

NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXVIII NO. 1

SPRING ISSUE

APRIL 2012

**SPRING CONFERENCE AT
RIVIER COLLEGE in Nashua, New Hampshire
on
Saturday, April 21, 2012
SECOND INVITATION**

The 88th meeting of the Association will be held on April 21 at Rivier College, 420 S. Main St. (603-888-1311). 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 **Elizabeth DeWolfe** (University of New England) arranged this terrific program. **James P. Hanlan** made the local arrangements with the assistance of **Martin Menke** and his colleagues at Rivier College. We hope this meeting in Nashua will be as well attended and successful as our meeting in Boston last fall. We are very grateful for the hospitality shown to us by Rivier College. 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 8:30 on Saturday morning in Rivier's Education Center on Clement Street. Panels begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Education 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 10:30. 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 6 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 Education Center at 12:00, 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 2012 membership dues. Lunch will be followed by an afternoon panel session, which will last from 1:15-3:15.

At 3:15 p.m., our hosts at Rivier College will generously provide a closing reception for conferees. It will feature cheese and crackers with old-fashioned New England cider.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

NEHA suggests staying at the Radisson Hotel, 11 Tara Blvd.; Nashua, NH 03062 (603-888-9970). If you say you're attending the NEHA Conference at Rivier College, you qualify for a discount rate (\$99 per night, for either one or two nights). Rooms will be available at this rate until March 21, 2012.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

From Boston (50 minutes)

Interstate 93 North to I-95/Route 128 South to Burlington, MA. Exit to Route 3 North to Nashua, NH. From Route 3/F.E. Everett Turnpike, take Exit 4, turn right at lights onto East Dunstable Road. Take a right at the third light (about 1 mile) onto Main St. At the roundabout (rotary), take the second right onto the campus.

From Connecticut

Interstate 84-East to I-90 (Mass Pike) East to I-495 North. Exit to Route 3 North to Nashua, NH. Then do as the Bostonians do (see above).

From Rhode Island

Interstate 95 North to Route 3 North to Nashua, NH. Then do as the Bostonians do (see above).

From Upstate New York/Western Massachusetts

Interstate 90 East (New York Thruway) to Massachusetts (becomes Mass Pike). Exit at I-290 East to I-495 North. Exit to Route 3 North to Nashua, NH. Then do as the Bostonians do (see above).

From Maine

Interstate 95 South to Interstate 495 South to Route 3 North to Nashua, NH. Then do as the Bostonians do (see above).

From Vermont

Interstate 89 South to I-93 South to Route 293 in Manchester. Follow signs to F.E. Everett Turnpike/Route 3 South to Nashua, NH. Then do as the Bostonians do (see above).



PARKING INFORMATION

The conference will be held in Rivier's Education Center for registration, breakfast, lunch, and all sessions. To reach the Education Center, take a turn from South Main St. (the main road through campus) onto Clement Street. The Education Center is the last building on the right.

Parking lots exist above and below the Education Center. Parking on the upper level ensures arrival on the right floor of the building. Parking on the lower level (larger lot) requires using the elevator or climbing one set of stairs.

ADVANCE NOTICE

NEHA's Fall meeting will be held at Merrimack College in North Andover, Mass., on Saturday, October 13, 2012. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is August 1, 2012. To make submissions and/or get information about the program, contact: **Dane Morrison**, Salem State University (dane.morrison@salemstate.edu). Information about the program may also be obtained from **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 21, 2012**

**RIVIER COLLEGE
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Check the NEHA website for updates and additions: www.newenglandhistorians.org

REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration Area

MORNING SESSION I: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Session 1: Masculinity and Manhood

Chair & Commentator: TBA

Michael Pierson, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, "Lt. Spalding Writes Home: What a Joke Tells Us about a Civil War Soldier's Confrontation with Death."

Douglas Slaybaugh, Saint Michael's College, "'Manning Up' in the Progressive Era: The Experience of a College Football Player."

Matthew W. Dunne, Stonehill College, "Training a New Generation of Cold Warriors: Physical Education and Child-rearing in Cold War America."

Session 2: Racial Intolerance

Chair and Commentator: Candace Kanen, Maine Historical Society

Theresa C. Vara-Dannen, University of Wales, Swansea, "Interracial Marriages in Nineteenth Century Connecticut: Marrying 'Up'?"

Jonathan Paquette, Community College of R.I./University of R.I., "H.P. Lovecraft and the Québécois."

Jaclyn Gronau, Northeastern University, "The Quoddy Village Proposal: A Community of Jewish Displaced Persons in Eastport, Maine."

Session 3: Popular Culture

Chair: Richard Canedo, Lincoln School

Commentator: TBA

Michael Urso, Community College of R.I., "Surfing Toward Consciousness: An Interpretation of the Roots of Modern Surfing in Narragansett, R.I."

Donald G. Baker, Long Island University, "History, Historians, and the Lost World of Bestsellers."

