
RWSA NEWSLETTER

March

2022

LOOKING FORWARD - RWSA 2024

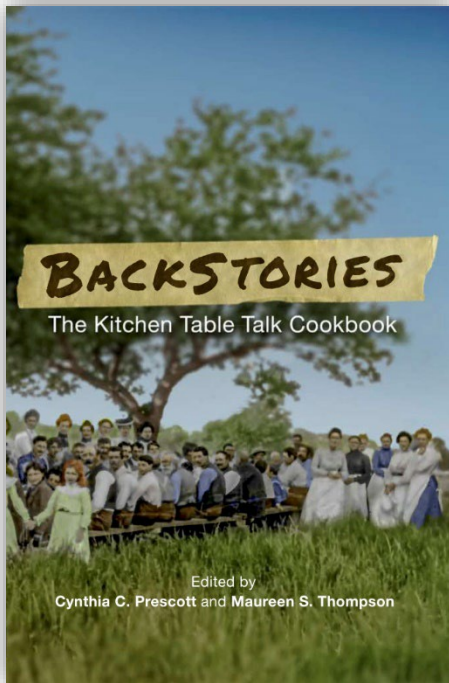
RWSA 2024 will be hosted by Arkansas State University (A-State). A-State is located in Jonesboro, the largest city in northeast Arkansas with 76, 000+ people and is an hour and 15 minutes away from Memphis, Tennessee and two hours away from Little Rock. The recently built Embassy Suites by Hilton Jonesboro Red Wolf Convention Center (<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/jbrjoes-embassy-suites-jonesboro-red-wolf-convention-center/>) is located on A-State's campus. We plan to procure a block of rooms for the conference. It is within easy walking distance of the Carl Reng Student Union at Arkansas State University.



Situated on Crowley's Ridge and serving as the gateway to the Arkansas Delta, Jonesboro and the surrounding area offers such important rural historical sites as the following:

- The Southern Tenant Farmers Museum (Southern Tenant Farmers Museum – astate.edu)
- The Pfeiffer-Hemingway Museum and Educational Center (<https://hemingway.astate.edu/>)
- The Parkin Archeological State Park (<https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/parkin-archeological-state-park>)
- The Historic Dyess Colony | Johnny Cash Boyhood Home (astate.edu)
- The ASU Regional Farmers Market (<http://www.asuregionalfarmersmarket.org/>), is also open on Saturdays from May to October from 7 am to 1 pm

More information forthcoming in future issues as well as via email, on the website, and in social media.



RWSA Cookbook *Backstories: The Kitchen Table Talk Cookbook* still available

Backstories: The Kitchen Table Talk Cookbook, edited by our own Cynthia C. Prescott and Maureen S. Thompson and published by The Digital Press at the University of North Dakota (2021) is still available for sale or FREE E-book [download](#)! Paperback copies are \$20 USD plus S&H. US residents can order copies by emailing Cindy Prescott cynthia.culver@gmail.com, with proceeds benefiting RWSA's Jensen-Neth Fund. Also available on [Amazon](#) worldwide.

Sharing recipes is a form of intimate conversation that nourishes body and soul, family and community. *Backstories: The Kitchen Table Talk Cookbook* integrates formal scholarship with informal reflections, analyses of recipe books with heirloom recipes, and text with images to emphasize the ways that economics, politics, and

personal meaning come together to shape our changing relationships with food. By embracing elements of history, rural studies, and women's studies, this volume offers a unique perspective by relating food history with social dynamics. It is sure to inspire eclectic dining and conversations.

Cynthia C. Prescott is Professor of History at the University of North Dakota and an occasional baker. Her research focuses on portrayals of rural women in cultural memory.

Maureen Sherrard Thompson is a Ph.D. candidate at Florida International University. Her dissertation focuses on business, environmental, and gender perspectives associated with the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century seed industry.

With contributions by: Linda Ambrose, Samantha K. Ammons, Jenny Barker Devine, Nikki Berg Burin, Lynne Byall Benson, Eli Bosler, Carla Burgos, Joseph Cates, Diana Chen, Myrtle Dougall, Egge, Margaret Thomas Evans, Dee Garceau, Tracey Hanshew, Kathryn Harvey, Mazie Hough, Sarah Kesterson, Marie Kenny, Hannah Peters Jarvis, Katherine Jellison, M. Jensen, Cherisse Jones-Branch, Katie Mayer, Amy L. McKinney, Diane McKenzie, Krista Lynn Minnotte, Elizabeth H. Morris, Sara E. Morris, Mary Murphy, Stephanie Noell, Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, Virginia Scharff, Rebecca Sharpless, Rachel Snell, Joan Speyer, Pamela Snow Sweetser, Rebecca Shimoni Stoil, Erna van Duren, Audrey Williams, Catharine Anne Wilson, Jean Wilson.

