

Tapestries

Spring 2009

A Note from Communications Committee Chair, Sharon Bouma

Hello All,

Happy Spring!

Are you planning to attend the Midwest Sociological Society Meetings in Des Moines in April? Don't miss the MSWS gatherings! Check out the time and place information on page two.

Also in this issue: member news and an opportunity to present research on globalization, ethnic, and related studies.

Happy reading,

Sharon

Tapestries is the official newsletter of the Midwest Sociologists for Women in Society. It is published three times annually and distributed electronically through the MSWS listserv. To join the listserv, contact Phyllis Baker (phyllis.baker@uni.edu).

The next issue will come out in June; please submit news, announcements (personal and professional), publications, grants, personal reflections, essays, book reviews, poetry, helpful websites and resources, and just about anything else you might think of by May 20.

–Sharon
(sharon@bouma-holtrop.com)

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New Newsletter Editor Needed

My term as editor of this newsletter officially ends at our annual Business Meeting in April, so we need a new volunteer for the job. The work is not complicated and it's a good way to keep up with what's going on in our organization and with our members. If you think you might be willing to take on this task, contact our new president, Tracy Ore. If you would like more information feel free to email me. (sharon@bouma-holtrop.com)

See you in Des Moines!

Be sure to mark your schedule to include these MSWS gatherings if you will be attending the Midwest Sociological Society Meetings in Des Moines in April:

- The annual MSWS Business and Session planning meeting will be held on Saturday, April 4 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Suite. It's fun and informative!
- After the meeting we will depart from the Hospitality Suite to go out for dinner together at 7:30. Even if you can't make it to the meeting, plan to join us for dinner!
- The Hospitality Suite will be available throughout the weekend. Stop in at the suite to say hello, relax for a few minutes, read notices and messages, and connect with other MSWSers! And if you haven't already done so, volunteer to staff the suite for an hour. It's a great way to relax, meet people, and do your part to keep the suite open.

MEMBER NEWS

Jenny Ungbha Korn reports:

1) I was the organizer of, moderator of, and presenter at the Mid-South Sociological Association (MSSA) roundtable on race in November 2008. I was also the organizer of the MSSA roundtable on health.

2) I was the organizer of, moderator of, and presenter at the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) roundtable on identity in February 2009.

3) I am organizing a roundtable on online social network sites for the Association of Internet Research 10.0 conference in October 2009, and I invite Internet researchers from MSWS to contact me regarding participation in this roundtable.

From Bonnie L. Kern:

I am a graduate rehabilitation counseling student at Drake University. I will receive my degree in May 2009. I am volunteering with several female peer-led reentry groups, volunteering at a few reentry focus groups, and mentoring girls and women in a 12-Step program I have been involved in for over thirty years.

I have submitted three papers to the Midwest Sociological Society's annual meetings: "The Over-The-Road Truck Driver from a Female Perspective" in 1999, "The Steel Ceiling" at the session I organized and presided: INSTITUTIONALIZED WOMEN: THEIR BARRED OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES in 2000, and "The Steel Ceiling: From Under the Steel Ceiling Perspective" last year in St. Louis. I also donated a copy of my novel, *Proclivity*, with a binder of reference letters to be sold and the money donated to the MSS fund.

Proclivity (ISBN: 1-4241-7210-1), which shadows my life, is my attempt to help girls and women who were abused as children (especially incest victims) realize that it is within their power to reframe their past experiences and transform from victimization to astute participant observation students watching their lessons unfold before them. There is always something to learn from every situation. I have received much positive feedback from those identifying with my past.

I was the first woman in Iowa allowed to participate in the work release program. I was lucky enough to be incarcerated in the 1960s when Iowa switched from the punitive criminal justice model to the rehabilitation model. I know that the support I received at that time helped catapult me into a new way of thinking about myself and the world. I was released in 1969, obtained my restoration of citizenship in 1974, received an executive pardon in 1982, obtained an undergraduate degree in sociology in 2000, and will receive my graduate degree in rehabilitation counseling in May 2009.

History will judge us on how we treat our most vulnerable. I hope to be a part of the "We Don't Beat Up Our Wounded" movement ... and we are all wounded. <http://www.freewebs.com/bonniekern>

An opportunity to present research:

Jenny Ungbha Korn would like to share an opportunity for MSWS faculty and students to present current research in a supportive environment at Northwestern University. Northwestern's CED seeks to attract graduate students and faculty across various disciplines and departments who share active research interests in African American studies, Asian American studies, Latino/a studies, pan-ethnic studies, and related fields, such as globalization studies and other ethnic studies. Our CED is especially seeking presenters whose research crosses racial boundaries and explores

social likenesses and differences among Asians, Blacks, Latinos, and Whites. Our budget is limited (our CED is only in its second year), so preference will go to scholars who already have plans to visit the Chicagoland area. If you are interested in presenting at Northwestern's CED between now and June 8, 2009, please feel free to contact the CED director Jenny Korn at jkorn@northwestern.edu for more information. Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from the MSWS family!

MSWS Membership (2009-2010)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS _____

Indicate your membership category and the amount you are submitting with this form.

_____ Employed (\$10.00)

_____ Student/Unemployed (\$5.00)

_____ Sustaining (\$25.00)

_____ Contribution to Scholarship Fund

_____ Total

Send this form to Susan L. Wortmann, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Sociology, 711 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0324 (swortmann2@unlnotes.unl.edu)