Brian Peterson, Shasta College, "Art or Entertainment: Artie Shaw, Popular Culture, and Framework for Understanding The Challenge of Commercial vs. Artistic Expression in America, 1935-1940"

Session 4: Business and Industry in New England

Chair and Commentator: Peter Holloran, Worcester State University

Thomas M. Lonsdale, Providence College, "All that Glitters is Not Gold: The First Silversmiths of Rhode Island."

Adam Krakowski, Independent Scholar, "A Bitter Past: Hops Farming in Nineteenth Century Vermont"

Michael Boston, State University of New York, Brockport, "Booker T. Washington and the National Negro Business League in Boston."

BREAK FOR BOOK EXHIBIT & REFRESHMENTS 10:30-11:00 Registration Area

MORNING SESSION II 11:00-12:00 "Conversations"

Session 5: The Slave Trade

Conversant: TBA

Sarah A. Batterson, University of New Hampshire, "'A Horde of Foreign Freebooters': The U.S. Slave Trade and Spanish-American Relations."

Kerima M. Lewis, University of California, "Captives on the Move: Tracing the Trans-Atlantic Movement of Africans from the West Indies to Colonial New England."

Session 6: Allegations and Suspicions

Conversant: Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont

Allison L. Hepler, University of Maine, Farmington, "McCarthyism in Massachusetts: Mary Knowles and the Morrill Memorial Library."

Anna J. Cook, Massachusetts Historical Society, "In Their Graves Because of False Modesty?: An Allegation of Sexual Assault in Boston, 1914-1915."

Session 7: Relief and Charity

Conversant: Mary Kelly, Franklin Pierce University

Eric Cimino, State University of New York, Stony Brook, "Disaster Relief for Survivors of the *Titanic*: New York City, 1912."

Mark Stern, Bentley University, "Not-for-Profit or Un-American?: Private Health Clubs vs. the YMCA, 1970-2010."

12:00 – 1:15 p.m. LUNCH & BUSINESS MEETING

AFTERNOON SESSION 1:15-3:15

Session 8: Louisa May Alcott's Centennial: Celebrating 100 Years of What We Know and Love – Or Do We?

Chair: Laura Prieto, Simmons College

Commentator: John Matteson, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Karen Goodno-McGuire, Salem State University, "The Truth about 'Laurie,' or Louisa May Alcott's Potential Romance."

Evelyn Navarre, University of Massachusetts, Boston, “Orchard House, Alcott, and Historical Memory.”

*Nicole Sousa, Framingham State University, “A Little Woman in Paris: May Alcott’s Artwork at Home and Abroad.” [*undergraduate presenter*]

Jan Turnquist, Orchard House, TBA

Session 9: War/No War/Post-War

Chair: Leslie Rogne Schumacher, University of Minnesota

Commentator: TBA

Andrew Liptak, Norwich University, “Norwich University and the Battle of the Bulge.”

Ian Saxine, Northwestern University, “Or Else All Will Not Be Well.” Abenaki Strategic Property Violence as a Tool for Stability in Northern New England, 1714-1754.”

David Doolin, University of Hawai’I at Manoa, “Irish American transnationalism as anti-British-imperialism: The Fenian Invasion of Canada, 1866.”

*Norman J. Hutson, Norwich University, “Black-Balled”: Memory, Rejection, and the Burlington, Vermont “Stannard” Post of the Grand Army of the Republic” [*undergraduate presenter*]

Session 10: Revolutions

Chair: James Bidwell, Anna Maria College

Commentator: TBA

Jonathon Derek Awtrey, University of West Georgia, “An Egalitarian Moment: Bostonian’s Classical Imagination and the Creation of an American Social Consciousness, 1776-1789.”

Daniel Blanchard, Fay School, “Polybius’ Flawed Interpretation of Roman (and American) Political History.”

Ian Grimmer, University of Vermont, “Culture and Power: The Councils of Intellectual Workers in the 1918-19 German Revolution.”

John-Paul Wilson, St. Johns University, “The Politics of History: Understanding the Nicaraguan Revolution.”

Session 11: Ancient Worlds

Chair and Commentator: Martin Menke, Rivier College

Raymond Capra, Seton Hall University, “The Roman Circus in Tarraco and Vespasian: A Flavian Construction or Reconstruction.”

And additional papers TBA

Session 12: World History

Papers TBA

CLOSING RECEPTION 3:15

Please join the NEHA Executive Committee for refreshments before heading home

**indicates undergraduate presenter*



NEHA NEWS AND THE NEHA WEBSITE

Clifford Putney (Bentley University) is the editor of *NEHA News*. If you have a submission for the Fall 2012 issue of the newsletter, please send it to Cliff (cputney@bentley.edu) by Sept. 1, 2012. *Book reviews* should be sent to **Thomas J. Carty** (Springfield College), the book review editor (tcarty@spfldcol.edu), by Sept. 1, 2012.

Tona Hangen (Worcester State University) is the webmaster for NEHA. Her e-mail address is: thangen@worchester.edu. Here is a message from Tona:

Over the past year we have been developing and putting in place a new communication plan and we invite all members to explore NEHA's new online resources. We've replaced our original website with a new one, and we're building our social media and other online resources. We welcome your feedback on these efforts; let us know what would be helpful.