Announcement

International Women's Day is March 8!

International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 to commemorate the cultural, political, and socioeconomic achievements of women.

RWSA members in Africa will be recognizing and celebrating this day.

2022 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

"Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow"

Self-confidence
Self-esteem
Concentration
Fun fitness
Flexibility
Social skills
Awareness & Self-defense

Call Us Today!
+234 8033469577
Olubunmiashimolowo@gmail.com

Holding at Gender Development Initiative, Abeokuta, Ogun State.

For more information on International Women's Day:

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

Member News

New Book



A rich and complex portrait of the agricultural fair, in which rural women take centre stage.

Through a wealth of fascinating stories and colourful detail, *Cultivating Communities* shows how women's involvement became critical to agricultural fairs' growth and prosperity. Nurse's book adds a new dimension to the social and cultural history of rural women.

Use 20% discount code **MQSP** until 30 April 2022

.....



McGill-Queen's
University Press

Join the Rural History Roundtable as Jodey Nurse shares her new book! Register for free at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/rural/roundtable>.

The RHRT is celebrating the publication of University of Guelph alumna Jodey Nurse's first monograph, *Cultivating Community: Women and Agricultural Fairs in Ontario*. Join us as Nurse highlights women's diverse roles as agricultural society members, fair exhibitors, performers, volunteers, and fairgoers during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Nurse shows that women used fairs' manifold nature to present different versions of rural womanhood. Although traditional domestic skills and handicrafts, such as baking, needlework, and flower arrangement, remained the domain of women throughout this period, women steadily enlarged their sphere of influence on the fairgrounds. By the mid-twentieth century they held space in venues previously closed to them, including the livestock show ring, the athletic field, and the boardroom. Through fascinating stories and colourful detail, *Cultivating Communities* adds a new dimension to the social and cultural history of rural women, placing their activities at the centre of the agricultural fair.

Jodey Nurse is a research assistant professor in the Department of History, University of Waterloo.

Articles

Cindy Prescott, RWSA Co-Chair, has several publications since the last newsletter:

“Myth, Memory, and the Limits of Inclusivity in Arizona Pioneer Monuments.” *Journal of Arizona History*, 62, no. 2 (Summer 2021): 173-206.

C. Prescott, Nathan Rees, and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. “This is the Place Salt Lake City, Utah and the Voortrekker Monument Pretoria: monuments to settler constructions of history, race, and religion.” *Safundi* 22:2 (2021): 105-129.

C. Prescott, Nathan Rees, and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. “Enshrining Gender in Monuments to Settler Whiteness: South Africa’s Voortrekker Monument and the United States’ This Is the Place Monument.” *Humanities* 10, no. 1 (2021): 41-67.

“Columbus Day marked a key battle in the History Wars of the 1990s.” *Washington Post* October 11, 2021.

Kathryn Beasley has an article, “‘I am planning to buy a new Buick Coupe next year’: Rural Women and Alabama’s Curb Markets, 1923-1929” which will be published in the April 2022 issue of *The Alabama Review*.

Kathryn Beasley has a Ph.D. in History, Independent Scholar

Chapters

Cherisse Jones-Branch, RWSA Co-Chair, has two forthcoming chapters:

“Black Women, Violence, and Criminality in Post-World War I Arkansas, 1919-1922,” Michael Pierce and Calvin White, Jr., ed., *Race, Labor, and Violence in the Delta: Essays to Mark the Centennial of the Elaine Massacre* (University of Arkansas Press, forthcoming 2022).

“African Americans in Agriculture,” R. Douglas Hurt, ed., *A Companion to American Agricultural History* (Wiley-Blackwell: Hoboken, NJ, forthcoming 2022).

Angie Carter published the chapter "Cultivating Community Resilience: Working in Solidarity In and Beyond Crisis" in *Gender, Food, and COVID-19: Stories of Harm and Hope* (Routledge 2022) available open access via this link: <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/oa-edit/10.4324/9781003198277/gender-food-covid-19-paige-castellanos-carolyn-sachs-ann-tickamyler>

Angie Carter, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Environmental & Energy Justice, Department of Social Sciences at Michigan Technological University.

