

# NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXI NO. 2

FALL ISSUE

OCTOBER 2005

## FALL CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Saturday, October 22, 2005  
SECOND CALL

The 75th meeting of the Association will be held on October 22 at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston (401-874-2133) at 50 Lower College Road. The program is listed on pages 3-6 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **George W. Dameron** (St. Michael's College) arranged this fine program. **Evelyn Sterne** and the URI History Department made local arrangements with the expert assistance of Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**. This is our first meeting at URI since 1970 and it should be a popular location. We are very grateful for their hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web pages for other details:

<http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA>.

The Fall conference begins with registration and continental breakfast on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in the Memorial Student Union. 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.

Please note that *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 October 15 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, graduate students and friends.

Luncheon will be served in Memorial Student Union on Saturday 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 in Kingston, please use this form to pay your 2005 membership dues. Lunch will be followed a brief business meeting, and the introduction of the new Association officers.

## OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

The Association suggests that members make motel reservations by phone and early because this will be URI Homecoming weekend. Ask for any URI discount rates when you phone for a reservation by September 21. We recommend the **Holiday Inn** in South Kingston (401-789-1051) for \$69.00, and the **Larchwood Inn** in South Kingston (401-783-5454) and **Ocean Rose Inn** in Narragansett (401-783-4704).

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Driving from the South:** take I-95 North to Exit 3A (Route 138 East). Follow Route 138 East to URI.

**Driving from the North:** take I-95 South to Exit 9 (Route 4 South). In Rhode Island, follow Route 4 to Route 1 South. Stay on Route 1 until the intersection of Route 138 West. Take Route 138 West to URI. Bristol is 61 miles or 90 minutes driving time from Boston.

**From Newport:** follow Route 138 West over the Newport and Jamestown bridges to Route 1. Take Route 1 South to Route 138 West. Follow Route 138 West to URI.

**From Public Transportation:** take the Bonanza Bus Lines (800-556-3815) or Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), (401-781-9400, 800-244-0444). Bus service to the campus is available from Providence. By train, call Amtrak for service to Kingston (800-872-7245). By plane, fly to T. F. Green Airport about 20 miles from URI.

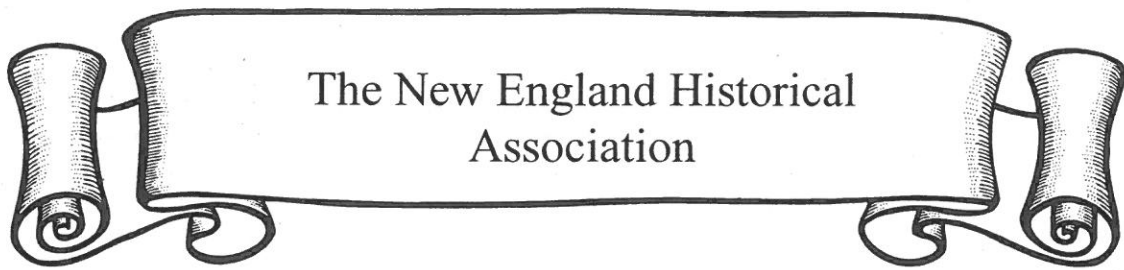
## ADVANCE NOTICE

The Spring meeting will be held at **Bridgewater State College** in Bridgewater, Massachusetts on April 15, 2006. Vice-President **George W. Dameron** ([gdameron@smcvt.edu](mailto:gdameron@smcvt.edu)) will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is January 15, 2006. For information about the program or submissions, contact the Executive Secretary, **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280; [jphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu)

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Constance Areson Clark**  
Randolph-Macon Women's College  
**Michael Gesin**  
Worcester State College  
**Charlotte Haller**  
Worcester State College  
**Richard Howe**  
**Marieta Joyner**  
**Christopher M. Kennedy**  
Providence College  
**William P. Leeman**  
Boston University  
**Virginia R. Mitchell**  
Central Connecticut State University  
**James Muldoon**  
John Carter Brown Library  
**Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman**  
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy  
**David Warner**  
Rhode Island School of Design





**The New England Historical Association**  
*A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations since 1965*

**SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 22, 2005**

**UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**KINGSTON, R.I.**

**FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast: Memorial Student Union, URI Campus, 8 a.m.**  
**Sessions will be in the Memorial Union on the URI campus.**

**PLEASE NOTE: This is Homecoming Weekend for URI, so participants should plan to arrive in ample advance time to find parking and deal with anticipated heavy attendance on campus.**

**8:00-8:30      REGISTRATION: Memorial Union. Session rooms will be posted at Registration.**

**First Morning Session, 8:30-10:00:**

**8:30      Session 1: *Women's Activism in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Rhode Island***

Chair: Jane Lancaster, Independent Scholar

- 1: Amy J. Barlow, University of Rhode Island: "Feminists, Physicians and the Providence Physiological Society"
- 2: Kimberly S. Nusco, Massachusetts Historical Society: "The South Providence Kosher Meat Boycott of 1910: A Study of Jewish Women's Consumer Activism"
- 3: Rachel F. Habicht, Tabor Academy: "Economic Crisis and Birth Control Access: The Successes of Rhode Island Birth Controllers During the Great Depression"

**8:30      Session 2: *Fascism and Right-wing Extremism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century***

Chair and comment: Michael Honhart, University of Rhode Island

1. Peter Cavalier, University of New Brunswick: "Visual Culture and the Cult of Personality in Fascist Italy"
2. Peter Alfrey, Providence College: "The Allure of the Right in Urban Britain: Liverpool Fascism, 1930-1939"
3. Samuel L. Brenner, Brown University: "Weakest at Home: The John Birch Society in New England, 1958-1975"

**8:30 Session 3: *Ideology and Property in the Era of the American Revolution***

Chair and comment: Joel Cohen, University of Rhode Island

1. Steven H. Park, University of Connecticut: "The Legacy of Rhode Island's *Gaspee* Affair, 1772-1773"
2. Christopher Sparshott, Northwestern University: "Contractual Loyalties: The Popular Politics of Oath Taking in Revolutionary New Jersey, 1776-1777"
3. Matt Festa, Independent Scholar: "The Underestimated Role of Property in Founding-Era U. S. Republican Ideology"

**8:30 Session 4: *Local Historical Societies and Public History: Resources and Prospects***

Chair: Lisa Wilson, Connecticut College

Comment: Bruce Stark, Connecticut State Archives

1. Patricia M. Schaefer, New London County Historical Society: "And Then You Might Try . . . : The Proliferation of Local Historical Societies and the Problems That It Poses for Research"
2. Diane Rapaport, Independent Scholar: "Local Justice: Archival Discoveries at New England Historical Societies"
3. Mark Thompson, Portland Harbor Museum: "Artifact or Symbol: The Curious Fate of the American Clipper Ship *Snow Squall*"