Our website is now located at <http://www.newenglandhistorians.org>, which nicely echoes the American Historical Association's web address (<http://historians.org>), since we are the New England regional affiliate. The new website is a news hub for information about upcoming conferences, our current call for papers, and the annual prizes. It also

contains a growing archive of our past semiannual meetings and newsletters, as well as the organization's bylaws and a list of past presidents. From the website you can download a membership or conference registration form or the latest issue of *NEHA News*. Announcements of interest from related organizations can be found on our sidebar "bulletin board." In the future we hope to add the capability to join and renew membership or make a donation online. Our news and announcements have RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feed, so you can either subscribe to new posts by email or add the site to an RSS reader of your choice, such as Google reader.

NEHA is also tweeting and welcoming new followers on our Twitter account, @NEHistoryAssoc. If you're curious about Twitter and why historians and others in academia might find it useful, a recent post by British professor Deevy Bishop might enlighten:

"A Gentle Introduction to Twitter for the Apprehensive Academic"
(<http://deevybee.blogspot.com/2011/06/gentle-introduction-to-twitter-for.html>).

We hope that you feel more connected to the New England Historical Association with these new developments, and we look forward to hearing about what else might be useful to you.





SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR NEHA'S APRIL 21, 2012 ELECTION

The Nominating Committee, chaired by **Denise Youngblood** (University of Vermont), has put together an excellent slate of candidates for the spring election. Their ballot statements are as follows:

President

ELIZABETH DeWOLFE is Professor and Chair of History at the University of New England (Biddeford, Maine) where she teaches courses in American women's history, 19th-century popular literature, and public history. She is the author of four books, including *The Murder of Mary Bean and Other Stories* (2007), which received the 2008 NEHA Book Award. Eager to connect Gown and Town, she has led three collaborative projects with the Saco Museum in which UNE students research, design and install major history exhibits. Dr. DeWolfe has been a member of NEHA for several years, and has served on the Book Awards Committee, was the local arrangements chair for the Fall 2010 conference, and organized the programs of the Fall 2011 and current Spring conferences. As President she will continue to create opportunities for a wide variety of historians—students and seasoned professionals; public, independent and academic—through conferences, awards, the new website, and other means.

Vice President

DANE MORRISON is Professor of Early American History at Salem State University, where he has held several administrative positions, including department chair, American Studies Program coordinator, and department review coordinator. NEHA has held an iconographic place in his historical thought since graduate school, and he would be honored to serve this worthy organization. He has also served on regional boards, and has helped to organize a conference for NEHA as well as for the New England American Studies Association, New England Region World History Association, and the World History Association. As an early Americanist, he has been interested in relationships between early America and the wider world, especially as expressed through American print culture. His current research and teaching explores Americans' global encounters through print (*e.g.*, travelogues, journals, newspaper accounts, ships' logs) and material culture. His 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*.

Secretary

PETER C. HOLLORAN, Associate Professor of History at Worcester State University, received his Ph.D. from Boston University. He has served as the NEHA Executive Secretary and as the *NEHA News* editor. He is currently the NEHA Secretary. His most recent book is the *Historical Dictionary of the Progressive Era* (Scarecrow Press).

Executive Committee

MARCIA SCHMIDT BLAINE is Associate Professor of History at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH and serves as chair of the Department of History & Philosophy. She has served NEHA on the Nominating Committee (2007-2010) and the Executive Committee (2010 to present). Her current research focuses on the eighteenth-century New England borderlands, especially the role of government diplomacy, Anglo-Abenaki friendships, and familial networks in the retrieval of Anglo captives. Service to the University has also broadened her research to cover the Northern Forest, including publications for several exhibits for the Museum of the White Mountains such as *As Time Passes Over the Land* and the online “Protecting the Forests: The Weeks Act of 1911.”

JACQUELINE CARR is Associate Professor of History at the University of Vermont, where she has taught the history of Colonial America, the American Revolution and the Early Republic since 2004. Her publications include *After the Siege: A Social History of Boston 1775-1800* (2005) and most recently, “Marketing Gentility: Boston’s Businesswomen, 1780-1830” *New England Quarterly*, (2009). Her current research projects include a socioeconomic study of the post revolutionary Champlain Valley region and in the same period a study of urban businesswomen in New England. If elected to the NEHA Executive Committee, she would work on organization growth and enrichment through an emphasis on diversification of membership by reaching out to lesser represented groups. This includes community college teachers, secondary school faculty, graduate students, independent scholars, and those working in museums, historical societies, and historic preservation. She would work on further developing NEHA conferences to better represent this rich diversity and draw varied participants.

