

NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXVII NO. 1

SPRING ISSUE

APRIL 2011

FALL CONFERENCE AT WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY in Worcester, Massachusetts

Saturday, April 16, 2011
SECOND CALL

The 86th meeting of the Association will be held on April 16 at Worcester State University, 486 Chandler St. (508-929-8000). The program is listed on pages 3-5 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Martin Menke** (Rivier College) arranged this splendid program. **James P. Hanlan** made the local arrangements with the assistance of **Bruce Cohen** and his colleagues at WSU. We hope this meeting in Worcester will be as well attended and successful as our meeting in Biddeford, Maine, last fall. We are very grateful for the hospitality shown to us by WSU. Please see our new web pages for other conference details:

<http://www.newenglandhistorians.org/>

The April conference begins with registration and a continental breakfast at 8:00 on Saturday morning in the Blue Lounge on the first floor of the Student Center. Panels begin at 8:30 a.m. in the

Student Center. Members are invited to bring copies of their own recent publications as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit at 10:00.

The registration fee payment is required for everyone on the program (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to April 8 is strongly recommended, but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues or graduate students.

Our luncheon will be served in the Blue Lounge of the Student Center at 12:15, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us, please use this form to pay your 2011 membership dues. Lunch will be followed by a brief business meeting. The Plenary Session is from 1:30 to 3:00. The topic is *Immigration—From Multiple Historical Perspectives*.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

NEHA has reserved 10 rooms in the Hilton Garden Inn for conference participants. The rooms are reserved for Friday night, April 15, at a special rate of \$109 per room. If you want one of the rooms, please let the hotel know by March 16, making sure they know of your connection with NEHA.

The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 35 Major Taylor Blvd. in the heart of downtown Worcester, adjacent to the DCU Convention Center. The hotel's phone is: 508-753-5700.



TRAVEL INFORMATION

CAR

From Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90): Take Exit 10 (Auburn) to Rt. 290 East. (see from 290 East)

From Rt. 495: Take Exit 25 to Rt. 290 West. (see from 290 West)

From Rt. 9 West: Follow Rt. 9 West into Worcester. (see from Highland St.)

From Rt. 146 North: Take Rt. 146 North to Rt. 290 East. (see from 290 East)

From Rt. 190 South: Take Rt. 290 West. (see from 290 West)

From Rt. 290 West: Take Exit 18 (Rt. 9 West); turn right off exit ramp and stay in center lane, following directions for Rt. 9 West. Turn right onto Rt. 9 West, also known as Highland Street. (see from Highland St.)

From Rt. 290 East: Take Exit 17 (Rt. 9). Turn left onto Rt. 9 West which will turn into Highland Street at the bottom of the hill. Proceed up the hill onto Highland Street. (see from Highland St.)

From Highland Street: While on Highland Street, stay in the right hand lane. Stay on Highland Street for 1.5 miles. (past Elm Park and Doherty High School on the left.) At the rotary, bear left onto June Street. At the second traffic light, turn right onto May Street. The main entrance to the University will be three blocks up on your left.

All sessions will be at the WSU Student Center Building. Parking will be available on campus.

TAXIS

Red Cab (508-792-9999); **Yellow Cab** (508-754-3211)

TRAIN/COMMUTER RAIL

Amtrak; Mass. Bay Transit Authority (MBTA)—Worcester Line



ADVANCE NOTICE

The Fall meeting will be held in Boston at Emmanuel College on October 29, 2011. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is July 1, 2011. For information about the program or submissions, contact: **Elizabeth De Wolfe**, University of New England (edewolfe@une.edu) or **James Hanlan**, NEHA Executive Secretary, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280; jphanlan@wpi.edu

NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations Since 1965

**SATURDAY
APRIL 16, 2011**

**WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS**

SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Registration and Continental Breakfast: 8:00-8:30 a.m. – Blue Lounge, Student Center Building

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE IN THE WSU STUDENT CENTER BUILDING

FIRST MORNING SESSIONS: 8:30-10:00:

8:30 Session 1: Urban Spaces in Modern South Asia

Chair: Lisa Krissoff Boehm, Worcester State University.

Commentator: Steven Corey, Worcester State University.

Rachel Ball, Boston College, "Marathi Mumbai: Conceiving Bombay as a Marathi City in the 1950's."

Aniruddha Bose, Boston College, "Dockworkers in Colonial Calcutta: Class Formation and Technological Transformation."

Tariq Ali, Harvard University, "Global Commerce and Small Towns: The Jute Trade and Urban Life in Agrarian East Bengal, 1873 to 1920."

8:30 Session 2: U.S. Cold-War Foreign Policy

Chair: Tanya Mears, Worcester State University.

Commentator: Emmett Shea, Worcester State University.

Andrew Kuech, Northeastern University, "Using, Negotiating, and Contesting U.S. Empire in the 1950's: Chinese Cold War Propaganda."

Jonathan Rourke, London School of Economics, "The Kennedy Administration and Adlai Stevenson: The Appointment of a UN Ambassador for the 1960's."

Ivan Mc Laughlin, New York University and University College, Cork, "Sheriff No More: The Vietnam Legacy in US-Nicaraguan Relations during the Carter Era."

8:30 Session 3: Early New England War and Society

Chair: Charlotte Haller, Worcester State University.

Commentator: John Resch, University of New Hampshire, Manchester.

Elizabeth Horner, Stony Brook University, "'A Material Post:' Fort No. 4 and the Seven Years' War."

Robert E. Cray, Montclair State University, "Lovewell Lamented: Death and Memory on the New England Borderlands."