**8:30 Session 5: *Models of Leadership and Community in the Ancient and Modern Worlds***

Chair and comment: George Dameron, Saint Michael's College

1. Adam Marshak, Yale University: "Cyprian of Carthage: Episcopal Patronage, Control, and Order"
2. Joseph DiLuzio, Boston University: "The *Germania* of Tacitus and Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Ideology"
3. Eric Allyn Selbin, Southwestern University: "With Che in Vermont: Ethan Allen and 'The New Man' in New England"

**8:30 Session 6: *The Struggle for Civil Rights and Consumer Power by African Americans in Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century America***

Chair and comment: Rae Ferguson, University of Rhode Island

1. Eben Miller, Southern Maine Community College: "The 1933 Amenia Conference and the Origins of the Civil Rights Movement"
2. Julia Sandy-Bailey, University of Massachusetts at Amherst: "'Easier to Whistle *Dixie* Through a Mouthful of Crackers': The 'Negro Market' in Postwar New York City"
3. Melinda Weidman, University of Connecticut: "The Rise and Fall of Cecil Moore"

**Break for Book Exhibit & Refreshments: 10:00-10:30**

**Morning Session II: 10:30-12:00**

**10:30 Session 7: *Knowledge is Power': African Americans' Struggle for Educational Equality and Race-Advancement***

Chair and comment: John H. Brace, Jr., University of Massachusetts

1. Ousmane Power-Greene, University of Massachusetts at Amherst: "Education and Racial Uplift in the African Diaspora: Three Perspectives"
2. Dan McClure, University of Massachusetts at Amherst: "Contending with Tradition: New Negroes in the 'City Upon the Hill'"
3. Marieta Joyner, University of Massachusetts at Amherst: "Segregation of Black Deaf Children in the United States"



**10:30 Session 8: *Medievalists Look at the Modern World***

Chair and comment: Paul Monod, Middlebury College

1. Burton Van Name Edwards, The John Carter Brown Library: "Carolingian Biblical Commentary in the Early Modern World"
2. James Muldoon, The John Carter Brown Library: "Medieval Institutions and Early Modern Political Theory"
3. David Warner, Rhode Island School of Design: "The Holy Roman Empire in American Historical Thought"

**10:30 Session 9: *Unwritten New England Lives: A Call for a Series of Biographies***

A Round-Table Panel Discussion with John Duffy, co-chair (Vermont State Colleges), Samuel B. Hand, co-chair (Emeritus, University of Vermont), and Connell Gallagher, The Bailey-Howe Library, University of Vermont

**10:30 Session 10: *Gender, Citizenship, and Literacy in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century America***

Chair and comment: Susan Ouellette, Saint Michael's College

1. Amy L. Sopcak, University of Connecticut: "Between the Lines: Sensationalism and Misogyny in the *Boston Gazette*, 1750-1770"
2. Elizabeth Watts Pope, University of Connecticut: "Passport to the Republic of Letters: Commonplace Books' Role in the Education of New England Women"
3. Susan Graham, The University of Minnesota: "Female Dorrites and Antebellum Partisanship"

**10:30 Session 11: *Poverty, Labor, and Community in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century England and America***

Chair and comment: Bruce Cohen, Worcester State College

1. Deborah K. Maltby, University of Missouri-Kansas City: "'A Fruitful Source of Disease': Rhetoric in Written Representations of 19<sup>th</sup> Century English Rural Workers"
2. Gabriel Loiacono, Brandeis University: "The Social Lives of Paupers in Rhode Island, 1800-1850"
3. Joseph H. Wycoff, University of Washington: "'Moral Police': Print Media Representations of the Waltham-Lowell System and the Formation of Managerial Subjectivity, 1837-1860"

**10:30 Session 12: *Social Work and Political Activism By Women in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America***

Chair and comment: Sharon Strom, University of Rhode Island

1. Patrick Selmi, University of South Carolina: "World War I, Red Scare Politics, and the Development of Professional American Social Work, 1914-1918"
2. Karen Garner, Empire State College: "Global Visions: Women and the International Politics of Disarmament in the 1930's"
3. Suzanne K. McCormack, Independent Scholar: "'A Personal Mission': Carol McEldowney and Community Organizing in Cleveland, 1964-1967"

**12:15 - 1:30 LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING : The NEHA Book Award will be presented at lunch.**

**1:30 - 3:00: Afternoon Sessions, 1:30-3:00**

**1:30 Session 13: *Displacement, Diaspora, and Immigration: Three Case Studies***

Chair and comment: Evelyn Sterne, University of Rhode Island

1. Jeffrey Mankoff, Yale University: "The Polish Crisis in Tsarist Russia, 1916-1917"
2. Ami Cutler Awad, University of Rhode Island: "The Breakdown of the Portuguese Empire and the Evolution of the Portuguese Diaspora: 1965-1975"
3. Peter Van Do, University of Massachusetts at Boston: "The Communist Re-education Camp Experience of U. S. Resident South Vietnamese Veterans"

**1:30 Session 14: *Becoming American Aristocrats in the Early Nineteenth Century***

Chair and comment: Ronald Dufour, Rhode Island College

1. Thomas A. Chambers, Niagara University: "Creating Memory and Aristocracy at Revolutionary War Battle Sites"
2. William P. Leeman, Boston University: "An Aristocracy at Sea: Naval Officers, Education, and American Nationalism in the Early Republic"
3. Katherine Stebbins McCaffrey, Boston University: "Blue-blooded and Bespectacled: The Diffusion of Eyeglasses and Related Assumptions about Aristocracy in Antebellum America"

**1:30 Session 15: *Medieval Hagiography and Its Interpretation***

Chair and comment: Thomas Head, Hunter College and The Graduate Center, CUNY

1. Susan Valentine, New York University: "Inseparable Companions: Mary Magdalene, Heloise, and Abelard"
2. Christopher Petit, The Graduate Center, CUNY: "Sanctity and Authority in the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries"
3. Diane P. Auslander, The Graduate Center, CUNY: "Into the Mainstream: Irish Hagiography in the Twenty-First Century"

**1:30 Session 16: *The Irish Experience in New England***

Chair and comment: Peter Holloran, Worcester State College

1. Eileen Eagan and Patricia Finn, University of Southern Maine: "Single Irish Women in Portland, Maine: Work, Sickness, and Reform"
2. Michael C. Connolly, Saint Joseph's College: "Writing the History of a Diverse Ethnic Group in New England: The Irish in Maine"
3. Michael P. Quinlan, Independent Scholar: "Songs and Sculptures: How Irish Artists Shaped New England's Memory of the Civil War"