MARK HERLIHY is Chair of Humanities and Associate Professor of History at Endicott College. Active in NEHA in recent years, chairing or commenting on panels, and chairing its nominating committee, he is eager to help the organization remain vital and inclusive by serving on its executive committee. His research and teaching interests include work and courses on the history of Boston, suburbs, sports, and preservation. Publications include an anthologized essay, a forthcoming book on the history of Revere Beach, and “Pursuing History in the Hub: Assessing Heritage Trails in Boston.” He has presented papers at OAH and ASA meetings and “A Tale of Three City Teams: The Color Line and the Red Sox, Celtics, and Bruins” at a recent PCA/ACA conference. He earned a Ph.D. and MA in American Civilization at Brown University and a BA at Tufts University, where he teaches History on an adjunct basis.

MICHAEL NOLAN is Associate Professor of History at Western Connecticut State University. He considers it a great privilege to be nominated as a candidate for the NEHA Executive Committee. The New England Historical Association has played a vital role in bringing together scholars from the entire region, and he is excited by the opportunity of playing an active role in its activities. His interests in 19th and 20th century France and German, the era of the world wars, and modern Europe more broadly have been well represented in past NEHA conferences, and he looks forward to contributing to the future development of the association.

DON J. WYATT is John M. McCardell, Jr. Distinguished Professor at Middlebury College. Beginning in 1971, he attended Beloit College in Wisconsin, graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in Religious Studies in 1975. He entered Harvard University's Regional Studies-East Asia program in 1976, taking the M.A. in 1978 and then continuing on in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations to receive the Ph.D. in 1984. At Middlebury since 1986, he has taught history as well as philosophy until the present. He is either the author, editor, or coeditor of several books, the most recent of which is *The Blacks of Premodern China* (Penn Press, 2010). As an AHA life member, he is deeply committed to the advancement of history and has previously served NEHA as a member of the James P. Hanlan Book Award Committee in 2008-09 and as member and chair of the same in 2009-10.

Nominating Committee

ROBERT P. FORBES is Assistant Professor of American History at the University of Connecticut, Torrington, specializing in political and cultural history. He is the author of *The Missouri Compromise and its Aftermath: Slavery and the Meaning of America* (2007); his current research is on Thomas Jefferson and race, and New England African American resistance to slavery. He is a member of almost all of the statewide Connecticut history organizations and a fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society. He founded Locally Grown History, a coalition of historical societies, museums, historic farms and other history-related organizations in Northwest Connecticut, where he is also the regional coordinator for History Day. The future of history is in creative coalition-building. Local history has many passionate advocates; they need to be part of vibrant regional organizations like NEHA, and the Association needs input from the widest possible range of voices.

ADAM KRAKOWSKI is an independent scholar in Montpelier, Vermont. He has chosen to run for the New England Historical Association nomination committee due to his interest and respect for the association. His first experience with the New England Historical Association was two years ago as a graduate student at the University of Vermont. The experience and connections made were invaluable in pursuing his research both in New England's agricultural past as well as the preservation of Shaker communities. Through these connections he was able to refine his work to produce a stronger paper that was recently published in the *Journal of the Communal Studies Association* this winter. His research interests are in the historic preservation of Shaker communities as well as the agricultural history of hops in New England. Involvement with the New England Historical Association on a committee level would be a great honor to be able to contribute further to the organization's excellent work.

MELANIE MURPHY is Associate Professor of History at Emmanuel College in Boston. Her dissertation at Brandeis University, *Max Nordau's Fin-de-Siècle 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 of 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. With her Department, she had the pleasure of welcoming NEHA to Emmanuel this past fall.

KRISTEN A. PETERSEN is Assistant Professor of History and Social Sciences at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She specializes in immigration history and is currently engaged in a project regarding Arizona's recent immigration laws. Prior to joining the faculty at MCPHS, she taught at Pine Manor College and in 2004-2005 was the Polly Logan Scholar, Center for the Study of Women in Politics and Public Policy, UMASS- Boston. She has served on the NEHA executive committee and is chair of NEHA's graduate student paper prize committee. She also serves on the Rollins Prize Committee of the New England Popular Culture Association. Prior to her teaching career, Petersen was executive director of two historical organizations: the Bay State Historical League and the Waltham Rediscovered Community History Project. She is co-author of the book, *Waltham Rediscovered: An Ethnic History of Waltham, MA* and co-producer of several documentaries on Waltham's history.

DANIEL WILLIAMSON is Associate Professor of History at the University of Hartford, where he has been since 2001. He graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Ph.D. in Modern European History. He teaches undergraduate courses on Modern Irish History and Western Civilization. He has previously served on the NEHA Awards Committee and the Nominating Committee and hopes to continue to be active in the association. His publications include a book (*Separate Agendas: Churchill, Eisenhower, and Anglo-American Relations, 1953-55*) and several articles on Anglo-American and Anglo-Irish diplomatic relations. Currently he is on sabbatical, working on a book concerning Anglo-Irish relations and Northern Ireland.

