



PAULINE ELIZABETH HOPKINS

## The Newsletter of

# The Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society

VOLUME 4

WINTER 2012-2013

*“Republics exist only on the tenure of being constantly agitated.*

*We cannot live without the voice in the wilderness—troubling the waters that there may be health in the flow.”*

—from “Munroe Rogers” editorial for the *Colored American Magazine*, November 1902

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## “A PRODUCTIVE YEAR INDEED” - THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been a pleasure to oversee the newly fledged Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society this year as it moves to establish itself as a dynamic, multi-faceted author society. In our efforts to promote scholarship on Pauline Hopkins, we have extended our affiliations; developed a resource-rich website of importance to all scholars of nineteenth-century African American literature; begun planning for Hopkins publication awards; hosted successful panels at the 2012 American Literature Association, and made plans for more next year.

### MEMBERSHIP

Before I elaborate on these achievements, allow me to take a moment and encourage you, if you have not done so already, to become a fully participating member of the Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society by completing the membership form in this newsletter and submitting your dues. As a member you will support our growth and join a vibrant community of engaged scholars. You have the opportunity to get involved in an author society during its nascence and shape the way we think about and promote scholarship on a dynamic author, one whose works and life provide a lens on so many of the areas that interest Americanists now—transnationalism, race, gender, genre, aesthetics, empire, periodicals, black intellectuals, the history of sexuality, and the list goes on. Just generating topics for panels is an invigorating intellectual experience! And we’ve even lowered our dues this year, making it more attractive than ever to join us.

Allow me to say more about developments

this year. The Hopkins Society is now an **official affiliate of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)**, thus expanding our scholarly network and venues in a new direction. We will be hosting a panel at future SSAWW conferences (held every three years, the next conference is in 2015). This venue gives us the opportunity to assess Hopkins in the context of other women writers.

### WEBSITE UPDATES

Thanks to our talented and indefatigable Web Master, Mary Frances Jiménez, updates to the Hopkins Society’s website now make it both a valuable introduction for students new to Hopkins and an indispensable research tool for established scholars of Hopkins and African American literature.

For the first time, a **full online publication of Hopkins’s *New Era Magazine***, which she published and edited in 1916, is now available, and you will find it only on the Hopkins Society website. It can be accessed as a single, large file or in smaller chunks. Take a look: [www.paulinehopkinssociety.org/new-era-magazine/](http://www.paulinehopkinssociety.org/new-era-magazine/). Immediate Past President John Gruesser and Mary Frances Jiménez did the work this spring to secure permissions and images. Volume 1.1 was scanned from Emory University’s collection, and we thank them for permission to place it on our site. Volume 1.2 was compiled by Mary Frances from scans of microfilm held at Howard University’s Moorland-Springarn library and copies Jill Bergman (PEHS treasurer) and Hanna Wallinger had available personally or at their institutions. The online *New Era* joins the

**(continued on page 3)**

**Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
*(Pending Society Approval)*  
**American Literature Association Conference**  
**San Francisco, California**  
**May 25, 2012**

The annual meeting of the Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society was held on Friday, May 25, 2012. The meeting was called to order by the President, John Gruesser, at 12:47 p.m. [N.B. John has decided to step down as President after the ALA 2012 conference. Dorri Beam has agreed to serve as President and finish his term in accordance with the Society's bylaws.]

The minutes of the May 27, 2011, meeting, which were previously distributed, were approved as corrected.

The election for the office of Treasurer was held. Jill Bergman, who ran unopposed, was elected to a three year term (2012-2015).

Alisha Knight read the Co-Webmaster's report submitted by Mary Frances Jimenez. Jill Bergman asked about Eric Gardner's suggestions for an online payment process. Since there was no mention of this in the report, Alisha agreed to ask Mary Frances to follow up with Eric to coordinate this process. She also agreed to find out if new members are automatically added to listserv.

April Logan read the Membership Officer's report submitted by Eric Gardner. There were no questions. [N.B. Since the Monument Committee's report was received after the meeting, it has been appended to these minutes.] (*Editor's note: The Monument Committee Report is available at [www.paulinehopkinsociety.org](http://www.paulinehopkinsociety.org).)*

The Treasurer, Jill Bergman, reported that \$2,230 in membership dues has been received to date. The Society has not received any donations. John noted that we were co-sponsoring the Harryette Mullen poetry reading and that going forward, the Society should make financial contributions toward such events.