Walter L. Sargent, University of Maine, Farmington, "Maine Statehood and the War of 1812."

8:30 Session 4: . Progressive-Era American Women

Chair: Mark Herlihy, Endicott College.

Commentator: Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont.

David Wagner, University of Southern Maine, "'The Miracle Worker' Revisited: Class, Ethnicity, Gender, and Disability in the Reception of Anne Sullivan and Helen Keller, 1887-1907."

Lynne Calamia, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg, "Serving Suffrage: Rediscovering the Suffrage Coffee House of Ayer, Massachusetts."

Arianna Funk, New York University, "Visual and Material Identity of late 19th-Century Bostonian Middle-Class Women."

8:30 Session 5: Panel Discussion on Teaching I: Teaching China in World History

Chair: TBA

Dane Morrison, Salem State University, "Manifest Destinations: Contesting Catholicism in Early American Travelogues."

Roland Higgins, Keene State College, "On Comparing Early Modern Asian Empires."

Alfred J. Andrea, University of Vermont, "Teaching World History through Artifacts: The Case of Silk Road Art."

Break for Book Exhibit & Refreshments: 10:00-10:30 – Blue Lounge**SECOND MORNING SESSIONS: 10:30-12:00:****10:30 Session 6: Identity and Conformity in the 20th-Century U.S.**

Chair: James P. Hanlan, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Commentator: Shawn Lynch, Assumption College.

Michael Sletcher, Yale University and John Dewey Academy, "The Constitutionality of Loyalty Oaths: Legal Precedents of Testing Educators and Public Employees in Twentieth-Century Massachusetts."

Jennifer Mandel, University of New England, "A Campaign to Build 'A Balanced Community': Crenshaw Neighbors and its Effort toward Housing Integration in Los Angeles through the 1960's."

Holly Caldwell, University of Delaware, "Creating Transnational Identities: Caribbean Immigrants in New York."

10:30 Session 7: Negotiating Military Conquest and Oppressed Peoples from Hadrian to Hitler

Chair: Martin Menke, Rivier College.

Commentator: James Bidwell, Anna Maria College.

David Blanchard, Fay School, "A New Appraisal of the Roman Army and the Frontiers, CE 68-98."

Micah Schneider, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, "'We Gave Them Such a Hot Fire. . .': Impact of Veterans at the Battle of Bunker Hill."

Michael Gesin, Worcester State University, "Case Study of Nationalism and Anti-Semitism of the Ukrainian Population During World War II."

10:30 Session 8: . Early American Atlantic History

Chair: Robert Imholt, Albertus Magnus College.

Commentator: Robert Smith, Worcester State University.

Joseph Avitable, Quinnipiac University, "Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., Merchant, Smuggler, and Agent of Integration: Connecticut in the Atlantic Economy on the Eve of the American Revolution."
Harvey Strum, Sage College of Albany, "New York and the Chesapeake Affair, 1807."
Christopher Cameron, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, "Paul Cuffe, Black Emigration, and the Antislavery Movement in Massachusetts before Garrison."

10:30 Session 9: 19th-century American Social Change

Chair: Peter Holloran, Worcester State University.

Commentator: Bruce Cohen, Worcester State University.

Clifford Putney, Bentley University, "Luther Gulick, Springfield College and the YMCA Triangle."
Jun Kinoshita, Kokugakuin University, "Mendenhall Reform of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1865-1900."
Priscilla Herrington, Salem State University, "Racial Stereotyping in the Weekday Bible: How New England Almanacs Depicted Blacks and Other Minority Persons, 1792 -1899."

10:30 Session 10: Twentieth-Century European Intellectual Culture

Chair: Elizabeth DeWolfe, University of New England.

Commentator: Jason Cavallari, Boston College.

Ian Grimmer, University of Vermont, "Nietzschean Feminism: Helene Stöcker's Transvaluation of Values."
Sarah Shurts, Bergen Community College, "Controversial Contributions: Alain de Benoist and an Approach to Controversial Intellectual History for Teachers and Scholars."
Elizabeth Vihlen McGregor, Annamaria College, "Postwar French Identity and the Musical Legacy of Django Reinhardt."

10:30 Session 11: Panel Discussion on Teaching II: Teaching the Historical Methods Course

Tona Hangen, Worcester State University.

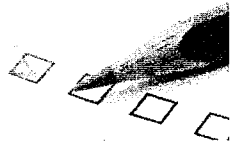
Nicholas Aieta, Westfield State University.

Brad Austin, Salem State University.

12:00-1:30 pm: Lunch and Business Meeting with Elections

1:30-3:00 pm: Plenary Session: Themes in the History of Immigration

3:00: Adjournment



SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR NEHA'S APRIL 16, 2011 ELECTION

PRESIDENT

Martin Menke, Rivier College

Martin Menke (BA Tufts University 1990, MA Boston College 1992, PhD Boston College 1996) has been a member of NEHA since the early nineties. He has served on the book prize committee, the nominating committee, and on the executive committee. He also presented papers and served as both commentator and chair. Currently, he serves as Vice President of NEHA, which mostly involves organizing the conference programs for the fall and spring conferences. He looks forward to building on NEHA's strengths and traditions as the organization evolves. At Rivier College, he serves as department coordinator and as secondary social studies director. He currently is on sabbatical writing a monograph on German Catholic politicians during the Nazi rise to power. He is also a member of the AHA, the German Studies Association, The German History Society of the UK, and the American Catholic Historical Association.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Elizabeth DeWolfe, University of New England

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Vice-President. I have been a NEHA board member for one year; local arrangements coordinator for the Fall 2010 NEHA conference at the University of New England; and have served twice on the NEHA book award committee. I am Professor & Chair of History at UNE, where I have taught courses in women's history and

American cultural history for 15 years. My publications include two monographs on the antebellum anti-Shaker movement, *Shaking the Faith* (2002) and *Domestic Broils* (2010); an anthology of writings about women and nature, *Such News of the Land* (2000); and *The Murder of Mary Bean and Other Stories* (2007) which was honored with book awards from NEHA and NEPCA. As VP, I would like to continue the good work of NEHA, particularly in continuing to welcome independent scholars, graduate students, and undergraduates.