LISA WILSON, the Charles J. MacCurdy Professor of American History at Connecticut College, would like to be a member of the NEHA nominating committee. She was a member of the executive committee between 2000 and 2002. She is the author of two monographs, *Life After Death: Widows in Pennsylvania, 1750-1850* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1992) and *Ye Heart of a Man: The Domestic Life of Men in Colonial New England* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999). Her present book project is tentatively titled, "Beyond Cinderella: America's Stepfamily Tradition." She teaches courses on early American history and gender studies.

VOTING

Elections for NEHA offices and committee slots will be held at the Spring meeting in Nashua. NEHA members who cannot attend the meeting, however, are invited to vote by email or regular post. For the Nominating and Executive Committees, vote for no more than two. The President, Vice President, and Secretary positions are not challenged, but you may submit a write-in candidate. Note: Only NEHA members are entitled to vote, and no one can vote more than once.

Email ballots may be submitted to **Denise Youngblood** (Denise.Youngblood@uvm.edu). Please submit your ballot by April 9, 2012.

Mail-in ballots (which can ensure anonymity) may be sent to **Denise Youngblood** at: History Department; University of Vermont; 133 S. Prospect St.; Burlington, VT 05405-0164. Please mail your ballot by April 9, 2012.

For mail-in ballots, please clip out and use this form:

BALLOT

___ President: **Elizabeth DeWolfe** (University of New England); or write in: _____

___ Vice President: **Dane Morrison** (Salem State Univ.); or write in: _____

___ Secretary: **Peter C. Holloran** (Worcester State Univ.); or write in: _____

Executive Committee (Vote for no more than two)

___ **Marcia Schmidt Blaine** (Plymouth State University)

___ **Jacqueline Carr** (University of Vermont)

___ **Mark Herlihy** (Endicott College)

___ **Michael Nolan** (Western Connecticut State University)

___ **Don J. Wyatt** (Middlebury College)

___ Write-In Candidate: _____

Nominating Committee (Vote for no more than two)

___ **Robert P. Forbes** (University of Connecticut)

___ **Adam Krakowski** (Independent Scholar)

___ **Melanie Murphy** (Emmanuel College)

___ **Kristen A. Petersen** (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences)

___ **Daniel Williamson** (University of Hartford)

___ **Lisa Wilson** (Connecticut College)

___ Write-In Candidate: _____

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NEHA's Executive Committee met at Worcester Polytechnic Institute on December 10, 2011. Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (WPI) gave a report on NEHA's financial assets. He also reported that membership in the organization equals 651 (not counting the people who joined at Emmanuel College in the fall). After these reports, the Executive Committee discussed a number of issues, including future conference sites, the graduate paper prize, and email offers to publish that turn out to be scams. Another issue that the Committee discussed was creating an email list of NEHA members. The benefits of such a list struck the Committee as great, and **Marcia Schmidt Blaine** (Plymouth State University) generously volunteered to work on creating the list.

NEHA President **Martin Menke** (Rivier College) chaired the meeting of the Executive Committee. He and **Tona Hangen** (Worcester State University) presented the results of a survey that had been taken of NEHA members at the fall meeting at Emmanuel College. The survey was meant to assess what changes members would like to see made to the way NEHA operates. Arguably the most important question on the survey was whether members wanted to move from the current conference system (two one-day conferences a year) to one annual two-day conference. A large major of respondents (25 to 11) favored keeping the current system.

A final issue brought up at the Executive Committee meeting was whether or not it would be wise for NEHA to incorporate itself as a 501(c) non-profit organization. After much debate on the issue, the Committee decided to pursue incorporation.



THE NEHA GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE

NEHA encourages the participation of graduate students in its conferences. The prize recognizes excellence in scholarship demonstrated by a graduate student at a NEHA conference. It is awarded at the Fall conference to the single best paper presented at either of the two NEHA conferences held during the preceding year.

NEHA members, including panel chairs, commentators and attendees of sessions, may nominate graduate student papers for the annual NEHA Graduate Student Paper Prize. Individuals may only nominate one paper. Entire panels may not be nominated. An individual may not nominate more than one paper per conference. Each nominator must provide a rationale of no more than one page for his/her selection.

Prize nominations must be submitted by May 15, 2012. They may be submitted either to NEHA President **Martin Menke** (mmenke@rivier.edu) or to the Paper Award Committee Chair **Kristen Petersen** (kristen.petersen@mcphs.edu).

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, 2012.

Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2011, 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. 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 Fall Conference.

The chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2011 books is **James Bidwell** (Anna Maria College); jbidwell@annamaria.edu

CONFERENCE REPORT

The 87th meeting of the Association was held at Emmanuel College in Boston, Mass., on October 29, 2011. The meeting was very well attended; 154 historians registered for 19 sessions with 57 papers. An additional poster session was held with ten posters, which were based on the theme of responses to war, genocide, and the Holocaust. At the sumptuous luncheon that followed the morning paper presentations, attendees were welcomed to Emmanuel College by **William Leonard**, the school's Dean of Arts and Sciences and an Associate Professor of History.

Another highlight of the conference was the ceremony in which the **James P. Hanlon Book Award** was given to **Eric Jay Dolan**, the author of *Fur, Fortune, and Empire: The Epic History of the Fur Trade in America* (W. W. Norton, 2010). Dr. Dolan graciously accepted the award and spoke about his book.