John reported that the prospectus and second issue of *New Era Magazine* is available on the Society's website. Emory University has agreed to allow the Society scan the first issue of the magazine free of charge. John noted that his long range hope is that the Society can make an electronic version of the *Colored American Magazine* available, but this would require additional funding.

The Society discussed the vacant positions (Program Chair and Vice President) and considered whether or not to stagger the terms, but ultimately decided not to do so. John noted that Colleen O'Brien is willing to serve as Program Chair. Cherene Sherrard-Johnson volunteered to served as interim Vice President. In preparation for the 2013 elections, Dorri agreed to contact Colleen and ask her to serve on the Nominations Committee with April Logan.

There was some discussion about making the membership list available to candidates who might need endorsements. The Society decided that the Nominations Committee would facilitate the endorsement process by publicizing the names of the candidates intending to run for office and instructing them to

contact the Membership Officer directly for the membership list.

The Society deliberated whether or not to lower the membership dues as per Eric Gardner's suggestion. After some discussion, the members voted (6 to 2) to recommend that the Executive Committee lower the membership dues.

In other business, Dorri moved that the Society (via the Program Committee) become affiliated with the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). This motion was unanimously adopted.

Rhone Fraser suggested that the Society consider implementing special programs for the Boston ALA conference.

The meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

*Submitted by:*  
Alisha Knight, Secretary

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digital version of *Colored American Magazine* recently made available through HathiTrust. You can find a link to that resource at our website.

#### **COMMITTEE WORK**

The Monuments and Awards committee, chaired by Nicole Aljoe, is working on a plan to have the society offer **juried awards recognizing outstanding Hopkins books and articles**. Within the next couple years, members will have the opportunity to submit their published work for consideration. The society looks forward to this opportunity to recognize and promote Hopkins scholarship.

The Program Committee, chaired by Colleen O'Brien, has issued the **call for papers for the 2013 ALA conference in Boston**. This year we will be hosting a panel on "Hopkins and Intertextuality" and a second panel on "New Directions in Hopkins Scholarship," in which we hope to highlight the work of recently published scholars while taking stock of where we've been and where we're headed.

#### **NEW PUBLICATIONS**

And speaking of Hopkins scholarship, there is a new wave of books hitting the stands.

Hopkins Society Secretary Alisha Knight published *Pauline Hopkins and the American Dream: An African American Writer's (Re)Visionary Gospel of Success* with the University of Tennessee Press earlier this year. PEHS Treasurer Jill Bergman's *The Motherless Child in the Novels of Pauline Hopkins* is due out in December from Louisiana State Press. Past President John Gruesser's *The Empire Abroad and the Empire at Home: African American Literature and the Era of Overseas Expansion* is also due out in December, from the University of Georgia Press, and includes a chapter on Hopkins. Keep us posted on your own scholarship by submitting your entry to our on-line bibliography.

We are currently seeking a Newsletter Editor to compile and publish this newsletter once a year. If you are interested, please contact me by email at dorribeam@mac.com. No special experience is required; Mary Frances Jiménez currently edits the Newsletter and she will be happy to guide you through the process.

It has been a productive year indeed. We hope you'll join us for another one.

Sincerely,

Dorri Beam, PEHS President and Associate Professor, Syracuse University

# Call for Papers: American Literature Association 2013

## May 23 - 26 • Westin Copley Place, Boston

### Panel 1: Pauline Hopkins and Intertextuality

Writing at the turn of the twentieth century, Pauline Hopkins occupies a crucial intermediary moment in the development of American literatures. Her work as editor of *Colored American Magazine* often featured or reviewed the writings of significant literary figures, past and present. In her novels, we find generic flexibility drawing from antecedents that include historical romance, transcendentalism, mysticism, and adventure novels. This panel seeks to explore the myriad ways that Hopkins engaged with literary traditions and with predecessors, including but not limited to Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, William Wells Brown, and Harriet Martineau as well as with her contemporaries, including but not limited to Sutton Griggs, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, and S.E.F.C.C. Hamedoe. The panel is also open to discussions of the way other textual forms, including theater, historiography, and ethnography, intersect with Hopkins's literary and social concerns.