**1:30 Session 17: *Private Life, Femininity, and Images of the Body in America, 1860-1930***

Chair and comment: Miriam Reumann, University of Rhode Island

1. Barbara Steinson, DePauw University: "'Going to bed of cold nights, a lone, I do not like.' Practicality, Sexuality, and Marriage in Rural Indiana, 1860-1880"
2. Melyssa Wrisley, Binghamton University: "'You only are when clothed': Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Women's Dress, 1880-1930"
3. Monica Kjellman-Chapin, Emporia State University: "Whistler and the Dissembling Body"

**1:30 Session 18: *American Slavery in Law and Politics***

Chair and comment: Joan Pope Melish, University of Kentucky

1. Helen J. Knowles, Boston University: "Learning the Law: The Legal Education of Two Massachusetts Abolitionists"
2. Robert Reutenauer, Middlesex Community College: "The Connecticut Democracy of John Milton Niles: Universalist, Jacksonian, and Anti-Slavery Senator, 1816-1856"
3. Alison Mann, University of New Hampshire: "Slavery Exacts an Impossible Price: John Quincy Adams and the Case of Dorcus Allen, circa 1837"



## NEHA FALL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION

NEHA CONFERENCE  
October 22, 2005

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, RI

NAME ..... PHONE.....

AFFILIATION ..... FIELD.....

MAILING ADDRESS  
.....  
.....

ZIP CODE ..... E-MAIL .....

**Please do not mail after Oct. 14**, as your pre-registration may not arrive on time. Registration will be available on the day of the conference.

**Please do not use this form to pay your 2005 dues, even if you do not attend the 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.

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Registration, Members \$20.00 by mail | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Registration, Non-Members \$25.00     | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luncheon, \$15                            | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2005 Dues, \$15                           | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2005 Dues (student, adjunct, etc.) \$7.50 | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Association Fund Donation                 | \$..... |

TOTAL (U.S. Funds): \$.....

Make checks payable (in U. S. Funds) to **NEHA** and **RETURN BY OCT. 14** to:

**James P. Hanlan, NEHA Executive Secretary**  
**WPI**  
**100 Institute Road**  
**Worcester, MA 01609-2280**

**Please Note: If you prefer a vegetarian luncheon, please so indicate. Otherwise no dietary restrictions will be assumed.**

Please photocopy this registration form and distribute to colleagues and students whom you believe might be interested.



## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**Melanie Gustafson** (University of Vermont), chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the following candidates were elected by the ballot on April 16:

### President

**Altina Waller**  
(University of Connecticut)

### Vice-President

**George W. Dameron**  
(St. Michael's College)

### Executive Secretary

**James P. Hanlan**  
(WPI)

### Treasurer

**Bruce Cohen**  
(Worcester State College)

### Executive Committee:

**David Balfour**  
(College of St. Joseph)

**Jane Lancaster**  
(Brown University)

### Public History Seat:

**Jack Larkin**  
(Old Sturbridge Village)

### Nominating Committee:

**Laura Prieto**  
(Simmons College)

**David Rawson**  
(WPI)

We congratulate those candidates elected and those nominated and thank those who made nominations. Any member may

nominate himself, herself, or another member for election to any Association office by writing to the Executive Secretary. All dues-paying members are eligible to vote by mail or in person at the annual business meeting in April. Self-nominations are encouraged. Write-in candidates are permitted for any position on the slate. Those members interested in serving on the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, NEHA Prize Committee, or NEHA Book Award Committee should contact the Executive Secretary.

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee will hold its annual meeting in Worcester on December 2. The agenda includes reports on the treasury, membership, Nominating Committee, selection of future meeting sites, programs, website, newsletter, NEHA Book Award, NEHA Prize, planning the Spring conference, as well as NEHA panels at the AHA and OAH. Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting by writing to the Executive Secretary.

## THE NEHA PRIZE

At the April meeting, we will present the annual NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper presented at a recent conference. Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and a committee of three members appointed by the president judges all nominations. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. This year the committee members are; **Ross W. Beales, Jr.** (College of the Holy Cross); **Anni P. Baker** (Wheaton College); and **Daniel Williamson** (University of Hartford). The

prize is intended to encourage and recognize outstanding research papers by graduate students at our conferences. Session chairs are invited to recommend papers presented by a graduate student at the Spring or Fall meetings. Contact the Executive Secretary for details.

### NEHA BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE

On October 22 **Jonathan Liebowitz** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell), chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee, will present the 2005 NEHA Book Award. The winner is **Brian Donahue** (Brandeis University) for his outstanding book *The Great Meadow: Farmers and the Land in Colonial Concord* (Yale University Press, 2004).

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](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu) by June 1, 2006.

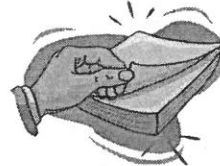
Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2005, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA Book Award presented at the October 2006 conference. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. The award certificate and \$200.00 stipend are presented to the winner at the conference each Fall.

The members of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2004 were: **Jonathan Liebowitz**, chair (University of Massachusetts-Lowell); **Peter C. Holloran** (Worcester State College); **Jan Albers** (Middlebury College); **Sean T. Perrone** (St.

Anselm's College); and **Thomas Doughton** (College of the Holy Cross).

### NEHA PANEL AT THE 120<sup>TH</sup> AHA

The **American Historical Association's 120th** annual meeting in Philadelphia on January 5-8, 2006 will include a session sponsored by NEHA, *Assessing PBS's Colonial House: A Roundtable*. This panel was presented at our 73rd meeting at the College of St. Joseph in Vermont in October 2004 and now will be a joint AHA-NEHA session. We hope all NEHA members attending the AHA meeting will participate in this panel on January 6, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. It is an analysis with some judges and participants of the popular PBS television series, *Colonial House*.



### CONFERENCE REPORT

The 74th meeting of the Association at Regis College on April 16 was well attended with 102 historians registered for 18 sessions with 49 papers. We were pleased to hear our Association president, **Robert Imholt** (Albertus Magnus College) speak at lunch on *CLiOnic Conundrums, or Metaethical MUSings*. At the luncheon on campus, 90 members joined us for food, drink and a brief business meeting.

This meeting was made possible by the splendid efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **Altina Waller** (University of Connecticut), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and a very cooperative local arrangements committee headed by **Susan Zieger**.



## NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

**Daniel Barbezat** (Amherst College) won the Economic History Association prize for excellence in teaching economic history.