TREASURER

Bruce Cohen, Worcester State University

Bruce Cohen is Associate Professor of History at Worcester State University, where he has served since 1965. He has served on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for many terms and on the Executive Board of the Worcester State Chapter of the Massachusetts State College Association. He teaches courses in late 19th and early 20th American History, including the Gilded Age, the Age of Reform, and the History of Child Labor. Professor Cohen has published numerous articles on Massachusetts labor and ethnic history in the *Historical Journal of Massachusetts*. He is a member of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the New England Historical Association. Both his undergraduate and graduate degrees were earned at Rutgers University, the AB with honors.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(three seats to be filled)

Chuck Arning, National Park Service

Chuck Arning, an 18 year National Park Service veteran in the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, has produced over 80 television/videos focusing on recreation, history, preservation, and oral histories of

Blackstone Valley residents. He produces, writes, & hosts the award winning series *Along the Blackstone*. Episodes have aired on the A&E Biography Channel (1998) & the History Channel (1996 – 1998). Arning was awarded the 1997 National Freeman Tilden Award for Excellence in Interpretation by the NPS and the Freedom Star Award by the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom in 2002. Arning has written for the National Association of Interpreter's Magazine *Legacy*, the American Antiquarian Society, and the NPS's Cultural Resource Management Magazine. He is a member of and councilor for the American Antiquarian Society and the Western Historical Association. He is also the Public Historian Board Member for NEHA.

Candace Kanes, Maine Historical Society
Candace Kanes is the curator/historian for the Maine Historical Society's Maine Memory Network, a digital museum and archive. She also curates some of the physical exhibits at Maine Historical, where she has worked since 2003. She curated the current exhibit, *Zoom In: New Approaches to Maine History*, which explores the relationship of *Maine History Online* (www.mainememory.net/mho) and the physical objects that make up that history. She also is curating the exhibit that will open in June 2011, *Dressing Up, Standing Out, Fitting In: Adornment and Identity in Maine*. She holds a doctorate in American history from the University of New Hampshire and a master's from SUNY Buffalo. She has taught history at the Maine College of Art, the University of New England, Bates College, and the University of Southern Maine. She is especially interested in encouraging the connection between academic and public history.

Dane Morrison, Salem State University
NEHA has held an iconographic place in my historical thought since graduate school, and I would be honored to serve this worthy organization. As Professor of Early American History at Salem State University, I have held several administrative positions, including department chair, American Studies Program coordinator, department review coordinator, and local arrangements coordinator for several conferences. In addition, I have served on regional boards, and currently hold the position of President of the Northeast Region World History Association. As an early Americanist, my research and teaching explores Americans' global encounters through print (e.g., travelogues, journals, newspaper accounts, ships' logs) and material culture. My work includes *A Praying People: Massachusetts Acculturation and the Failure of the Puritan Vision, 1600–1690*; *American Indian Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Contemporary Issues*; *Salem: Place, Myth and Memory*, and a current project called *True Yankees: Americans, the South Seas, and the Discovery of National Identity*.

Kristen Petersen, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Kristen Petersen, PhD, is Assistant Professor of History and Social Sciences at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Boston, MA. A scholar of immigration and ethnic history, Petersen is the author of "Waltham Rediscovered: An Ethnic History of Waltham, Massachusetts" (1988), and co-author of "As Tough As It Gets: Women and the Boston City Council, 1920-2004" (The Center for the Study of Women in Politics and Public Policy, U-Mass. Boston, 2005). Teaching interests include immigration history; women's history; and the history of American religions. She has also worked in the public history field as executive director of the Bay State Historical League.

Evelyn Sterne, University of Rhode Island
 Evelyn Sterne (B.A. Yale, M.A./Ph.D. Duke) is Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of History at the University of Rhode Island. She teaches courses in twentieth-century U.S. history as well as U.S. immigration history and history of religion. Her research focuses on the history of religion, politics and immigration in late nineteenth- and twentieth-century New England. The author of *Ballots and Bibles: Ethnic Politics and the Catholic Church in Rhode Island* (Cornell Press, 2003), she is currently writing a book with the working title “Blue State Bible Belt: Evangelical Protestants in Twentieth Century New England.” She has had the pleasure of being involved with the New England Historical Association in a number of capacities – presenting papers, hosting a conference and serving on the nominating committee – and would welcome the opportunity to sit on the executive committee.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(two seats to be filled)

Tona Hangen, Worcester State University
 I have been a member of NEHA since I was a Ph.D. student at Brandeis University in the 1990s and I appreciate what the organization can do for—and how it can benefit from— younger scholars. I am committed to building NEHA’s membership and leadership as the society grows into the future. Currently, I serve as an ex officio member of the NEHA Executive Board, having volunteered to update the NEHA website and create its Twitter feed. I am the author of the 2002 book *Redeeming the Dial: Radio, Religion, and Popular Culture in America* and have contributed to numerous reference works on media and religion. My scholarly interests include radio history, religious studies, and the digital humanities. As an Assistant Professor of US History, I teach courses in contemporary US

history, religion, health care, citizenship/immigration, and historical methods.

