

KENNETH BURKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 3

October, 1987

VIDEO TAPES READY--

"Conversations with Kenneth Burke," a four-part library of almost eight hours of interviews with Mr. Burke, are now ready for institutional and long-term archival use on eight one-hour U-matic (3/4 inch) videocassettes at a cost of \$300 for the set. The series is also available on four two-hour VHS tapes for \$60.

The interviews were produced by University of Iowa graduate students from Communication Studies, Comparative Literature, English, the Writers' Workshop, American Studies, Mass Communication and History. Michael Calvin McGee initiated the project which was sponsored by the Department of Communication Studies. Clarke Rountree, Burke Society member, assisted in the planning and execution of the project.

A short guide to "Conversations with Kenneth Burke" is also included with each set. This includes four indexes to the interviews which utilize a small time code in the corner of the videotape, allowing users to quickly locate topics of interest chronologically, topically, by proper name, or by reference to the works of Burke.

The four parts in the series cover the life and work of Burke: the "Literary" Period, 1897-1935; the "Social Criticism" Period, 1935-1945; the "Dramatism" Period, 1945-1961; and, the "Logology" Period, 1961-1986.

Orders or requests for more information should be sent to:
"Conversations with Kenneth Burke"
Department of Communication Studies
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

KENNETH BURKE AT SCA MEETING: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Mr. Burke will be attending the 1987 SCA Convention in Boston, MA, November 5-7, at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. Below is KB's tentative schedule at the convention:

Thursday, November 5:

1. "B & B: The Heritage of Burke and Bormann Applied," Berkeley B Room, 2:30 pm--3:50 pm.

2. SCA No-Host Cocktail Party, Grand Ballroom, 5:30 pm--7:30 pm.

Friday, November 6:

3. "Kenneth Burke: Ideology and Politics," Beacon E Room, 11:30 am--12:50 pm. Sponsored by the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Branch.

4. "Kenneth Burke: The Iowa Interviews," Beacon A Room, 1:00 pm--2:20 pm. Sponsored by the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Branch. Mr. Burke is the scheduled respondent.

5. Queens College Cocktail Party In Honor of Kenneth Burke, 9:00 pm to Midnight, in Gary Gumpert's Suite.

Saturday, November 7:

6. Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Branch Business Meeting, Fensgate Room, 8:30 am--9:50 am.

7. Speech Communication Association Awards Luncheon, 11:30 am--2:20 pm. SCA First Vice President Michael Osborn will be formally recognizing Kenneth Burke's contribution to the discipline of communication.

NOTES

THE NEXT FORUM will be an "Open Forum." You get to decide what you believe to be the most important issue in Burke studies, or the most controversial issue. Please submit approximately 450 words. Everyone with an opinion is invited! If we are scholars of KB, then most of us have opinions--even strong ones. If you have sent something in the past and it has not appeared, please let the editor know. Include your phone number so a confirmation can be made.

INCLUDED in this middle section are minutes of branch meetings of the Kenneth Burke Society. We include these to encourage you to support your branch, or to support the start of a branch in your professional organization. Having a recognized branch in your organization will help to ensure that programs centering on the study of Burke will be included in conference planning.

THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL SPEECH COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATIONS met last April in St. Louis. There were at least two programs that featured Burkean (Burkeian) studies. Bernard Brock, respondent for one of the programs, pointed out that several years ago programs featuring Burke would never have shown the depth of thought and research. The progressive nature of research indicates that having times and places to report research is very important.

WANT TO REPORT A CONFERENCE? Send in your report to the editor. We can add it to the NOTES section that will be a part of all future KBS NEWSLETTERS.

WANT TO MAKE A DONATION? If your business, academic department or college/university would like to donate the cost of publishing the NEWSLETTER, or in-kind material or service, please contact the editor.

Minutes of the
Kenneth Burke Society, ECA Burke
Eastern Communication Association
Syracuse, NY

May 20, 1987

Present: Edward C. Appel, Elvera Berry, Brian R. Betz, Barb Biesecker, Dale Bertelsen, Jane Blankenship, James W. Chesebro, Herman Cohen, Sandi Hanisko, Jim Klumpp, Mary Mino, Star Muir, Richard Roth, Richard H. Thames, Stephen M. Weinstock, Gaynelle R. Winograd, and Gary C. Woodward.

1. Herman Cohen called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.
2. Jane Blankenship reported in the absence of Lester Olson, Chair of the 1987 Selection Committee. Following Blankenship's report a discussion took place concerning criteria for selection of papers. The question of papers explicating Burke's theory as contracted to critical applications was explored.

Since a number of excellent papers were not chosen for presentation at the programs of the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Branch, it was suggested that the readers for the SCA branch encourage the writers of those papers to submit them to the ECA Branch.