**Caryn Cosse Bell** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) was promoted to associate professor of History.

**Susan Porter Benson**, who taught American history at the University of Connecticut, died at home in Manchester, Connecticut on June 20, 2005.

**Lisa K. Boehm** (Worcester State College) was promoted to associate professor of Urban Studies.

**Jeffrey Cain** (Sacred Heart University) was elected president of the Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) in October.

**Christopher Collier**, the former Connecticut State Historian, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Connecticut Humanities Council in May.

**Paul Gagnon**, who taught French history at the University of Massachusetts, Boston since 1964, died in Cambridge on April 29, 2005.

**James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute) was promoted to professor of History.

**Peter C. Holloran** (Worcester State College) was promoted to associate professor of History.

**William Leonard** (Emmanuel College) was promoted to associate professor of History.

**Steven Lubar** (Brown University) will be the director of the John Nicholas Brown Center for the Study of American Civilization.

**Michael Millner** (University of Chicago) was appointed assistant professor of American studies at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

**J. M. Opal** (Colby College) won the OAH Binkley-Stephenson Award for the best scholarly article published in the *Journal of American History*, *Exciting Emulation: Academies and the Transformation of the Rural North, 1780s-1820s*.

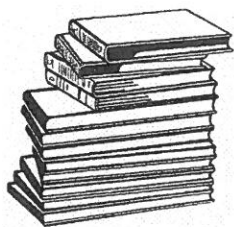
**Michael Pierson** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) was promoted to associate professor of History.

**Paul Ringel** (Brandeis University) was appointed assistant professor of History at High Point University.

**John Shea** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) died on November 21, 2004 in Nashua. He taught Modern European and Japanese History at Lowell for forty-seven years.

**R. Stuart Wallace** (University of New Hampshire) was recognized as the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty member in 2004.





## BOOK NEWS

**Betty Anderson** (Boston University) published *Nationalist Voices in Jordan: The Street and the State* (University of Texas Press).

**Colin G. Calloway** (Dartmouth College) published *One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West Before Lewis and Clark* (University of Nebraska Press) which won the OAH Ray Allen Billington Prize.

**Donna M. Cassidy** (University of Southern Maine) published *Marsden Hartley: Race, Region, and Nation* (University Press of New England).

**Shehong Chen** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) published *Being Chinese, Becoming Chinese American* (University of Illinois Press).

**Corey Dolgon** (Worcester State College) published *The End of the Hamptons: Scenes from the Class Struggle in America's Paradise* (NYU Press).

**Burt Feintuch** (University of New Hampshire) and **David H. Watters** (University of New Hampshire) published *The Encyclopedia of New England: The Culture and History of an American Region* (Yale University Press), with entries written by many NEHA members.

**David Hackett Fischer** (Brandeis University) published *Washington's*

*Crossing* (Oxford University Press) which won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for history.

**Laura Hapke** (Pace University) published *Sweatshop: The History of an American Idea* (Rutgers University Press).

**Michael Kammen** (Cornell University) published *A Time to Every Purpose: The Four Seasons in American Culture* (University of North Carolina Press), which won Honorable Mention in the 2005 American Culture Association's John Cawelti Book Award.

**Jane Lancaster** (Brown University) published *Making Time: Lillian Moller Gilbreth—a Life Beyond "Cheaper by the Dozen"* (Northeastern University Press) which won the 2005 Northeast PCA/ACA book award.

**Jill Lepore** (Harvard University) published *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery, and Conspiracy in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Manhattan* (Knopf).

**James M. O'Toole** (Boston College) published *Habits of Devotion: Catholic Religious Practice in Twentieth-Century America* (Cornell University Press).

**Paul Monod** (Middlebury College) published *The Murder of Mr. Grebell: Madness and Civility in an English Town* (Yale University Press).

**Chad Montrie** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) published *To Save the Land and People: A History of Opposition to Surface Coal Mining in Appalachia* (University of North Carolina Press).

**Michael D. Pierson** (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) published *Free Hearts and Free Homes: Gender and American Antislavery Politics* (University of North Carolina Press).

**Kurt Raaflaub** (Brown University) published *The Discovery of Freedom in Ancient Greece* (University of Chicago Press) which won the AHA James Henry Breasted Prize.

**Eve A. Raimon** (University of Southern Maine) published *The "Tragic Mulatta" Revisited: Race and Nationalism in Nineteenth Century Antislavery Fiction* (Rutgers University Press).

**Jonathan Sarna** (Brandeis University) published *American Judaism* (Yale University Press) which won the National Jewish Book Award from the American Jewish Historical Society.

**Robert O. Self** (Brown University) published *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland* (Princeton University Press) which won the OAH James A. Rawley Prize.

**Conrad Edick Wright** (Massachusetts Historical Society) published *Revolutionary Generation: Harvard Men and the Consequences of Independence* (University of Massachusetts Press).



## CONFERENCES MEETING

**Boston College** will sponsor a *Conference*

*on the History of Religion* on March 24-25, 2006. Panels include topics in the post-Reformation era from Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Contact David McCowin, Boston College, History Department, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467; [mccowin@bc.edu](mailto:mccowin@bc.edu)

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** announced the *Boston Environmental History Seminar* series meeting from September to May. Contact Cherylina Pina, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; 617-646-0513; [cpina@masshist.org](mailto:cpina@masshist.org) or [www.masshist.org](http://www.masshist.org)

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** also announced the *Immigration & Urban History Seminar* series from September to April. Contact Seth M. Vose, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; [svose@masshist.org](mailto:svose@masshist.org) or [www.masshist.org/events](http://www.masshist.org/events)

The **New England Conference for Irish Studies** meets at the Irish Cultural Centre of New England in Canton, Massachusetts on October 15, 2005. The theme is *Ireland: Forty Shades of Green*. Contact Richard B. Finnegan, Stonehill College, Easton, MA 02357; (508) 565-1135; [rfinnegan@stonehill.edu](mailto:rfinnegan@stonehill.edu)

The **University of Connecticut** will hold its first graduate student conference on Early American studies on November 10-12, 2005. The *Coming to Our Senses: Rediscovering Early America* conference meets at Storrs and at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. Contact Patrick G. Blythe by email to [Patrick.blythe@uconn.edu](mailto:Patrick.blythe@uconn.edu)

The **Northeast Conference on British Studies** meets at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst on October 21-22,

2005 Contact Peter Hansen, NECBS Program Chair, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609; email: [phansen@wpi.edu](mailto:phansen@wpi.edu)

The **Oral History Association** holds its annual meeting in Providence on November 2-6, 2005 on the theme *Voices of Dissent, Voices of Hope*. For information, contact Madelyn Campbell, OHA, Dickinson College, PO Box 1773, Carlisle, PA 17013; or see the website at [www.dickinson.edu/oha](http://www.dickinson.edu/oha)

The **New England American Studies Association (NEASA)** holds its annual conference in Worcester on September 23-24, 2005 on the theme *Sight Lines: An American Studies Conference on the Science and Culture of Vision*. For information see the NEASA website: [www.neasa.org](http://www.neasa.org)

The **15th Annual World History Association** conference meets at California State University at Long Beach on June 22-25, 2006 on the themes *Teaching World History* and *The Americas in World History*. Contact the World History Association, 2530 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822; [thewha@hawaii.edu](mailto:thewha@hawaii.edu) or [www.thewha.org](http://www.thewha.org) by January 10.