Whitney Howarth, Plymouth State University

I would like to serve on the New England Historical Association Nominating Committee because I am personally interested in finding new ways to “promote scholarly interchange and to enhance teaching and scholarship in history” as NEHA’s mission statement advocates. As an Associate Professor of History (Plymouth State University, New Hampshire) who focuses on modern world history, I am particularly interested in supporting historians who are interested in interdisciplinary, thematic and global history. NEHA conferences offer sessions in a wide variety of regional specializations (Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania, Latin America and North America) and I’d like to see NEHA encourage scholars who are also looking at the connections between regions. I have published curriculum materials about the Indian Ocean (AP World History, 2005) and an article on 19th century Indian social activism in “*The Journal of Postcolonial Theory and Theology*” (2010). I am currently working on a book manuscript about the Kingdom of Mysore, India.

Matthew Masur, Saint Anselm College
 Matthew Masur earned his Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 2004. He is now Associate Professor of History at Saint Anselm College, where he teaches courses on U.S. foreign relations, the Vietnam War, and Asian history. His publications include “Exhibiting Signs of Resistance: South Vietnam’s Struggle for Legitimacy, 1954-1960,” which appeared in *Diplomatic History* in April 2009. He has presented at academic conferences sponsored by the Society for Historians of American Foreign

Relations, the Organization of American Historians, and the American Historical Association. He has also been involved in efforts to improve history pedagogy, both through participation in Teaching American History grant programs and as a member of the Teaching Committee for the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. He was on the program of the New England Historical Association in 2008 and 2009.

Melanie Murphy, Emmanuel College

Melanie Murphy is an Associate Professor of History at Emmanuel College in Boston. Her dissertation at Brandeis University, *Max Nordau's Fin-de-Siecle Romance of Race*, was published by Peter Lang in 2007. She teaches European and World history, and is a member of the Global Studies program faculty at Emmanuel as well as the History Department. She has presented a number of times at both NEHA and NEPCA and at other locations on such topics as the politics of Jose Saramago, Degenerate Art, Max Nordau, the World Wars, and Nazism and Fascism in the movies.

Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman is Professor of Political Science and American Studies at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and received her Ph.D. in American Studies from Case Western Reserve University. Forthcoming publications in 2011 include chapters in edited books, "Health Care Delivery in America: Historical and Policy Perspectives" (James and Bartlett) and "Germ-Free? Hygiene History and Consuming Anti-microbial and Antiseptic Products" with Martha N. Gardner (Wiley). She presented the paper, "'Patients have the right to clean hands': The Paradox of Hospitals and Handwashing Promotion" at the 2010 New York Metro American Studies Association Conference and is working on a study of the cultural history of the drugstore

in America. Her teaching interests include the history of health professions and public health and the history of ethnic and racial identity in America. With other colleagues, she received a Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER) grant to develop and teach Disease and Society. A member of NEHA since 2005, she has written book reviews for *NEHA News* and chaired or commented on panels at conferences. She has served on the NEHA Prize Committee for the most outstanding paper by a graduate student and the Book Award Committee.

Daniel C. Williamson, University of Hartford

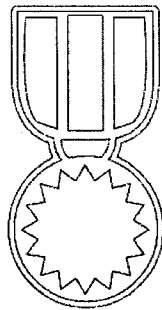
I received my Ph.D. in Modern European History from the University of Connecticut in 2000. Since 2001 I have been teaching Western Civilization and Modern Irish History at the University of Hartford's Hillyer College. My first book, *Separate Agendas: Churchill, Eisenhower, and Anglo-American Relations, 1953-1955* was published in 2006 by Lexington Books. Currently, I am working on a study of the diplomatic response of the Republic of Ireland to the early years of the violence in Northern Ireland. I have served as a member, and as the chair, of the NEHA Graduate Student Prize Committee and I am completing a term on the Nominating Committee.

**WELCOME TO OUR
NEW MEMBERS**

**Heather Barry
Rhonda J. Chadwick
Julie DeChantal
Robert Martello
Odell Douglas Missildine
Linda K. Palmer
Sarah Shurts
Amy Van Natter**

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The NEHA Executive Committee met at Rivier College in Nashua, New Hampshire, on December 4, 2010. The agenda included future meeting sites, a retrospective on the fall conference, and the appointment of new committee members. Other topics of discussion included the election of officers in the spring, the new website, and the **James P. Hanlan Book Award**. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at Worcester State College on April 16, 2011. Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting by contacting the Executive Secretary.



NEHA BOOK AWARD

NEHA welcomes nominations for the **James P. Hanlan Book Award**. This prestigious award has been presented annually since 1985 to an author who has produced an outstanding work of history.

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, Department of Humanities, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280 or email him at jphanlan@wpi.edu by June 1, 2011. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2010, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA Book Award presented at the October 2011 conference. The nominated book should represent the

best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. The award certificate and \$300.00 stipend are presented to the winner at the conference each Fall.

The members of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2010 are: **Trent E. Maxey**, chair (Amherst College); **Libby Bischof** (University of Southern Maine); **Yovanna Pineda** (University of Central Florida); **Jennifer Purcell** (Saint Michael's College); **James Bidwell** (College of the Holy Cross).