3. Jim Klumpp was elected the 1988 Chair of the Kenneth Burke Society, ECA Branch.
4. Cohen called on James Chesebro to explain the necessity for the selection of the chairs of the selection committee for both 1988 and 1989. Chesebro explained that under the present arrangement it is not possible to list the chair for the next convention in the program because that person will not have been selected. The problem will be solved by selecting two chairs in 1987 and by selecting a chair two years in advance in the future. Richard Thames was selected as Chair of the Selection Committee for 1988 and Gaynelle Winograd as Chair for 1989.
5. Gary Woodward reported on the citation presented by the New Jersey Senate to Kenneth Burke in honor of his 90th birthday.
6. Richard Thames encouraged members to search for Burke materials including films, video and audio tapes.
7. It was agreed that Chair Klumpp would consider the appointment of a committee to prepare a constitution for the Kenneth Burke Society, ECA Branch.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

Minutes of the

Third Annual Meeting of the
Speech Communication Association Chapter
of the Kenneth Burke Society

at the
Speech Communication Association Convention
Palmer House Hotel, Chicago, IL
Friday, November 14, 1986, 7:00pm-8:30pm

PRESENT: Edward C. Appel, Elvera Berry, Dale Bertelsen, Brian R. Betz, Jane Blankenship, Bernard L. Brock, Don Burks (chairing), James W. Chesebro (recording), Herman Cohen, Mary Evelyn Collins, Paul Evangelista, H.L. Ewbank, Rosali I. Gabin, Marcia Godich, James F. Klumpp, Linda Krug, Joan Luninger, Clay Mino, Howard Schreier, Richard H. Thames, Tim Thompson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Don Burks at 7:02pm.
2. Minutes of November 8, 1985 were approved as distributed.
3. Announcements and Reports by Officers of the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter:
 - A. Don Burks, Chair of the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter:
 1. A bid was received by a professional publisher/printer to publish and distribute the Newsletter. The cost was determined to be prohibitive.
 2. There are 175 members of the Kenneth Burke Society.
 3. The current budget of the Kenneth Burke Society is \$626. The Newsletter has constituted the primary expense of the Society.
 4. Members were encouraged to attend Seton Hall University's (South Orange, NJ) "Poetry-in-the-Round" with Kenneth Burke on December 4-5, 1986.
 5. A mailing list of 300 people interested in the Kenneth Burke Society is available from Don Burks, of which 150 of these people are members of the Kenneth Burke Society.
 6. A special issue of Pretext (Department of English, University of Texas, Arlington) will feature a 50

page essay by Burke as well as other essays regarding Burke. In all, a 280 page issue, including photos of Burke. The issue will probably sell for \$15.00.

B. Mary Evelyn Collins, Editor of the Newsletter of the Kenneth Burke Society:

1. Extra copies of the second Newsletter are still available.
2. Finances for the Newsletter may decline because of available reproduction costs at Wingate College.
3. Fifty dollars was spent on the mailing of the last Newsletter.
4. Members are encouraged to submit statements of 400 to 500 words for the Newsletter on the topic, "Where Does Burke's 'Bodies That Learn Language' Take Us?"
5. Anyone attending the Seton-Hall poetry conference on Kenneth Burke is encouraged to submit a report summarizing this conference to the Newsletter.
6. Deadline for all materials to be published in the next Newsletter is December 1, 1986.

C. James W. Chesebro, 1986 and 1987 Program Planning Chair

1. Sixteen papers were submitted for the 1986 SCA Convention Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter panel. All papers were evaluated by a Selection Committee through a "blind review" process. All of the papers were evaluated as at least "good," while four were ranked as "superior."
2. Special thanks to Don Abbott, Robert Heath, and John Patton for serving on the 1986 Selection Committee. From the responses they provided, it was clear that these three people devoted hours of exacting, thoughtful, and insightful work on the papers submitted. They deserve the wholehearted thanks of the KBS, SCA Chapter.
3. The 1986 Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter panel is scheduled for Saturday, November 15, 11:30am to 12:50pm, in Dining Room 9, 3rd Floor, Palmer House Hotel (see Page 64 of the 1986 SCA Convention program for details regarding this panel).
4. On December 16, 1985, Michael Osborn, SCA First Vice-President, approved a program panel and business meeting for the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter at the 1987 SCA convention in Boston, MA, November 5-8 1987.

5. The "call for papers" for the 1987 SCA Convention has been submitted. This "call" appears on page 124 of the 1986 SCA Convention program. This "call" duplicates the 1986 "call." The 1987 "call" notes that:
 - (a) submitted papers should address the purpose of Kenneth Burke Society (e.g.), "promote the study, understanding, dissemination of, research on, critical analysis of, and/or preservation of the works of and about Kenneth Burke");
 - (b) only complete papers (not abstracts) are to be submitted;
 - (c) papers should be received by February 15, 1987;
 - (d) three copies of each paper should be submitted; and
 - (e) papers should be submitted to: James W. Chesebro/Department of Communication Arts and Sciences/Queens College of CUNY/Flushing, NY 11367.
4. Announcements and Reports of the Kenneth Burke Society Regional Chapter:
 - A. Herman Cohen, Chair of the Eastern Communication Association Chapter of the Kenneth Burke Society:
 1. Kenneth Burke attended the ECA Convention in Atlantic City, NJ. His panel was extremely successful.
 2. A panel of competitive papers was also sponsored by the Kenneth Burke Society, ECA Chapter.
 3. Members are invited to submit papers for the competitive panel at the ECA Convention on May 18-21, 1987 in Syracuse, NY, to Lester Olson.
 - B. Timothy Thompson, for the Central States Speech Association Chapter of the Kenneth Burke Society:
 1. A panel will be sponsored at the next CSSA convention by the Kenneth Burke Society.
 2. An organizational meeting will also be held at the next CSSA convention to finalize matters related to the Kenneth Burke Society, Central States Speech Association Chapter.