The **North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA)** holds its third annual conference at the University of Virginia on September 30-October 2, 2005. For information, contact Harold Tucker, Department of English, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4121; [tucker@virginia.edu](mailto:tucker@virginia.edu) or see the website [www.navsa2005.org](http://www.navsa2005.org)

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA)** holds its 28th annual conference at Sacred Heart

University in Fairfield, Connecticut on October 28-29, 2005. Contact the NEPCA program chair, Jeffrey Cain, Sacred Heart University, Department of English, Fairfield, CT 06825-1000; [cainj@sacredheart.edu](mailto:cainj@sacredheart.edu); (203) 371-7810. For more information, see the NEPCA website: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html](http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html). The 2006 NEPCA conference will meet on October 27-28 at Rivier College in Nashua, NH.

The **2006 OAH Midwest Regional Conference** on the theme *Historic Heartland: Celebrating a Century of the OAH* meets in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 6-8, 2006. For more information see the website: [www.oah.org/meetings/2006regional/](http://www.oah.org/meetings/2006regional/)

The **27<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Labor History Conference** meets at Wayne State University on October 20-22 on the theme *Labor, Solidarity and Organizations*. Contact Janine Lanza, Coordinator, NALHC, Department of History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202; email: [ao1605@wayne.edu](mailto:ao1605@wayne.edu)



## **CALLS FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS**

*Charming and Crafty: Witchcraft and Paganism in Contemporary Media* is an interdisciplinary conference held at Harvard University on May 18-21, 2006. Proposed papers on representations of witchcraft and paganism in film, television and other media from 1900 to 2006 may be submitted by

October 31. Contact Hannah Sanders by email to [charmingcrafty@aol.com](mailto:charmingcrafty@aol.com)  
The **Agricultural History Society** will hold an annual meeting at MIT on June 15-17, 2006. The conference theme is *Agrarian Societies* and proposed papers may be submitted by October 15. Contact Sara M. Gregg, Iowa State University, Department of History, Ames, IA 50011-1202; [greggs@iastate.edu](mailto:greggs@iastate.edu) or see the AHS website, <http://agriculturalhistory.ualr.edu/>

The **Third International Women in French Conference** meets at the University of New Hampshire in Durham on April 6-9, 2006. Two topics will be featured, women and work, and Franco-American women of New England and Eastern Canada. Contact Juliette Rogers, University of New Hampshire, 15 Library Way, Durham, NH 03824; [jmrogers@cisunix.unh.edu](mailto:jmrogers@cisunix.unh.edu)

The **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association** meets on March 6-18, 2006 at Salisbury University in Maryland. Proposed papers on the theme *Travel, Tourism, and Resorts* may be submitted by October 14 to Heidi Kaufman, University of Delaware, 212 Memorial Hall, Newark, DE 19716; [kaufman@udel.edu](mailto:kaufman@udel.edu)

The **Annual New Sweden History Conference** meets at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies in Philadelphia on November 19. The theme is *New Sweden and Its European Neighbors*, and proposals may be submitted by July 1. Contact the McNeil Center, 3619 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6213; [mceas@ccat.sas.upenn.edu](mailto:mceas@ccat.sas.upenn.edu)

**SHEAR, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic**, holds its 28<sup>th</sup>

annual conference at the University of Montreal on July 20-23, 2006. The conference theme is *National Histories, International Engagements* in the 1780-1860 era. Contact Catherine Kelly, SHEAR Program Committee, University of Oklahoma, Department of History, Norman, OK 73019; [cathykelly@ou.edu](mailto:cathykelly@ou.edu) by December 5.

The **American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS)** holds its annual conference at the University of Missouri in St. Louis on April 19-22, 2006 on the theme *Old Age Pipers to New Age Punters*. Proposals may be submitted to Eamonn Wall, Center for International Studies, University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO 63121 (email: [walle@umsl.edu](mailto:walle@umsl.edu)) by November 15.

The **2006 Popular Culture/American Culture Association** national conference will meet on April 12-16 in Atlanta. For information about the program, contact Michael Schoenecke, PCA/ACA Secretary-Treasurer, Box 43901, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-3091; [MKschoene@aol.com](mailto:MKschoene@aol.com)



## CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

The **Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference** meets on July 6-9, 2006 at the University of Durham, UK. Longer versions of INCS papers may be published in the journal *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*. Proposed papers on the theme Nineteenth-

Century Creativity may be submitted by November 1 to [Bennett.Zon@durham.ac.uk](mailto:Bennett.Zon@durham.ac.uk)  
**The Hamburg Institute for Social Research** holds a conference on the *Crisis in the Cold War* in Hamburg on May 17-20, 2006. Contact Christian Th. Mueller, Hamburger Institut fuer Sozialforschung, Mittelweg 36, 20148, Hamburg, Germany.

