

"I went in a completely different direction and I felt very lost. I was frightened by the opening. Nobody knew about it. Nobody understood. They were uncomfortable with it and I couldn't sleep. I'd wake up in the middle of the night and just stare, blank-minded.

"Finally, someone told me to go to Lama and I drove there in my little Volkswagen. The first person I met was Asha Durkee. She was barefoot in long white clothes, a lot taller than me. I looked up at her and said, "The Garden of Eden opened in my heart." She didn't laugh at me. She just said, "You have to find a practice to water that garden." That was the beginning. I asked if I could move to Lama. I went back to Albuquerque, quit my job, packed up everything and drove up there. I knew nothing about Eastern religions or even being a hippie or anything. I came with the sincere desire to understand what was happening to me. I lived in a tipi on the side of Lama Mountain for the whole summer, the three or four months I was there. I sat every day. I never missed the sitting because no matter what else was going on, that sitting was home to me"Natalie Goldberg

I. PERSONAL STATUS AFFECTING THE WORK

As projected in December's report, progress slowed this quarter due to living with/helping my friend and his family maintain balance after a very serious traffic accident, travel, an unexpected illness and operation, and vacation/recuperation. This coming quarter will reflect renewed application and energy.

Even with winter's slower pace, however, there were a number of significant accomplishments. (Section III)

II. THANKS

...to Coleeta Reid, who donated under the Challenge Grant, and approved using the money to develop a dramatic reading of Lama's history.

...to Ammi Kohn who matched Coleeta's donation under the 2007 Challenge grant,

...to Dorothy and Jim Fadiman, for their contribution, who also approved using the money to develop a dramatic reading,

...to Jonathan Altman, for his generous contribution, allowing for a money match to SOHA's grant (Section III),

NOTE

The 2008 Challenge Grant begins. Ammi will match dollar for dollar all donations up to a total of **One Thousand dollars. If you wish the money to go for the dramatic reading, please so state on the check. Send your donation to Ammi Kohn, POB 532, Crestone, Co, 81131, made out to the Lama Foundation.**

...To Alice (Siddiqi) Karow, who continues to offer a 50% discount on transcriptions because of her love for Lama. This spring she traveled to New York to attend a conference on Oral History and Performance, mostly at her own expense,

...To Beth Silbergeist, archivist at the Southwest Research Center, UNM, for her assistance in archiving the first group of histories,

...To Roberta "Bird" Sharpless, who traveled from Warwick, R.I. to Boston, to give an oral history during Ammi's trip to the East Coast.

III. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The Library prepared and delivered the first batch of histories to be archived at the Southwest Research Center, UNM; (Jonathan Altman, Jai Cross, Yasin Gold, Asha Greer, Rabia Hunter, Alice Karow, Kathy Lyons, Ruth Ross, Fatima Rigsby, Hans Von Briesen). The Library thanks Beth for her advice and work.
2. The Library wrote and submitted a mini-grant application to the Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA). SOHA awarded \$500 to help with expenses toward a specialized set of interviews with Coordinators. The Library welcomes the money and this validation of its work. The Library promised SOHA a monograph in 2009. The monograph will be the Library's first publication.
3. The Library began writing the script for the first act of a four act dramatic reading on the history of Lama. A draft of this "work in progress" will be performed at the annual meeting. **If you are interested in being one of the readers, please contact me or Kathy Lyons at the Lama Foundation.**
4. Alice transcribed four histories; Diana Adkins, Sylvia Rodriguez, Sarkis Gorial, David Cooper.

5. Three histories were collected; Iris Keltz, Robert “Bird” Sharpless,, Sylvia Rodriguez.
6. The Library contracted with Alice Karow to write a report on an Oral History and Performance conference in New York City. Most of the expenses of the trip were borne by Alice as a contribution to the Oral History Library. The contract is, by far, the smaller amount of the trip expenses.
7. The Library submitted a proposal to SOHA for a paper to be presented at its annual meeting in April. SOHA accepted the proposal. However, the meeting was inadvertently scheduled on Passover weekend, so the proposal was withdrawn, with SOHA’s apologies.

IV. DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENENCE

The coming quarter will see a very significant shift of emphasis from Development and Maintenance to Applications.

1. During 2008 and 2009, the Library will interview only Coordinators, except for opportunistic interviewing of important contributors to a dramatic reading and a book.
2. Transcriptions will continue, as funds and financial obligations permit.
3. The Library anticipates archiving another batch of histories in the coming quarter.

V. APPLICATIONS

The work priorities of the Library are now very clear.