RWSA Blog Submissions

The RWSA blog invites submissions on any topic related to rural women, gender, and/or sexuality. We publish anything from book excerpts to conference abstracts to personal reflections. Entries can be formal or informal in style, and should be roughly 200-2,000 words long. Submissions and queries to Cindy Prescott cynthia.culver@gmail.com.

About the RWSA

Founded in 1998 as an outgrowth of the Sixth Conference on Rural and Farm Women in Historical Perspective, the Rural Women's Studies Association is an international organization for the advancement and promotion of farm and rural women's gender studies in historical perspective. The Association aims to encourage research, to promote existing and forthcoming scholarship, and to establish and maintain links with contemporary farm and rural women's organizations. The RWSA aims to encourage scholars from different disciplinary backgrounds and countries to communicate about their research and all other activities that are supportive to the Association's goals.

RWSA Officers

Co-Chairs

Cherisse Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University
Cynthia Prescott, University of North Dakota

Co-Secretaries

Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, Iowa State University
Lynne Benson, UMass Boston

Treasurer

Jenny Barker-Devine, Illinois College

International Membership and Communication Coordinators

Pacific – Katie Cooper of Te Papa Tongarewa/
Museum of New Zealand

Canada – Jodey Nurse, University of Waterloo

Europe – Margreet van der Burg, Wageningen
University, Holland & Tanya Watson, National
University of Ireland

Africa – Olubunmi Ashimolowo, University of
Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria & Oluwaseun Boye,
Ogun State Government

U.S. – Tracey Hanshaw, Washington State TC &
Yvette Blair-Lavallais, Memphis Theological
Seminary

South America –

Asia –

RWSA Officers Cont.

Emerging Professional & Graduate Student Coordinators

Maggie Weber, University of Wisconsin-Eau
Claire

Kendra DeHart, Sul Ross State University

Karissa Patton, University of Saskatchewan

Diane McKenzie, University of Lethbridge

Newsletter Editor

Margaret Thomas Evans, Indiana University East

Fundraising

Cynthia Prescott, University of North Dakota

Sara Morris, University of Kansas

Web Master

Katherine Jellison, Ohio University

<https://www.ohio.edu/cas/history/institutes-associations/rwsa/index.cfm>

Social Media Coordinators

Cynthia Prescott, University of North Dakota

Maggie Weber, University of Wisconsin-Eau
Claire

Share Your Work on the RWSA Blog

<https://ruralwomensstudies.wordpress.com/>

We invite submissions to the RWSA blog, which publishes on a wide range of topics related to rural women, gender and sexuality. We publish scholarship and book reviews as well as more informal reflections. We also seek to highlight rural activism. Posts typically range from about 200 to 2,000 words. Send submissions and queries to Cynthia Prescott at cynthia.culver@gmail.com

Send Us Your News!

RWSA members would appreciate hearing of your accomplishments, awards, changes in employment, publications, and research discoveries or needs. We welcome announcements from institutions and organizations regarding historical holdings, job openings, and events. Send submissions to Margaret Thomas Evans margevan@iue.edu

We plan to have two issues per year – fall and spring.

RURAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBER INFORMATION

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

AFFILIATION

MAILING ADDRESS (please circle: Work or Home)

CITY

STATE

ZIP / COUNTRY CODE

COUNTRY

E-MAIL PHONE FAX

MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO RWSA:

ANNUAL DUES are \$10.00 for students, non-academics, and adjunct and part-time faculty; \$25.00 for tenure-track faculty; and \$50.00 for contributing members.

JOAN JENSEN-MARY NETH FUND: RWSA welcomes contributions to the Joan Jensen-Mary Neth Fund to help offset registration fees for invited speakers and international participants. Memorials may be made to the Fund as well. Please designate the name of the person being memorialized.

DUES: _____ (Please circle: Annual \$10; Annual \$25; Contributing \$50)

JENSEN-NETH FUND: _____ IN MEMORY OF _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Please mail a personal check or international money order made out to RWSA to:

Jenny Barker-Devine, RWSA Treasurer
Dept. of History, Illinois College
1101 W. College Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650

(RWSA is a 501C-3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible.)