**The Second State of Australian Cities Conference** meets at Griffith University in Southbank, Brisbane on November 30-December 2, 2005. Contact Patrick Troy, Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University, ACT.0200; [Patrick.troy@anu.edu.au](mailto:Patrick.troy@anu.edu.au); [www.griffith.edu/centre/urp](http://www.griffith.edu/centre/urp)

*Renaissance Lives* is the fourth annual conference of the **Centre for Research in Renaissance Studies** at Roehampton University in London on October 22, 2005. Contact Susanne Greenhalgh at Roehampton University, [S.Greenhalgh@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:S.Greenhalgh@roehampton.ac.uk) or see the website [www.roehampton.ac.uk/renaissance/](http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/renaissance/)



## AUTHORS WANTED

**The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA)** offers its annual book award for the best book on any American culture or pop culture topic published in 2005 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2006. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2006 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the

NEPCA Executive Secretary: **Robert E. Weir**, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; [weir.r@comcast.net](mailto:weir.r@comcast.net)

The **Oral History Association** invites submissions for three awards recognizing outstanding achievement in oral history. The awards are for an outstanding book; and an outstanding nonprint format; and an outstanding precollegiate teacher. For information on criteria and applications, see the OHA website: <http://omega.dickinson.edu/organizations/oh/a/org>

The **North American Conference on British Studies** annually offers the *Albion Book Prize* (\$500) for the best book published by a North American scholar on any aspect of British studies since 1800. The *Ben Snow Foundation Prize* is also offered (\$500) for the best book by a North American scholar on any British studies topic in the period from the Middle Ages through the eighteenth century. For more information, contact Andrew August, NACBS Executive Secretary, Abington College, Penn State University; [axa24@psu.edu](mailto:axa24@psu.edu)

The **National Council on Public History** offers an annual award for the best book published on public history in the past two years. Contact David Vanderstel, NCPH Executive Director, 425 University Blvd., Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN 46202; [dvanders@iupui.edu](mailto:dvanders@iupui.edu) or [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu)

The *Journal of Popular Culture*, a scholarly quarterly published by the Popular Culture Association since 1967, seeks contributions (articles, book reviews and essays). For more information, contact the editor: Gary



Hoppenstand, Michigan State University,  
235 Bessey Hall, East Landing, MI 48824;  
email: [tjpc@msu.edu](mailto:tjpc@msu.edu). Those interested in  
writing a book review should contact the  
JPC book review editor, Peter Holloran  
([pch@world.std.com](mailto:pch@world.std.com)).

The *Social History of Alcohol and Drugs:  
An Interdisciplinary Journal* seeks book  
reviewers. Contact the book review editor:  
Elaine Parsons, Department of History,  
Duquesne University, 600 Forbes Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15243; [parsonse@duq.edu](mailto:parsonse@duq.edu)

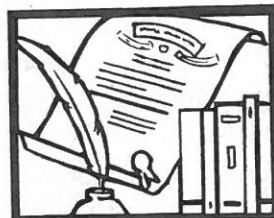
## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The North American Conference on  
**British Studies** offers dissertation year  
fellowships for research in the British Isles  
on British (Irish, Scottish or Imperial) history  
topics by Ph.D. students from the U.S. or  
Canada. Contact Andrew August, NACBS  
Executive Secretary, Abington College,  
Penn State University; [axa24@psu.edu](mailto:axa24@psu.edu)

The Friends of the Princeton University  
**Library** will award ten short-term research  
grants to promote scholarly use of their  
resources. These grants for \$2,500 defray  
expenses for traveling to Princeton for one  
month or more. For further information, see  
the web site:  
[www.princeton.edu/~rbsc/fellowships/](http://www.princeton.edu/~rbsc/fellowships/)

The New England Regional Fellowship  
**Consortium**, a collaboration of sixteen  
major cultural agencies and libraries, offers  
eight awards each year. Each grant provides  
a \$5,000 stipend for forty days of research at  
three or more participating institutions. For  
information about this or other **MHS  
Fellowships**, contact Cherylinne Pina at  
Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154  
Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215;

[cpina@masshist.org](mailto:cpina@masshist.org);  
[www.masshist.org/fellowships.html](http://www.masshist.org/fellowships.html)



## BOOK REVIEWS

*Keeping the Republic: Ideology and Early  
American Diplomacy.* Robert W. Smith.  
DeKalb: Northern Illinois University  
Press, 2004.

Robert W. Smith states a profound  
but basic truth: "Debate over American  
foreign policy inevitably involves the search  
for the soul of America" (138). Now, thanks  
to Smith, there is a new ideological  
framework for scholars investigating early  
America's conduct of diplomacy. The  
traditional classification of our founding  
fathers as either realists or idealists seems  
inadequate as Smith convincingly makes the  
point that the subjects of his study – Thomas  
Jefferson, James Madison, John Adams, and  
Alexander Hamilton – "were all realists and  
at least until the 1780s they were all  
idealists." Additionally, Smith concludes  
that debates over the primacy of foreign  
policy are similarly outmoded because  
"Republicanism did not make a sharp  
distinction between foreign and domestic  
policy" (139).

Smith, who teaches diplomatic  
history at Worcester State College, argues  
that each of these founding fathers shared a  
belief in a republican virtue that a nascent  
United States would naturally exercise in the  
conduct of foreign relations. His thesis  
identifies three competing versions of  
republican virtue: *classical virtue* in which  
citizens would act for the good of their  
country regardless of their private interests,



*whig virtue* which emphasized respect for the Constitution but nevertheless accepted a balance of power principle that might require the United States to maintain a navy or perhaps even a standing army, and *yeoman virtue* which relied upon the power of the farmer and the plow, through the threat or reality of economic embargo, to guarantee that European Old World monarchies would in their own best economic interests respect the political and commercial independence of the United States. Smith is adamant: diplomatic realities steered Adams and Hamilton into a full embrace of whig virtue while Jefferson and Madison enthusiastically endorsed yeoman virtue, and the competing ideologies shaped the course of early American foreign policy.

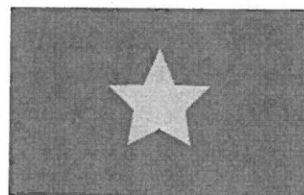
This fine book is extensively researched and documented, and Smith's command of the extensive writings of our founding fathers is exemplary. *Keeping the Republic* is without question an important book for any serious teacher or student of American diplomatic history. As in any good history book, new questions and avenues for further study emerge. All too briefly Smith mentions that Benjamin Franklin "did not conceive of a republican style of diplomacy" (29). Was venerable Benjamin Franklin, whose Parisian antics alternately infuriated both Adams and Jefferson, a practitioner of an ideologically pure *realpolitik* decades before most American policymakers finally accepted that all nations, regardless of their form of government, uniformly conduct a "virtueless" diplomacy solely for their own selfish interests? On the other end of our early republic's timeline stand James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, observers and arguably protégés of Smith's four subjects. What was the influence of Smith's three competing notions of republican virtue

upon their aggressive diplomatic collaboration that encompassed the demilitarization of the Great Lakes and settlement of boundary issues with Great Britain, the acquisition of Florida, and the ultimately the issuance of the Monroe Doctrine? Perhaps by this time they had abandoned all notions of republican virtue inspired (or not) by Franklin's *realpolitik*.

*Keeping the Republic* is exceedingly relevant for anyone trying to make sense of the current world situation. For example, in one passage Smith starkly explains that prior to the outbreak of the War of 1812, James Madison was unable to conceive that "Great Britain could well act out of political hatred and against its own interests" (131). Never again will I strut before my foreign policy class, cocksure that China will not dare to ever make war on the United States because both nations' economic interests are symbiotic and intertwined.