CONFERENCE REPORT

The 85th meeting of the Association was held at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, on October 16, 2010. The meeting was well attended; 110 historians registered for 15 sessions with 41 papers. Several dozen people ate a sumptuous lunch at the university's dining hall, overlooking the Saco River. After lunch **George Athan Billias** (Clark University) received the **James P. Hanlan Book Award** for his outstanding book *American Constitutionalism Heard Round the World, 1776-1989: A Global Perspective* (New York University Press). NEHA gave a second award—this one for lifetime achievement—to **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State University), whose decades of leadership within the Association have helped to keep it going. Finally, conferees gathered for a plenary session, the topic of which was "Teaching and Learning in the Digital Age."

The meeting was made possible by tremendous efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **Martin Menke** (Rivier College), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and by the local arrangements committee chaired by **Elizabeth De Wolfe** (University of New England).

NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

Richard D. Brown (University of Connecticut) chaired a committee to find a new historian for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Richard Chu, Stephen Platt and Sigrid Schmalzer (all of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst) were awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

The History Department at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, was chosen by the American Historical Association to be profiled on *Historians TV*.

Peter Holloran (Worcester State University) received the President's Award for his contributions and service to the Popular Culture/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) at the annual conference of the Northeast PCA/ACA in Boston on October 23, 2010.

Harlow Robinson (Northeastern University) was selected by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as an Academy Film Scholar.



BOOK NEWS

Lisa Krissof Boehm (Worcester State University) and **Steven Corey** (Worcester State University) published *The American Urban Reader: History and Theory* (Routledge).

Brooke L. Blower (Boston University) published *Becoming Americans in Paris: Transatlantic Politics and Culture between the World Wars* (Oxford University Press).

Richard W. Judd (University of Maine) and **Anthony N. Penna** (Northeastern University) are editing a new book series: *Environmental History of the Northeast* (University of Massachusetts Press).

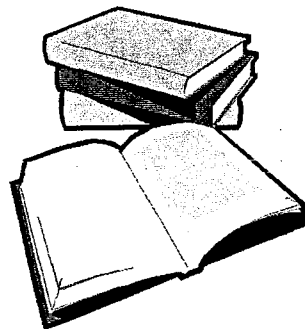
James McCann (Boston University) published *Stirring the Pot: A History of African Cuisine* (Ohio University Press), which won the U.S. Gourmand World Cookbook Award.

Janet L. Polasky (University of New Hampshire) published *Reforming Urban Labor: Routes to the City, Roots in the Country* (Cornell University Press).

Cyrus Veesser (Bentley University) published *Great Leaps Forward: Modernizers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America* (Prentice Hall).

Paul Wainwright published *A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England* (Peter Randall Pub.), which won the New England Book Festival Award for the best photography/art book of 2010.

Denise J. Youngblood (University of Vermont) and **Tony Shaw** (University of Hertfordshire) published *Cinematic Cold War: The American and Soviet Struggle for Hearts and Minds* (University Press of Kansas).





CONFERENCES MEETING

The **New England American Studies Association** (NEASA) holds its annual conference in Plimouth Plantation, Massachusetts, on November 4-6, 2011. For more information contact neasacouncil@gmail.com or www.neasa.org

The **15th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women** meets on the theme *Generations: Exploring Race, Sexuality, and Labor Across Time and Space* on June 9-12, 2011, at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. For details see the website www.berksconference.org

The **Society for Historians of the Early American Republic** holds its 33rd annual meeting in Philadelphia on July 14-17, 2011. For information about the meeting, contact John L. Larson, the Program Committee Chair: larsonjl@purdue.edu

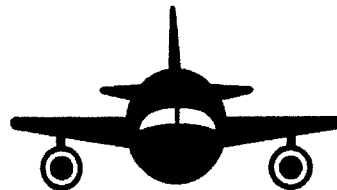
The **Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife**, in conjunction with **Historic Deerfield** and the **Society of Civil War Historians**, will hold a conference on "New England and the Civil War" in Deerfield, Massachusetts, on June 24-26, 2011. For more information contact Peter Benes: pbenes@historic-deerfield.org

The **Boston Seminar in Immigration and Urban History** began its 12th season on September 30 and will end on April 9 at the Massachusetts Historical Society. The steering committee welcomes suggestions for papers dealing with all aspects of American immigration and urban history

and culture, not confined to Massachusetts topics. If you would like to give a paper or attend the seminars contact **Conrad E. Wright**, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; cwright@masshist.org

The **Popular Culture/American Culture Association** holds its annual conference at the Marriott Hotel in San Antonio on April 20-23, 2011. For information on this interdisciplinary conference see the PCA/ACA webpage at www.pcaaca.org/conference/2008. To submit a proposal on any *New England Studies* topics, please contact by October 31 the ACA program chair **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College, pholloran@worcester.edu.

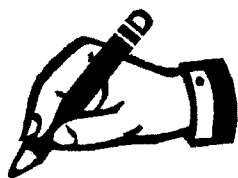
The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) holds its 34th annual conference at Western Connecticut State University on November 11-12, 2011. Contact the NEPCA program chair, **Don Gagnon**, gagnond@wcsu.edu or see the NEPCA website: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html



CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

A conference on *Gossip, Gospel, and Governance: Orality in Europe, 1400-1700* will meet in London on July 14-16, 2011. Contact Alex Cowan at www.northumbria.ac.uk/sd/academic/sass/about/humanities/history/groups/memgroup/

A conference on *Public History in North America and the UK: Comparative Perspectives on Theory and Practice* will meet in London on October 22-24, 2011. Contact Holger Hoock, hhoock@liv.ac.uk or see the website: www.history.ac.uk/news



AUTHORS WANTED

The Historical Journal of Massachusetts (HJM) seeks articles about any aspect of Massachusetts history, culture, politics, and life. HJM is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year since 1972. We are especially interested in articles on the history of recent immigrant communities. Subscriptions are \$12.00 per year, and the acceptance rate is 35%. For submission guidelines see www.wsc.mass.edu/mhj/ or email matin.masshistory@wsc.ma.edu

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) offers its annual *Peter C. Rollins Book Award* for the best book on any American culture or popular culture topic published in 2010 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2011. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in November 2011 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: **Robert E. Weir**, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; weir.r@comcast.net

If you would like to write a book review for the *NEHA News*, please feel free to contact the Association's book review editor, **Thomas J. Carty**, Springfield College, Department of History, Springfield, MA 01109; Thomas_J_Carty@spfldcol.edu We have books available for review or you may suggest a good new book you have in hand. Our reviews are 600 words and due in 60 days.