The meeting at Emmanuel College was made possible by tremendous efforts on our behalf by the program chair, **Elizabeth DeWolfe** (University of New England), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and by the local arrangements committee chaired by **Melanie Murphy** (Emmanuel College).



NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

David Armitage (Harvard University) was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

Jonathan P. Conant (Brown University), an expert on Mediterranean history from antiquity to the Middle Ages, became an assistant professor at Brown.

Steven H. Corey (Worcester State University) received the 2011 William Gilbert Award for the Best Article on Teaching History from the American Historical Association.

Laura Frader (Northeastern University) stepped down as the chair of the History Department to become her school's Associate Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities.

Judy McDonnell (Bryant University) gave the keynote address at Women's Herstory Awards.

Josh Reid (U-Mass, Boston) was chosen to direct his school's newest history program, Native American & Indigenous Studies.

Meghan Roberts (Bowdoin College), an expert on continental European history, became an assistant professor at Bowdoin.

Timothy Snyder (Yale University) was named the Housum Professor of History at Yale.

Nancy Steenburg (U-Conn, Avery) helped to organize a large gathering on Nov. 12, 2011, in honor of women who've made history in Connecticut.

Larissa J. Taylor (Colby College) delivered the presidential address at the 2012 meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association in Chicago.

Francesca Trivellato (Yale University) was named the Hilles Professor of History at Yale.



BOOK NEWS

Peter Baldwin (University of Connecticut) published *In the Watches of the Night: Life in the Nocturnal City* (University of Chicago Press).

Paul T. Burlin (University of New England) and **Clifford Putney** (Bentley University) published *The Role of the American Board in the World: Bicentennial Reflections on the Organization's Missionary Work, 1810-2010* (WIPF & Stock).

Frank Costigliola (University of Connecticut) published *Roosevelt's Lost Alliances: How Personal Politics Helped Start the Cold War* (Princeton University Press).

Maura Jane Farrelly (Brandeis University) published *Papist Patriots: The Making of an American Catholic Identity* (Oxford University Press).

David Hall (Harvard Divinity School) published *A Reforming People: Puritanism and the Transformation of Public Life in New England* (Alfred A. Knopf).

Maya Jasanoff (Harvard University) published *Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World* (Alfred A. Knopf).

James H. Johnson (Boston University) won the AHA's George L. Mosse Prize for his book *Venice Incognito: Masks in the Serene Republic* (University of California Press).

Brad Martin (Bryant University) published *The Other Eighties: A Secret History of America in the Age of Reagan* (Hill & Wang).

Gregory McMahon (University of New Hampshire) and **Sharon R. Steadman** (SUNY Cortland) published *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Anatolia* (Oxford Univ. Press).

Alan Mikhail (Yale University) published *Nature and Empire in Ottoman Egypt: An Environmental History* (Cambridge University Press).

Marla Miller (U-Mass, Amherst) published *Betsy Ross and the Making of America* (MacMillan Press).

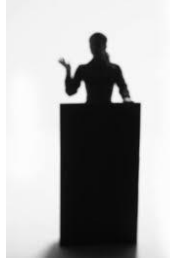
Melina Pappademos (University of Connecticut) published *Black Political Activism and the Cuban Republic* (University of North Carolina Press).

Kurt A. Raaflaub (Brown University) and Johann P. Arnason (La Trobe University) published *The Roman Empire in Context: Historical and Comparative Perspectives* (Wiley-Blackwell).

Emma Rothschild (Harvard University) published *The Inner Life of Empires: An Eighteenth-Century History* (Princeton University Press).

Randall Stephens (Eastern Nazarene College) and **Karl Giberson** (Eastern Nazarene College) published *The Anointed: Evangelical Truth in a Secular Age* (Belknap Press of Harvard Univ. Press).

Eric G. E. Zuelow (University of New England) published *Touring Beyond the Nation: A Transnational Approach to European Tourism History* (Ashgate).



CONFERENCES MEETING

The **Society for Historians of the Early American Republic** holds its 34th annual meeting in Baltimore on July 19-22, 2012. For more information contact Amy Greenberg, the Program Committee Chair: amygreenberg@psu.edu

The **Berkshire Conference on the History of Women** met at U-Mass., Amherst, in June. The next “Big Berks” Conference will be at the University of Toronto in 2014. The next “Little Berks” Conference will be at Saratoga, New York. For more information contact Laura Lovett: lovett@history.umass.edu

The **Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife** is planning a 2-day conference at Deerfield, Mass., probably in late June,

2012, on the historical presence of the Irish in New England. Please send paper proposals to Peter Benes: pbenes@historic-deerfield.org

The **World History Association** will hold its 21st annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from June 28-July 1, 2012. Conference themes are “Indigenous Peoples in World History” and “Borders and Frontiers in World History.” For more information consult the Association’s website: www.thewha.org