### Panel 2: New Directions in Hopkins Scholarship: A Roundtable Discussion

The Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society invites scholars to join a roundtable discussion that explores new directions in Hopkins Scholarship. We are excited that four book-length studies of Hopkins's life and work have emerged in recent years: Hanna Wallinger's *Pauline Hopkins: A Literary Biography* (Georgia, 2005) Lois Brown's *Black Daughter of the Revolution* (North Carolina, 2008) Alisha Knight's *Pauline Hopkins and the American Dream: An African American Writer's (Re)Visionary Gospel of Success* (Tennessee, 2012) and Jill Bergman's *The Motherless Child in the Novels of Pauline Hopkins* (Louisiana, 2012) as well as *Daughter of the Revolution*, Ira Dworkin's collection of her writings in *The Colored American Magazine* (Rutgers, 2008). In recent publications, Hopkins has been cast as a "black exaltada," a revolutionary (but figuratively motherless) daughter, an anti-imperialist or internationalist, a mysticist, and a writer of the American Dream. Papers that discuss, extend, or engage with this new scholarship are welcomed, as are papers that emphasize other approaches including but not limited to performance studies, visual culture, indigenous studies, environmental studies and media studies.

One-page proposals in Microsoft Word or PDF format should be submitted to Colleen O'Brien, Program Committee Chair, at [cobrien@uscupstate.edu](mailto:cobrien@uscupstate.edu) by 1/7/13. Please include a brief bio (200 words) or one-page CV with your proposal. Panelists should plan for a presentation lasting no more than fifteen minutes. Reference "ALA: Hopkins Panel" in the subject line. Membership in the PEHS is required in order to present a paper. Please contact Eric Gardner, Membership Officer, at [gardner@svsu.edu](mailto:gardner@svsu.edu) for membership information.

## 2012 American Literature Association Conference Panel



(as pictured L-R): Panelists Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, Sarah Ingle, and Rhone Fraser; Moderator April Logan. Photo by Alisha Knight.

The Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society sponsored one panel at the ALA Conference held May 24-27, 2012, in San Francisco, California. The panel invited scholars to consider Hopkins in a transnational context, examining ways the author “searches for alliances with [...] groups” including “Caribbean, Haitian, African, Philippine, and Native American cultures.”

A list of papers and participants follows:

### Session 9-J Pauline Hopkins and Transnationalism

Chair: April Logan, Salisbury University

1. “Refusing Partisan Lines For Humanity: The Anti-Imperialist Editorial Vision Of Pauline Hopkins,” Rhone Fraser, Temple University
2. “An Undiscovered Country: Transnational Spirits and National Amnesia in Pauline Hopkins’s *Of One Blood*,” Sarah Ingle, University of Virginia
3. “Pauline Hopkins’s Mesmerizing Modernism,” Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## We Need Membership Renewals!

If you have not already done so, please take a moment and **renew your PEHS membership now**. Our society needs your participation in order to continue promoting study of the life and work of Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins.

The Hopkins Society also offers new and old members the chance to join at the Lifetime Membership level. We strongly encourage scholars committed to Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins’s work and legacy to consider this membership level.

The \$250 fee may be paid as a single lump sum or through two consecutive annual payments. In addition to the convenience of

never having to renew your membership, this option protects you from any possible dues increase(s) during your lifetime. Even if dues remain the same for the next three decades, the Lifetime Membership will put you ahead, as it is equivalent to 17 years at the current Regular Member level.

But most importantly, this initial investment will lay the groundwork for the Society’s future meetings and projects to honor Hopkins. Please consider supporting these efforts by filling out the **membership form on page 7** and choosing the Lifetime Membership level.

# Get Involved! PEHS Committees

The Pauline Hopkins Society needs you! Please consider joining one of our committees and offering your time and expertise to help advance Hopkins scholarship. From our bylaws:

The **Program Committee** shall serve as a liaison to various societies and associations; draft, generate, and circulate calls for papers for conference panels; help establish a Pauline Hopkins presence in like-minded organizations; select conference panel participants; propose projects and programs; and present slates of proposed panels to the Executive Committee for approval.