1. Collect specialized interviews from coordinators during 2008 and 2009. Write a monograph about coordinators and Lama in 2009, as committed in the grant application to SOHA.
2. Complete a draft first act of a dramatic reading of the history of Lama by May 28th. The Oral History Advisory Board will read through the script at its Santa Fe meeting on the 28th and offer suggestions for change. The revised script will be performed at the annual meeting in mid June. **If you are interested in being one of the readers at either the Advisory Board Meeting or the Annual Meeting, please contact me or Kathy Lyons at the Lama Foundation.**

V. FINANCIAL STATUS

Balance, March 31, 2008	\$3,426
Expenses to be reimbursed	<u>1,900</u> (estimated)
Balance	1,526
SOHA Mini-grant (not yet received)	<u>500</u>
	\$2,026

NOTE: Because \$1,000 is committed as a match to the SOHA grant and \$500 is allocated by contributors for a dramatic reading, the Library has only about \$500 for discretionary use. The SOHA \$500 will be deposited in a new bank account, independent of Lama, so that monies can be accounted for easily to SOHA, and for use with future grant awards.

APPENDIX I STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL TRANSCRIPTS AND HISTORIES

Summary, as of March 31, 2008

1. Forty two (42) histories transcribed, some contributors need more interviewing.
2. Twenty eight (28) histories not transcribed, some need more interviewing.
3. One in queue at transcriber, five tape cassettes need to be converted to digital form.
4. No interviews are scheduled. Two or three are anticipated in Taos and Questa during April when Ammi visits Lama to conduct a seder.
5. Twenty two (22 authorizations) not sent in. Until these authorizations are sent in, the histories cannot be archived and no one can see them. The money transcribing them is wasted until I receive the authorization.
6. Twenty eight (28) interviews not transcribed.
7. Twenty four (24) interviews promised.

Transcribed

Note: Persons needing additional interviewing are especially high value histories taken early in the project. With increased knowledge of the past, the Library feels that reinterviewing will produce more information of high value.

Adkins, Dianne
Altman, Jonathan (needs another interview)
Barodsky, Saul
Caserta, Paolo
Caserta, Paolo and Lori
Cobb, Ahad (two interviews)
Cooper, David
Cross, Jai
Daniels, Rita
Durkee, Aurora and Habib
Durkee, Noura Issa
Durkee, Sh.Nooruddeen
G and L group interview
Fox, Frank
Garrigus, Beth
Gold, Andy
Goldberg, Natalie
Gorial, Sarkis

Greer, Asha (needs additional interview)
Haggard, Ben
Hunter, Rabia (needs more interviewing)
J. B. (a musician who prefers to remain anonymous)
Jackson, Joe
Karow, Alice
Kilbride, Jamil (needs additional interview)
Lyons, Kathy (needs additional interview)
Memmot, Eric
McCaully, Erin (a visiting researcher)
Morgan, Sara
Renault, Thomas
Rigsby, Fatima
Rodriguez, Sylvia
Ross, Ruth
Sharpless, Roberta
Shuker, Scott
Starr, Miraba
Shirin, Marian
Surya, Elaine (needs additional interview)
Von Briesen, Hans (needs additional interview)
Von Briesen, Sakina
Weinman, Abd al-Hayy (needs additional interview)
West, Cynthia
Wilchinsky, Tui (needs more interviewing)
Zook, Richard

At Transcriber

Interviews Not Transcribed (29)

Babcock, Austin
Beasley, Zakira
Brahms, Varda
Brown, Rahaman
Curry, Mollie and Kemble, Steve (group interview)
Daniels, Chris (needs more interviewing)
Deegan, Annie
Farquar, Lynn
Fox, Frank
Gersh, Annie
Giles, Will
Hall, Katie Maedice (needs additional interview)
Keltz, Iris
Kilbride, Arielle
Kraemer, Mika

Memcott, Eric
McElmury, Steve
Oppenheimer, Steve
Peck, Willie
Rayfield, Krishna Das (needs additional interview)
Salack, Joseph
Slaigh, Myles
Sharpless, Roberta
Sobel, Eliezer
Solomon, Lindsay
Swierkosz, Andrea
Uretsky, Elaine
Wapner, Paul

Interviews Scheduled (0)

Interviews Promised But Not Scheduled (24)

Babcock, Austin (the story of the Cottage Industries building)
Bonner, Joe (Dwarka) (tentative)
Caserta, Paolo and Lori (exit interview)
DeAngelis, Mino and Fusako
Dixon, Jim
Dreyfess, Robert
Fadiman, Jim and Dorothy
Farquar, Lynn (exit interview)
Gaines, Stephanie
Glauser, Jeremiah
Johnson, Bob and Pat
Johnson, Mansur
Kahn, Shabda
Kenney, Kye
Kenny, Mary
Kohn, Ammi
Lyons, Kathy (second interview)
Matheson, MaryAnne
Meyer, Wali Ali
Murray, John
Slaigh, Myles (Be Here Now, Lama Rebuilding)
Vargo, David
Vasquez, Julia
Wilchinski, Tui (second interview)