



March 2019

## Winter Showers Bring Lots of Oral Histories

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### Director's Column, March 2019

How do thoughtful, articulate, quiet people who have something to say get heard? In this day and age in which the loudest voices, the most outlandish ideas, and the most shocking stories get the greatest attention, is there even room for the longform, deep-dive oral histories that the Oral History Center produces? We certainly think that there is — actually, we're pretty sure that not only is there a place for these interviews, but there is a real need for them. This leaves us with the question: how do we spread word of the remarkable interviews that we conduct? What's the best way for people who could benefit from our work to learn about it and thus use it?

Martin Meeker discusses this and the need to communicate the OHC's work in his monthly column.



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### March Introductory Oral History Workshop Recap

On Saturday, March 2nd, we led our annual "nuts and bolts" workshop for 40 people. [Read all about it on our blog.](#)

Want to dig deeper into the method and practice of oral history? [Apply for our Advanced Oral](#)

History Summer Institute, which will be held from August 5-9, 2019.



## Meet Jill Schlessinger, our new Communications Manager!

The Oral History Center is pleased to announce our newest staff member, Jill Schlessinger. She joins our team as Communications Manager. We caught up with her recently to chat about her background in history, interest in oral history, and the projects that she's most excited to embark on with the OHC.

## Nominations Open for Oral History Center's Class of '31 Narrators

These interviews are intended to document the life and contributions of a person who has participated in and contributed to UC Berkeley's campus life.

Nominations are due by May 1, 2019 for the annual "Class of 1931" interviewee; the 201 interviewee will be announced in mid-May 2019. Direct any questions to Martin Meeker, Oral History Center director: [mmeeker@library.berkeley.edu](mailto:mmeeker@library.berkeley.edu)



## WHAT WE'RE READING

An Artist, a Shantyboat, and the Lost History of American River Communities by Jonathan Carey  
The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai  
Still.Life Portraits by Nyssa Chow

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The Oral History Center

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