The **Research and Publications Committee** shall compile an annual list of scholarly publications, creative projects and research efforts concerning the life and writings of Pauline Hopkins and information pertinent to the purpose of the Society. It shall also work to help keep the writings of Pauline Hopkins in print and available to students, teachers and readers.

The **Awards and Monuments Committee** shall make recommendations for citations for outstanding scholarly work published on Pauline Hopkins in book and article form as well as other noteworthy projects that advance the purpose of the Society. It shall make recommendations for sponsorship of monuments and memorials to be erected in honor of Pauline Hopkins at sites and on occasions appropriate to the purpose of the Society. It shall also make Society Honorary Membership recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Volunteer for a committee by indicating your interest when you return your membership form or by contacting our Membership Officer, Eric Gardner: [gardner@svsu.edu](mailto:gardner@svsu.edu) .



# Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society Membership Form for 2012-2013



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Institutional Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**This membership is:** \_\_\_\_ a renewal (or) \_\_\_\_ a new membership.

**Membership Category:**

\_\_\_\_ Founding Member. Annual dues: \$15.

**Note:** Founding Member status is open *only* to members who joined before 31 August 2010.

\_\_\_\_ Regular Member. Annual dues: \$15.

\_\_\_\_ Graduate Student Member. Annual dues: \$10. Open to current graduate students.

\_\_\_\_ Student Member. Annual dues: \$10. Open to current undergraduates or high school students.

\_\_\_\_ Institutional Member. Annual dues: \$250.

\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Member. Single payment of \$250 or two consecutive annual installments of \$125.

If paying by installments, this is installment \_\_\_\_ of two.

**Hopkins Society Service:** *Please circle committees on which you might be willing to serve.*

Research/Publications Committee

Program Committee

Awards/Monuments Committee

Other service work

**This application form and your payment should be mailed to:**

Eric Gardner, Hopkins Society Membership Officer

Department of English

Saginaw Valley State University

7400 Bay Road

University Center, MI 48710.

**Checks / money orders should be made payable to the University of Montana,** which currently houses the Society accounts.

Payment must be made in U. S. funds through either check or money order; international scholars are

# Hopkins Society Executive Board

## President

Dorri Beam, Associate Professor, Syracuse University [[dorribeam@mac.com](mailto:dorribeam@mac.com)]

## Vice President

Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison [[csherrard@wisc.edu](mailto:csherrard@wisc.edu)]

## Secretary

Alisha Knight, Associate Professor, Washington College [[aknight2@washcoll.edu](mailto:aknight2@washcoll.edu)]

## Treasurer

Jill Bergman, Associate Professor and English Department Chair, University of Montana [[jill.bergman@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jill.bergman@mso.umt.edu)]

## Membership Officer

Eric Gardner, Professor, Saginaw Valley State University [[gardner@svsu.edu](mailto:gardner@svsu.edu)]

## Parliamentarian

April Logan, Assistant Professor, Salisbury University [[aclogan@salisbury.edu](mailto:aclogan@salisbury.edu)]

## Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

Mary Frances Jiménez, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Maryland, College Park [[mfi@umd.edu](mailto:mfi@umd.edu)]

## Historian

John Gruesser, Professor, Kean University [[johngruesser@gmail.com](mailto:johngruesser@gmail.com)]

## Chair, Program Committee

Colleen O'Brien, Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina Upstate, [[cobrien@uscupstate.edu](mailto:cobrien@uscupstate.edu)]

## Chair, Monuments and Awards Committee

Nicole Aljoe, Assistant Professor, Northeastern University [[n.aljoe@neu.edu](mailto:n.aljoe@neu.edu)]

## The Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society

Requests to join the HOPKINSSOCIETY listserv may be submitted to Mary Frances Jiménez, listserv administrator and newsletter editor: [mfi@umd.edu](mailto:mfi@umd.edu).

<http://www.paulinehopkinsociety.org>

To submit information for possible inclusion on our website, please contact Mary Frances Jiménez, [mfi@umd.edu](mailto:mfi@umd.edu).