

Editor's Notes

This special Anniversary issue of *Oral History Forum d'histoire orale* brings to readers the story of the founding years of the Canadian Oral History Association, established in 1974. In this thirtieth anniversary year, it seemed appropriate to capture the memories of those who recognized a need and carefully built COHA to serve oral historians in Canada. Some of the founders have provided wondrously detailed accounts of the early gatherings. Wilma MacDonald, in particular, offers a fact-filled, archive-based and fond personal account ranging from discussions of purpose to celebrations of achievement. Denis Gagnon lets us see how the COHA logo was "invented."

One of COHA's achievements is reflected here in Wilma MacDonald's second article. "Aboriginal Peoples Oral Sources" offers readers the first comprehensive listing of archived oral history collections pertaining to native peoples, a listing geared to the *Guide to Oral History Collections in Canada* compiled by COHA members and published in 1994.

A thoughtful article by Ronald Labelle recalls COHA's path from then to now, offering insights and suggestions of importance. James Morrison takes us back to his first encounters with oral history, tracing the evolution of methods and techniques inside and outside of COHA. The informed judgements in each of these articles lays the groundwork for an upcoming feature of *Forum*, "The Sounding Board." We invite readers to respond with their views on the many debatable questions which occupy practitioners of oral history.

Ongoing thanks to Webmaster Ken Clavette of Ottawa for his continuing work on the COHA website. www.ncfn.carleton.ca/oral-history. Please remember to visit the website and renew your membership in COHA. COHA members automatically receive each issue of *Forum* and have access to useful links and information.

The COHA gathering held at Brescia University College in London, Ont., of June 1, 2005, during the Congress led to interesting exchanges about projects in progress. We urge interested readers to attend the upcoming international conference, "Oral History in Canada," August 18-20 in Winnipeg. More at:

<http://www.hnet.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=146096>

*International
Conference*

Oral History in Canada

**Presented by
Department of
History and Chair
in German-
Canadian Studies**

18-20 August 2005

**The University of
Winnipeg
Manitoba, Canada**

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