**Peter Bales**

**Queensborough Community College**



***America's Miracle Man in Vietnam: Ngo Dinh Diem, Religion, Race, and U.S. Intervention in Southeast Asia, 1950-1957.* Seth Jacobs. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2004.**

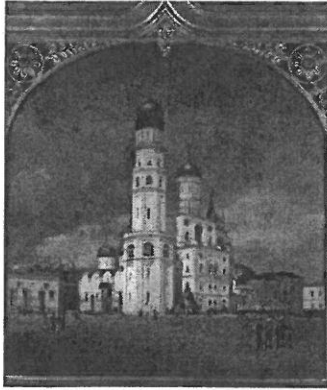
U.S. policymakers perceived compelling geostrategic reasons for involvement in Vietnam, yet as Seth Jacobs argues, racist and religious preconceptions were every bit as crucial determinants as *realpolitik* anti-communism. Soon after arrival in South Vietnam in late 1954, General J. Lawton Collins realized that newly installed premier

He sets the stage with insights into Diem's political philosophies of anticommunism, anticolonialism, and personalism (a spiritual humanist's "third way" between capitalism and communism), then turns to an analysis of America's religious revival of the 1950s. Revivalism led 99% of Americans to profess belief in God, and gave free rein over Vietnam policy to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, the devout son of a Presbyterian minister. Lingering anti-Catholicism at home worked in reverse abroad, with prejudiced old-stock Protestants arguing that Catholicism's unthinking deference to the Roman hierarchy was a bonus; authoritarian leaders were perfect for Third World countries not yet ready for American-style democracy. Other scholars have analyzed the role of popular films and books such as *The King and I* (1956) and *The Ugly American* (1963) in the construction of what Christina Klein calls a "middlebrow aesthetic of commitment" to Asian countries threatened by communism. What sets Jacobs's interpretation apart is the many connections his archival sources reveal between aesthetics and policymaking. Jacobs observes that when General John W. O'Daniel

Readers should consider *Miracle Man* in conjunction with Philip E. Catton's *Diem's Final Failure* (2002), which says little about the ideology of U.S. officials and focuses instead on Diem's nationalism and well-intentioned but poorly executed modernizing reforms. Whereas Jacobs blames the nine-year Washington–Diem alliance for leaving South Vietnam in greater chaos, Catton credits Diem with bringing “a semblance of order” out of the mess he inherited from French puppet Bao Dai. Although Jacobs presents a compelling thesis that religious and racial ideals kept Diem in power, Catton notes that Diem's premiership came about as much by default as by design on the part of American policymakers.

**Michael E. Chapman**  
**Boston College**





***Khrushchev: The Man and His Era.*  
William Taubman. W.W. Norton & Co.,  
New York, 2003.**

Today, the entire Soviet era can appear an episodic three-quarter's-century anomaly. Normalcy, the time of Soviet being rather than (bloody) Soviet becoming or Soviet decline, was the Khrushchev era. The very spectrum of leadership – Lenin (d. 1924), Stalin (d. 1953), Khrushchev (d. 1971), Brezhnev (d. 1982), Andropov (d. 1984), Chernenko (d. 1985) and Gorbachev, whose rule ended in 1991 along with the Soviet state-- suggests Khrushchev's uniqueness. Nonetheless, William Taubman's monumental biography, *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era* presents Nikita Khrushchev (1894-1971) as the archetypal Soviet leader, perhaps the archetypal Soviet man. He was archetypal in that he lived through and played key roles in both Stalinist and post-Stalinist eras, but he was also representative also in that he truly believed in the mission of the Soviet state, in the possibilities of Communism, and the Communist dream. Born into humble circumstances in Kalinovka, near the Ukrainian border, in 1894, Khrushchev used his native intelligence and some training as a metalworker, to move up the political ladder to become party boss in Ukraine and a member of Stalin's inner circle. Indeed, one reading of Khrushchev's crimes and failures

in power are that he embodied the limits of the Soviet dream.

The Soviet Union was supposed to be ruled by the working class. The complicated nature of the man who managed briefly to make that ideal a reality is Taubman's focus in this magnificent Pulitzer Prize-winning biography. For Taubman, two defining elements are Khrushchev's desire for culture to replace his own lack of education and his hypomania. Both features made him insulting, difficult in conversation, and strident in public speeches. Even as he sought to cultivate culture, Khrushchev reveled in his own plain speaking, and this biography is full of Khrushchev-speak. For example, when Khrushchev stood down in the Cuban missile crisis, he commented, "it was not necessary to act [in Cuba] like the Czarist officer who farted at the ball and then shot himself" (579). Lucky for the world he felt that way. Hypomania, a condition characterized by excessive energy and the near-exhaustive pursuit of unrealistic goals, (e.g. achieving actual Communism in the foreseeable future), is a label that fits Khrushchev well.

Taubman opens the book with Khrushchev's downfall, emphasizing that Khrushchev failed to grow into his leadership role, temper his personality, or integrate the disparate elements of his nature. Instead, Khrushchev unraveled. His tirades, long-winded and personal speeches, diplomatic and economic failures, erratic and eccentric behavior, and alienation of supporters within the party overwhelmed his shrewdness and desire to improve the quality of life in the Soviet Union. In fact, Khrushchev was more adroit in his relations with Stalin and the power struggle following Stalin's death than when he was sole leader. Khrushchev's humility and capacity to

endure humiliation served him well under Stalin. Certainly Stalin never saw Khrushchev as a threat, nor did his peers realize his ambition or ability. The longer Khrushchev was in power, the more personal struggles--feelings of inferiority, desire for recognition, and his alternating admiration and contempt for people who received the education Khrushchev so desired--came to dominate his thoughts. Khrushchev was sometimes aware of his limitations, and was increasingly angry at humiliations, past and present, foreign and domestic, perceived and real. His feelings about himself and the Soviet state often commingled and were made manifest in speeches and decisions. Ultimately surrounded by angry, power-hungry, and pragmatic colleagues, Khrushchev was ousted.

For all of this, a measure of Khrushchev's pre-ouster ability is that he was overthrown but not executed. It is unlikely that Stalin would be followed by another of such ilk, yet Khrushchev boldly confronted the excesses of Stalin and the cult of Stalinism, first in a 1956 secret speech, then openly at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Party Congress in 1961. Taubman describes Khrushchev's secret speech as "the bravest and most reckless thing he ever did. The Soviet regime never fully recovered, and neither did he" (274). Repudiating Stalin entailed acknowledging some (but by no means all) of his own guilt, and it meant renouncing some of his own habits of mind.