The New Quarterly editors invite submissions for their consideration. This

historical review of New England life and letters has been published since 1928. The journal's mission remains the same as that set forth by its founders: NEQ is an open forum dedicated to the exploration and discussion of New England civilization and its effects on the nation and the world. The journal is open to any historical method, and there is no restriction on the time period covered. Features also include brief memoranda, recently discovered documents, reconsiderations of historical controversies, periodic essay reviews, and approximately fifteen book reviews per issue.

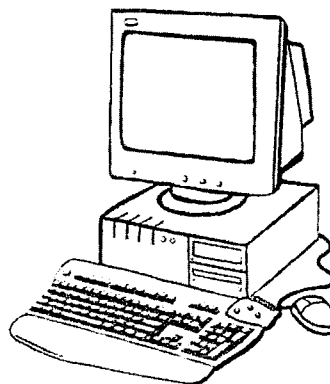
Manuscripts should be sent to the editor, **Linda Smith Rhoades**, The NEQ, Meserve Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115; l.rhoades@new.edu or see our website: www.newenglandquarterly.org

The Journal of Popular Culture, a scholarly journal published six times a year by the Popular Culture Association, seeks contributions (articles, book reviews, and guest editorials). For more information, contact the editor: **Gary Hoppenstand**, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824 (hoppens2@msu.edu).

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** will offer short-term and long-term research fellowships for the academic year 2011-2012, including two MHS-NEH Long-Term Fellowships (made possible by an award from the National Endowment for the Humanities), and the Suzanne and Caleb Loring Fellowship on the Civil War, Its Origins and Consequences. The Society also offers Short-Term Fellowships and participates in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. For more information please visit the website, www.masshist.org/fellowships, or contact Kate Viens (fellowships@masshist.org, 617-646-0512).

The **American Philosophical Society Library** in Philadelphia offers competitive short-term fellowships supporting in-residence research in its renowned scholarly collections. Applicants who hold the Ph.D. or are advanced Ph.D. candidates or independent scholars may apply for the fellowships which have a monthly \$2,000 stipend for 1-3 months. For applications see: www.amphilsoc.org/grants/resident.htm



Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, an alliance of the Boston Medical Library and the Harvard Medical Library, offers two annual fellowships to support research in the history of medicine. This is the largest academic medical library in the nation with an extensive collection of European medical texts from the 15th to 20th centuries and many other archives. For application information contact Countway Fellowships, Center for the History of Medicine, Francis A. Countway Library, 10 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115.

NEHA FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

The **Association Fund** was created many years ago to support some of the Association's activities not related directly to the annual conference, newsletter, mailings or other routine expenses. It has supported the annual NEHA book award and the NEHA Prize, along with subsidizing graduate students presenting a paper, and defraying costs associated with our joint sessions at the AHA. This modest fund is supported by the generosity of our members. Please consider making a donation. Mail your check payable to NEHA to **James P. Hanlan**, the Executive Secretary, or add a contribution when you pay your annual dues or conference registration payment. Thank you for your generous support. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

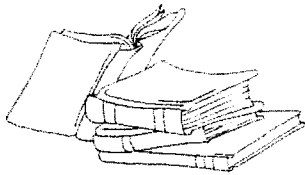
CHANGES AT NEHA NEWS AND THE NEHA WEBSITE

2011 is a time of change at NEHA. After 20 years of editing *NEHA News*, **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State University) has decided to step down from his post. The Fall 2010 issue was his last as editor. Needless to say, NEHA owes Peter a huge debt of gratitude. It is hard to imagine how NEHA would have functioned without his skillful and reliable issuance of *NEHA News*.

The new editor of *NEHA News* is **Clifford Putney** (Bentley University). If you have a submission for the Fall 2011 issue of the newsletter, please send it to Cliff (cputney@bentley.edu). Book reviews should be sent to **Thomas J. Carty** (Springfield College), the book review editor (tcarty@spfldcol.edu).

Another momentous change at NEHA is the appointment of **Tona Hangen** (Worcester State University) to the position of webmaster. She succeeds **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), who stepped down as webmaster last fall after many years of excellent service. Tona (thangen@worchester.edu) would like to remind everyone that NEHA has a new web address:

<http://www.newenglandhistorians.org>



BOOK REVIEWS

Terrance Keenan. *If Our Lives Be Saved: A Saga of the Collin Family Settlers in Early New York State*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2007.

Terrance Keenan, “a poet, artist, Zen Buddhist monk, and former rare books and manuscript librarian”, presents an unusual amalgam of primary sources, narrative, and reflections on the meanings of life in *If Our Lives Be Spared*. An exploration of the Collin family, which migrated in nineteenth-century New York State from Hillsdale, near the Massachusetts border, to the central part of the state, *If Our Lives Be Spared* fulfills the author’s pledge to Betsy Knapp, “the last of her line” in the Collin family (305). Through family documents, oral tradition, newspapers, court records and other archival material that cover an eighty-year period, Keenan offers a meditation on frontier life and human conflict.