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** invites people to attend its seminars: Boston Area Early American History Seminar, Boston Environmental History Seminar, Boston Immigration and Urban History Seminar, Boston Seminar on the History of Women and Gender, and New England Biography Seminar. For more information contact Kate Viens, Research Coordinator: 617-646-0568, or seminars@masshist.org

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) is seeking papers on the topic of minor league or major league baseball for its annual fall conference, which will be held Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27, 2012 on the campus of St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY. The Rochester (NY) Redwings have fielded a minor league baseball team since 1929, making it the sixth longest-running franchise in all of professional baseball. NEPCA would particularly welcome papers that deal with minor league baseball, though all baseball topics are welcome. NEPCA papers are generally 15-20 minutes in length, and the organization strongly encourages creative delivery of papers, though they can also be read. The deadline for applications is *June 1, 2012. *Please send a 1-2 page paper proposal and a one-page vita to *both* Sports Program Chair, Rob Weir: weir.r@comcast.net and to Conference Chair Tim Madigan: tmadigan@sjfc.edu

The **Popular Culture/American Culture Association** holds its annual conference on April 11-14, 2012, at the Copley Marriott Hotel in Boston. For information on this interdisciplinary conference see the PCA/ACA webpage at www.pcaaca.org/conference/2012



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 *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science* (IJHSS), an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal, seeks interdisciplinary articles in humanities and the social sciences. If you have questions about the journal, please contact its editor, **Nikki Smith** (editor@ijhssnet.com).

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 2011 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2012. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in November 2012 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 England 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).

All Things New England, an online publication focusing on life in New England, is looking for interesting stories from knowledgeable people pertaining to New England landmarks and historical places. Average articles range from 800-1200 words and are featured on the publication's homepage. For more information contact Jessica Layne (allthingsnewengland@gmail.com) or consult the publication's website: www.allthingsnewengland.com

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** is offering short-term and long-term research fellowships for the academic year 2012-2013, 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.



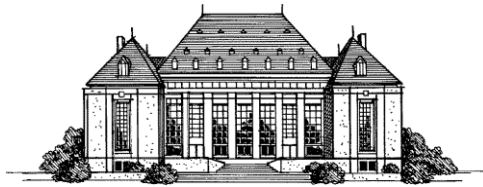
NEHA FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

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.



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MEETINGS OF NEHA

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BOOK REVIEWS

Amy Sonnie and James Tracy. *Hillbilly Nationalists, Urban Race Rebels, and Black Power: Community Organizing in Radical Times*. New York: Melville House, 2011.

The co-authors of *Hillbilly Nationalists* have taken on the ambitious project of researching and describing the under-documented efforts of white, working-class community organizers in the urban North during the 1960s and 70s. Sonnie is an educator, librarian, and author who co-founded the Center for Media Justice. Co-author Tracy is a social justice organizer in the San Francisco Bay area who focuses on issues of poverty, racism, and the environment. Drawing on extensive archival research and over sixty oral history interviews, they map out the short-term politics and long-term effects of inter-racial community organizing in the era of Black Power.

In four roughly chronological chapters, *Nationalists* chronicles the organizational histories of JOIN Community Union, the Young Patriots and the Rainbow Coalition, Rising Up Angry (all of Chicago) and, more briefly, the October 4th Organization of Philadelphia and White Lightning in New York City. The preponderance of scholarship on the New Left and Civil Rights activism focuses on the role of college-educated, middle-class whites. In contrast, Sonnie and Tracy seek to highlight the efforts of

Northern working-class and poor whites – many of whom had roots in the segregationist South – in building alliances across racial divides. “These men and women understood that ending racism was not a threat or an act of charity,” they argue, “but a part of gaining their own freedom” (5).

At times the narrative leans toward the overly-descriptive at the expense of analysis. Readers may become lost in the recitation of events and puzzle over how to connect localized events and politics to a broader national (or even international) narrative. This may be an unavoidable hazard of breaking new ground. Hopefully future scholars will be able to draw on the research Sonnie and Tracy have done and tease out new connections. One hopes that the oral histories collected, in particular, will find their way into a repository that will ensure their future accessibility.

This book is written with both scholars and social justice activists in mind. In addition to historical analysis, the authors consider how the successes and failures of the activists profiled might inform future efforts. “The people who shared their stories for this book,” Sonnie and Tracy conclude in their epilogue, “did so out of the steadfast belief that remembering our past might embolden today’s dreamers and justice seekers” (173). In the history classroom, *Nationalists* might best be used as a much-needed counterpoint to classic texts such as Todd Gitlin’s *The Sixties* or Grace Elizabeth Hale’s recent *A Nation of Outsiders*, texts that present a more national picture of events but are unquestionably centered on New Left student actions and concerns. Overall, *Nationalists* is a valuable contribution to the new wave of scholarship seeking to complicate our common understanding of mid-century radicalism.

Anna J. Cook
Massachusetts Historical Society



Massimo Franco, *Parallel Empires: The Vatican and the United States—Two Centuries of Alliance and Conflict*. New York: Doubleday, 2008.