3. In organizing this chapter, "a few lessons in bureaucratic tangles" are being learned.
- C. Southern Speech Communication Association Chapter of the Kenneth Burke Society: No Report.
- D. Western Speech Communication Association Chapter of the Kenneth Burke Society: No Report.
5. Election of Officers:
 - A. 1987 and 1988 Chair of the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter: James W. Chesebro, Queens College of CUNY.
 - B. 1988 and 1989 Chair of the Program Planning Committee, Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter: Bernard L. Brock, Wayne State University.
 - C. 1987 and 1988 Secretary of the Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter: Rosalind Gabin, SUNY Binghamton.
 - D. 1987 Selection Committee, Kenneth Burke Society, SCA Chapter: Names were recommended for the Selection Committee and Chesebro was instructed to select those people who were qualified and available.
6. Old Business:
 - A. The Kenneth Burke Society Constitution and Bylaws were approved as distributed.
 - B. Other Items:
 1. Blankenship recommended that the Chapter examine the degree to which it might assist Burke. Chesebro and Bertelsen have been appointed to make appropriate explorations.
 2. Appel recommended that the Chapter examine the ways in which discipline lines between communication and literacy criticism might be dissolved.
 3. The videotapes made of Burke at Iowa will be examined as potential audiovisual holdings of SCA.
7. New Business: None.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Edward C. Appel/69 Hickory Lane/Leola, PA 17540.

Elvera Berry/Director, Communication Program/Roberts Wesleyan College/Rochester, NY 14624.

Dale Bertelsen/Department of Communication/Pennsylvania State University/University Park, PA 16801.

Brian R. Betz/SUNY-Oswego/Oswego, NY 13126.

Jane Blankenship/Department of Communication/University of Massachusetts/Amherst, MA 01005.

Bernard L. Brock/2416 N. Vermont/Royal Oak, MI 48023.

Don Burks/Department of Communication/Purdue University/West Lafayette, IN 47907.

James W. Chesebro/Department of Communication Arts and Sciences/Queens College of CUNY/Flushing, NY 11367.

Herman Cohen/Department of Communication/Pennsylvania State University/University Park, PA 16801.

Mary Evelyn Collins/Wingate College/Wingate, NC 28174.

Paul Evangelisa/PA State University, Allentown/Fogelsville, PA 18051.

H.L. Ewbank/University of Arizona/Tucson, AZ 86721.

Rosalind Gabin/Department of English/SUNY-Binghamton/Binghamton, NY 13901.

Marcia Godich/University of Pittsburgh/Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

James Klumpp/Department of Communication Arts and Theatre/University of Maryland/College Park, MD 20742.

Linda Krug/407 AB Anderson/ University of Minnesota, Duluth/Duluth, MN 55811.

Joan Luninger/6615 Hearthstone/W. Bloomfield.

Clay Mino/Pennsylvania State University, DE Bois Campus/College Place/DE Bois, PA 15781.

Howard Schreier/25 Forest Road/Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

Richard H. Thames/Duquesne University/Pittsburgh, PA 15282.

Tim Thompson/333 Moore/Central Michigan University/Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859.

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MLA BRANCH

Bill Rueckert reports that he is progressing in the process to establish an MLA Branch of the Kenneth Burke Society.

Rueckert requests that MLA members interested in establishing a recognized branch with MLA contact him expressing their willingness to support such an effort. You can reach Rueckert at the following address:

William H. Rueckert
Dept. of English
SUNY-Geneseo
Geneseo, NY 14454

WANTED

The editor needs an assistant: We would like to be able to update the Kenneth Burke bibliography on a regular basis. If you are interested in doing at least a yearly update of the works by or about Burke, or those applying his theories, then apply at once to:

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KENNETH BURKE SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
Mary Evelyn Collins, Editor
Dept. of Communication Studies
Wingate College
Wingate, NC 28174

FROM THE EDITOR

THANKS to Byrnes Coleman, Division of Humanities Chair at Wingate College for funding our Newsletter.

THANKS to Burke Society members Japp, Klump and Appel for submitting to the FORUM.

THANKS to Jim Chesebro for his assistance during this fall.

PLEASE let me know if your address has changed. My PR class updated the current list using several faculty directories. We want to know your correct address.

SPECIAL THANKS to Communication 325 for their assistance and enthusiasm for the work of Kenneth Burke and the Kenneth Burke Society. Yet another group of students has become inspired by the words and work of Mr. Burke.

M.E. Collins