The book is organized around a family fight over inheritance: a sister suing her brother in the 1880s, after their aged father’s death. As a way of examining the larger meaning of life, Keenan describes the life choices of this family, particularly the contrasting paths taken by Miriam Collin Armstrong, who unsuccessfully contested her father’s will, and her nephew, Roswell Collin, who chose sacrifice and service over a marriage to his favorite cousin.

To provide context to the legal battle, Keenan describes the father’s settlement in central New York in 1817 and ranges across the century to consider changes in the America that was being created during those years. He notes “just how hard it was to create the life of pastoral bliss we assume, as a national heritage... Fortunately for us, the women of the Collin clan wrote to one another, and we can learn

that it was not only the so-called noble efforts of the men who made the transformation of the wilderness possible” (60).

Many, perhaps most, of the words in the book are from nineteenth-century documents. Entire chapters are basically verbatim renditions of letters or court transcripts, enabling readers to enjoy immersion in the era. These historical documents can help modern readers appreciate the length of time required to travel across New York State. Further, the author demonstrates how changes in transportation – canals and railroads – stitched these frontier communities into the new industrial economy. But he goes beyond all that to uncover family conflict as a means of examining and contemplating the human condition.

Keenan begins each chapter with a quotation from “King Lear.” But the tale of the 1880s court battle over the disposition of the estate of David Collin, “the settler,” may not be as dramatic as Keenan seems to imply. The conflict does, nevertheless, provide a structure, however loose, for the narrative. Narrative is not the strong suit here.

Some chapters focus on characters in the family but those like Chapter 6 “Life on the Farm” (almost totally consisting of diary entries) are most valuable. A shorter chapter (7) with one introductory and one concluding paragraph contains only the question and answer format taken directly from court proceedings in 1885. The succeeding chapter shifts back in time to treat the Civil War. Keenan argues that “folks in remote Central New York knew what was going on in the war and were indeed profiting from it”. He continues, “at the same time, something else was going on, something that no one recognized nor most certainly acknowledged: war leads to nihilism, alienation, and desecration of life” (211).

The book not only fulfills a promise to a friend: “Without Betsey, none of this

would have been necessary—or possible” (307); it is also a meditation on life. While the resulting volume may attract only a limited audience, the book offers these readers something of value.

Lawrence W. Kennedy
University of Scranton

I. Francis Kyle III, *An Uncommon Christian: James Brainerd Taylor, Forgotten Evangelist in America's Second Great Awakening*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2008.

James Brainerd Taylor had a brief but active life in the early 1800s that exemplified many central themes of the Second Great Awakening. Born in 1800 in Middle Haddam, Connecticut, and educated at Lawrenceville, Princeton and Yale, Taylor died of tuberculosis in 1828 before graduating from the last. Never formally ordained, Taylor nevertheless found time amidst his studies to lead revivals in New Jersey and Connecticut and to gain considerable fame as an extemporaneous preacher. Taylor's great influence on the Second Great Awakening came after his early death, through the medium of two hefty memoirs. Such diverse evangelists as David Livingstone in Britain and Charles Grandison Finney in America testified to the impact of Taylor's biography on their lives. In an age of Evangelical activism in the Western world, Taylor's determination to become an "uncommon Christian" evidently stood out amongst his contemporaries and inspired many others to emulation.

A portrait of Taylor painted shortly prior to his death reveals a handsome face, a calm and confident gaze, and a hint of humor about his lips. He was a happy man despite the illness that overtook him in his early twenties. Observers of his preaching and his conversation found him courteous and affectionate, and able to speak of subjects like heaven and hell with penetrating effect but without rancor or

manipulation. He winsomely embodied the New England Awakening's concern for social justice by founding and teaching a Sunday School class for African-Americans during a stint at work in New York in his middle teens. Perhaps because of his youth, and also his preoccupation with practical evangelism, Taylor's precise theological affiliations were hard to deduce. He stood generally in the tradition of Jonathan Edwards' Calvinism, as adapted by Edwards' disciple Samuel Hopkins in his "New Divinity." But Taylor's spiritual intensity, his ardor in serving God, and his desire to "wear out rather than rust out" impressed his contemporaries more than his specific teaching. Taylor's brief life offered a paradigm of activism (his motto was "Up and Doing") for an age of confident and optimistic Evangelical determination to Christianize America and beyond it, the world.

Francis Kyle has written a thorough, careful, balanced biography of this Evangelical saint, so influential in mid-19th century America and so little known today. Based on exhaustive research in the relevant sources, this book offers a grass-roots view of New England revivalism in the 1820s, as the foundations of the antebellum "Evangelical Empire" were being laid. Readers interested in early New England and undergraduate students of American religion should find this work accessible, interesting and useful.

Leslie Fairfield
Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge,
Pennsylvania

Robert F. Lewis II. *Smart Ball: Marketing the Myth and Managing the Reality of Major League Baseball*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2010.