Notoriously acerbic Massachusetts lawyer John Adams called the pope “an ecclesiastical tyrant” in 1779 and vigorously dissuaded the Continental Congress from accepting a nuncio or any official diplomat from the Vatican. Yet as president in 1797, Adams appointed the first consular representative to the Holy See. What changed his mind about official relations with the Vatican? The U.S. president now perceived an economic opportunity since the Papal States governed two ports critical to trade with Eastern Europe.

The Vatican no longer offers such direct commercial benefits. More than 200 years later, however, presidents actively pursue opportunities to improve contacts with the Catholic hierarchy. One wonders, how would Adams have responded to the spectacle of three presidents—George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George H.W. Bush—attending the funeral of Pope John Paul II in 2005?

In *Parallel Empires*, Italian journalist Massimo Franco charts the complex history of cooperation and clashes between the United States and the Vatican. This task is daunting. In slightly more than 200 pages, the book can only offer a rough outline. Yet Franco’s selling point is to offer an insider’s perspective. His sources, although footnoted insufficiently for an historian’s taste, include the Vatican secret archives and interviews

with high-placed Vatican and U.S. officials. While this book occasionally provides provocative insights, it leaves a lot of questions unanswered.

Regarding the book’s title, for example, how can Franco justify the term empire for such dissimilar governments as the United States and the Vatican? Franco’s introduction acknowledges that the two countries differ in means, but he believes they share the same basic objectives. While America projects power unilaterally through military, economic, and technological superiority, the Vatican depends entirely upon multilateral diplomacy and moral argument. Yet Franco insists that both governments pursue parallel, “imperial” missions to export Christian values worldwide.

This theory unfolds in two distinct plot lines, which deserve more thorough treatment separately than together in a single book. The first hundred pages trace the Vatican’s frustrating and clumsy pursuit of full diplomatic relations with the United States. The narrative jumps back and forth in time, until it culminates with Ronald Reagan’s appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican in 1984. This part reads more as a series of anecdotes than a developing theme. In the second half of *Parallel Empires*, Franco focuses on the strains which the clerical abuse scandal and the Iraq war placed on the partnership between Pope John Paul II and President Bush from 2002 to 2005. These later chapters offer much more insight due to Franco’s access to Vatican officials. Indeed, *Parallel Empires* exposes tensions between the White House and the Catholic hierarchy so acute that the author finds it hard to explain Vatican support for Bush’s 2004 presidential bid.

The first story greatly suffers from a failure to provide depth of research. Franco tries to reconstruct more than 200 years of history with a few secondary sources and an

occasional document from the Vatican Secret Archives. There are insightful anecdotes—such as John Adams’s change of heart referenced at the lead to this review—but these accounts are never linked to a consistent theme, such as the role of economics in U.S.-Vatican relations. Several factual errors in this section also diminish the book’s credibility. For example, the Chicago Exposition of 1893 is dated as 1896, the imposition of martial law in Poland as 1991 rather than 1981, and Alexander Haig is identified as Ronald Reagan’s Secretary of Defense rather than Secretary of State.

Franco’s final 100 pages get to the crux of the question which he outlines in the introduction: Why does the Vatican receive “scant attention” (p. ix) in international relations, especially the war on terrorism? More specifically, Franco seems intent on understanding why President Bush ignored John Paul II’s appeal to prevent the Iraq war. Franco concludes that President Bush viewed himself as “the leader of all Christians,” (p. 123) and thus immune to Vatican appeals.

This book might provide some background for scholars writing on Catholicism and U.S. politics. It is less useful for teaching. Most Americans would now agree that the war’s aftermath has vindicated the pope’s criticisms. Even the self-righteous John Adams would have been practical enough to recognize that.

Thomas J. Carty
Springfield College



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PLAN AHEAD



American Historical Association

2013 * New Orleans * 3-6 January
2014 * Washington, DC * 2-5 January

Organization of American Historians

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

2012 * New Orleans * 14-17 March

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2012 * Boston * 4-7 April
2013 * Washington, DC * 27-30 March
2014 * Chicago * 16-19 April

Oral History Association

2012 * Cleveland * 10-14 October

Economic History Association

2012 * Vancouver, BC * 21-23 September

National Council on Public History

2012 * Milwaukee * 18-22 April

North American Conference on British Studies

2012 * Montreal * 9-11 November

Social Science History Association

2012 * Vancouver, BC * 1-4 November

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic

2012 * Baltimore * 19-22 July

World History Association

2012 * Albuquerque * June 28-July 1

NEHA SPRING CONFERENCE

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APRIL 21, 2012



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Please do not mail after April 13. Registration will be available at the conference. Use this form to pay your 2012 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 13 to:

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NEHA NEWS
The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

ASSOCIATION OFFICE

Worcester Polytechnic Institute
100 Institute Road
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-2280
Phone: (508) 831-5438
Fax: (508) 831-5932
Email: jphanlan@wpi.edu
Web site: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA

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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 and 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.

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