friends

■ *Ryszard J. Chetkowski*, BB67, is an Assistant Professor of gynecology at UCLA.

■ *David Cole*, DS45 CB48 TA49, writes about a reunion of three eras of Telluriders in Tucson, Arizona this September. Present were Anne and John Neiderhauser, DS33 CB36 TA37, Mabel and Harold Cole, TA11, and David and Mary Alice Newhall Cole. Harold Cole, one of the few surviving constitutional members of Telluride, related stories of the early days of the Telluride Power Company. Neiderhauser, a world expert on potatoes, was on his way to Ithaca to lecture, and from there the Neiderhausers were to go to Nepal and other parts of South Asia. The David Coles had recently returned from a trip lecturing in Indonesia, and sailing and scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef and Tahiti.

■ *Barber Conable*, CB47 TA47, a Republican representative from upstate New York, recently won the 1983 James J. Kilpatrick Award, which cited him as "the country's most effective conservative voice." An article in the *New York Times* featured him as one of a growing number of legislators who are trying to limit the influence of contributions from political action committees, or PACs. Representative Conable will accept no more than \$50 as a campaign contribution, regardless of whether it comes from an individual or a PAC.

■ *Gordon Davidson*, CB51 TA53, who has just completed a year long sabbatical from his post as artistic director of the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, was quoted recently in a Sunday *New York Times* article on regional theatre. He said "Theatre isn't dealing with the life of society. I'm concerned about the number of social and political questions that are not being written about." Next season Davidson's company will be

presenting a production of Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and a new play by Richard Nelson.

■ *Dr. Russell Donnelly*, SP71 CB72 TA74, and Sheila Statlender were married October 9 in Connecticut. Donnelly, who is in his first year of an orthopedic residency at Tufts, lives at Allston, Massachusetts. His wife is working towards a degree in political psychology.

■ *Peter Geach*, CBG59, writes that he is an Emeritus Professor of the University of Leeds as of September 1981, and now lives in Cambridge where his wife, Elisabeth Anscombe is Professor of Philosophy. He closes his note with best wishes to Telluride.

■ *Tatsuro Kunugi*, CB58 TA59, recently assumed the post of Consul General of Japan in Frankfurt.

■ *John Lankenau*, CB52 TA53, lawyer and chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Commission for Cultural Affairs is a member of the Theatre Advisory Council in New York City.

■ The documentary film, "In Our Hands," produced under the supervision of *Robert Richter*, PB47, has received enthusiastic reviews in a number of newspapers and magazines. The film, which tells the story of the anti-nuclear march and rally in New York City last June, was called by the *San Francisco Chronicle* "an outright joy to behold." Richter made use of 40 volunteer camera/recording teams to capture every aspect of the demonstration, from preparation to follow-up activities.

■ *Dr. Robert Scott*, DS43, and his family were featured recently in the *Santa Cruz Express* in an article called "Life in the Wet Lane: the Surfing Scotts of SC." Dr. Scott has been surfing for 21 years and is well known in surfing circles for his expertise with surfer's ear problems.

## In Memoriam

**JAMES BAXTER**, DS42 CB46 TA46, and his wife **Annette K. Baxter**, died in Point-O-Woods, Fire Island, New York, on September 18, 1983. (See article, page 5).

**CHARLES BRUNELLE**, DS31 CB33, died October 31 in Sedgewick, Maine. Until he retired to Maine in 1979, Brunelle owned and operated the Charles Brunelle Agency, an advertising and public relations agency in Hartford, Connecticut. Brunelle was president of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce from 1955 to 1957. A native of Brooklyn, New York, Brunelle started his career as a reporter for the Brooklyn, N.Y. Eagle newspaper. He was also a former president of the University Club of Hartford and was active in many local civic and service organizations including the Greater Hartford YMCA.

Survivors include his wife, Cathryn Brickner Brunelle, a son, William Charles Brunelle of New York City, and two daughters, Cornelia Cohn of Ossining, New York, and Elizabeth Gail Brunelle of Holyoke, Massachusetts.