Plenty of books describe baseball as a secular religious or cultural phenomenon, but Robert F. Lewis II breaks new ground in *Smart Ball: Marketing the Myth and*

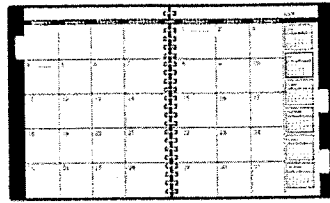
Managing the reality of Major League Baseball. Lewis analyzes baseball as a nation-state, or in his terms, a “quasi-nation” (26). In discussing baseball’s pursuit of its national interests at home and abroad, Lewis employs the framework of political scientist Joseph S. Nye, Jr., who sees diplomatic tools divided into hard power (political, military, and most importantly for baseball, economic) and soft power (various forms of cultural appeal and persuasion). Smart power combines the two. Lewis argues that baseball has relied on hard legal and economic power, which has “hampered MLB’s business progression at least as much as it helped it.” Baseball’s soft power consists of its “linkage to American moral values” and “mythic mystique.” Baseball, Lewis argues, “has done a better job of marketing its myth than its reality” (37).

Baseball’s “hard power” model consists chiefly in creating a legal and economic monopoly, insuring a cheap source of labor without interference. In 1876, William Hulbert created the National League as an owner-dominated entity. The reserve clause, first instituted in 1879, bound each player to his club perpetually at the club’s option. A string of legal decisions, concluding with *Flood v. Kuhn* in 1972, ruled that baseball was not commerce and therefore not subject to anti-trust laws. Lewis argues that baseball practiced a form of neocolonialism to secure its labor pool. Lewis calls Branch Rickey baseball’s “leading neocolonialist” for his role in creating the modern farm system. Rickey argued that he was giving “lower-class recruits a lifetime opportunity.” Lewis will have none of it, arguing that Rickey “behaved like an amoral capitalist by unduly withholding money from players or excessively spending it on his own behalf” (75). Later baseball extended its neocolonial activities to Latin America, which Lewis sees as “‘external racism’ or xenophobia” (88).

Hard power produced a static business model and provoked a backlash, most notably in the form of the emergence of a strong players union in the 1960s. Soft power is the remedy to the defects of hard power. The most potent element of soft power is the myth of baseball as a pastoral and uniquely American game, which baseball magnates since Albert G. Spalding have exploited for their benefit. Lewis sees the better use of soft power as the key to baseball’s success abroad. He points to the World Baseball Classic, which “provided a major, though risky soft power opportunity to market the game globally” (8). In a nine-point marketing plan combining soft and hard power, Lewis argues for an expansion of the WBC, promotion of more college scholarships and of programs such as *Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities*. His one hard power recommendation calls for the absorption of the independent leagues into the structure of organized baseball (136-137).

Lewis has presented an intriguing and often persuasive thesis. However, he sometimes falls into the interpretive trap of constructing a box and then cramming everything into it, whether or not it fits. The racism that Lewis sees in baseball’s dealings with Latin America might also simply be the desire to get more for less that has driven every owner since 1876. Lewis wants to blame the lack of enthusiasm for Barry Bonds’ home run chase in 2001, but is forced to admit that other factors likely played a greater role. Lewis is also weak on some aspects of baseball history. He discusses the evolution of the general manager without mentioning Ed Barrow, and spends too much time flogging the dead horse of the Doubleday thesis. Nonetheless, *Smart Ball* should provoke a healthy debate about the future business of baseball.

Robert W. Smith
Worcester State University



PLAN AHEAD

Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association

2011 * Danbury * 11-12 November

Oral History Association

2011 * Denver * 12-16 October

Economic History Association

2011 * Boston * 9-11 September

National Conference on Public History

2011 * Pensacola * 6-10 April

North American Conference on British Studies

2011 * Denver * 18-20 November

Social Science History Association

2011 * Boston * 17-20 November

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic

2011 * Philadelphia * 14-17 July

World History Association

2011 * Beijing * 7-11 July

American Historical Association

2012 * Chicago * 5-8 January

2013 * New Orleans * 3-6 January

2014 * Washington, DC * 2-5 January

Organization of American Historians

2011 * Houston * 17-20 March

2012 * Milwaukee * 19-22 April

2013 * San Francisco * 11-14 April

2014 * Washington * 2-5 April

American Studies Association

2011 * Baltimore * 20-23 October

2012 * San Juan * 15-16 November

2013 * Washington, DC * 21-24 November

American Conference for Irish Studies

2011 * Madison, WI * March 30-April 2

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2011 * San Antonio * 20-23 April

2012 * Boston * 4-7 April

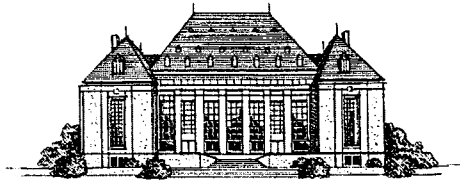
2013 * Washington, DC * 27-30 March

2014 * Chicago * 16-19 April



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APRIL 16, 2011



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Please do not mail after April 8. Registration will be available at the conference. Use this form to pay your 2011 annual dues, even if you do not attend the Spring meeting. NEHA does not bill for dues. Membership expiration date is noted next to the letters "ex" on your mailing label. Membership is for the calendar year. Note on this form on which committee you would like to serve.

Make checks payable to NEHA in US funds and return by April 8 to:

***James P. Hanlan, NEHA Executive Secretary, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA
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NEHA NEWS
The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

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The New England Historical Association is a comprehensive organization for professional and avocational historians in all disciplines and fields. Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in studying, teaching or writing history. It is *not restricted* to New England history or American Studies. The Association is affiliated with the **American Historical Association**.

Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$20.00, or \$10.00 for graduate students and adjunct or retired faculty members. Life membership for individuals or organizations is \$150. An Association Fund assists in supporting the work of the Association. All dues and contributions to the Association Fund are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please address all correspondence to the Executive Secretary.

CALENDAR

Spring Meeting

Worcester State
University

April 16, 2011

Fall Meeting

Emmanuel College

October 29, 2011

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