Guardians of disciplinary boundaries may note that Taubman is a political scientist, but this work reminds us of the value of biography for history, of the important and varied effects of character and personality on events and societies, and the obverse. This is a long book but it reads very smoothly, and leaves one interested in

learning more. For example, Khrushchev's actions during the famine in Ukraine are too lightly covered. Overall, the book is an education, and it is a pleasure to note that since 2004, we have not had to live without it. This fine book won Honorable Mention in the 2004 New England Historical Association annual book prize competition.

**Melanie Murphy**  
**Emmanuel College**

~JHW~

***Diva Julia: The Public Romance and Private Agony of Julia Ward Howe.***  
**Valarie H. Ziegler. Harrisburg, PA:**  
**Trinity Press International, 2003.**

The children of Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910) were the self-appointed Howe family spin doctors of the Victorian era, working tirelessly both during and after their mother's life to present a spotless "family myth" of this highly accomplished yet strong-willed, and often absent mother. They accomplished this through writing articles and books about the Howe family, and they believed it was their duty to pass on the legacy of Julia and her activist husband Samuel Gridley Howe (1801-76) to future generations. What one can learn about Julia Ward Howe through most text book and encyclopedic entries is largely the public and pristine view that was encouraged by the media outlets of Julia's day. In *Diva Julia: The Public Romance and Private Agony of Julia Ward Howe*, Valarie H. Ziegler takes a different approach, and provides an intimate, gritty, and well documented account of this poet, women's rights advocate, and beloved author of the Civil-War era's classic hymn, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." In defense of her own



approach, Zeigler points out “What I have tried to show in this book is that duty is no less fulfilled by telling the whole story – public and private – of Julia Ward Howe’s extraordinary life.”

Early chapters relay the unfortunate and often repeated history of a Victorian society-daughter-turned-wife suffering at the hands of the family patriarchy. But Ziegler can not focus on the victim storyline for long as Julia Ward Howe was a thorough rebel, thinker, and activist. Julia’s life, particularly that part spent with her domineering husband, whom she referred to as “Chev,” was challenging due to his and their children’s disapproval of Julia’s yearning for fame and a public life through her poetry and prose. But Ziegler gives a balanced view and her analysis acknowledges both Julia’s faults and the inspiration that Chev gave her through his charitable works, including his pioneering work at the Perkins Institution for the Blind.

Throughout *Diva Julia*, Ziegler provides access to rich textual sources through readable analysis without getting bogged down by minutiae of Julia’s life or the texts. Items that will undoubtedly interest the historian but may not be essential to the general readership are faithfully provided in Ziegler’s notes. As a result the book is an excellent one for both students and scholars. Ziegler draws upon extensive family papers, as well as published and unpublished poetry and prose, including the shocking “Lawrence Manuscript,” an unfinished novel whose protagonist is a sexually desirable hermaphrodite. Ziegler’s sources provide a view of Julia that is not often seen.

Despite the efforts of Julia Ward Howe’s children to submerge such efforts and present their mother as the perfect Victorian lady, Ziegler has successfully

made the empowering statement that Julia’s accomplishments were not despite but rather due to her very “unladylike” passions and ambitions. It was Julia Ward Howe’s strength in the face of constant and great opposition that ultimately led her to be a leader and an inspiration to so many, both during her time and today.

**Laura Robinson**  
Nichols College



***Atlantic History: Concept and Contours.***  
**Bernard Bailyn. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005.**

For scholars interested in the histories of early modern Africa, Europe, and the Americas, the idea of Atlantic history has gained great currency in recent years. It is a subject rich in historiographical significance and analytical possibilities, yet one that covers such a broad scope of history that any effort to add definitional clarity and assess the current state of the subject is a welcome endeavor. Bernard Bailyn tackles these tasks in *Atlantic History: Concepts and Contours*. As director of the International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World, Bailyn is well situated to offer insight into what Atlantic history is and how it has been practiced. *Atlantic History* is divided into two sections, “The Idea of Atlantic History” and “On the Contours of Atlantic History.” This architecture reflects the book’s two central themes: to outline the origins of Atlantic history as a subject, and to offer narrative coherency to the subject of Atlantic history.

Bailyn locates the origins of Atlantic history in the period following World War II

and from sources both outside and inside the historical profession. In part, Atlantic history was a response to ideological and political commitments to the ideal of an Atlantic community. More important was the work of historians in Europe, North America, and South America delineating the economic, political, cultural, and institutional networks of Atlantic civilization. By the mid-1950s efforts were made to conceptualize Atlantic history as a subject in its own right, with concurrent problems and historical narratives. Atlantic history was met with a less than auspicious reception by the historical profession. In the early 1960s, however, historians started exploring in earnest the possibilities of Atlantic history beginning mainly with studies of the Atlantic economy.

The book's second section is an effort to outline the narrative shape of Atlantic history. At its center, this effort requires an understanding of the phases that created the Atlantic world, "to grasp its history as process" (61). This process of historical change, Bailyn argues, consisted of three main phases experienced by all in the Atlantic world, but in different times and in different ways. After an initial, and often violent, expansion of the borders of European civilization, there emerged a second "long phase of development and integration" creating an "Atlantic system" (81, 83). This system, Bailyn contends, was essentially a large and diverse labor system populated by Africans, Europeans, and Americans. Finally, Creole societies and Creole elites emerged within this Atlantic system, as did the institutions necessary to launch political revolutions that transformed the Atlantic world beginning in the late eighteenth century. Ultimately, Bailyn concludes, understanding Atlantic history requires historians to do more than merely

aggregate national histories, or assume formal institutions such as organized religion adequately explain the rhythms of life in the Atlantic world.

Bailyn makes no claim to offer a definitive study of Atlantic history, rather offers a tentative outline drawn mainly from secondary sources. The book's first section reminds historians of the profit to be gained by historicizing our own analytical categories, though an assessment of current debates over Atlantic history's usefulness would provide added depth to this section. Bailyn deftly covers a large body of scholarship in the second section, though some topics are covered more thoroughly than others. For example, we learn about the engagement of Enlightenment debates by Guatemala City's elites in a local press and university, but far less about the significance of Atlantic transformations for the Africans who remained in West Africa. In all, however, Bailyn's book will serve the needs of scholars and advanced students interested in both Atlantic history and the development of twentieth-century historiography.

**Eric Raymond Schlereth**  
**Brandeis University**



***Uncle Sam's War of 1898 and the Origins of Globalization.* Thomas Schoonover.**  
**Lexington: The University of Kentucky, 2003.**

In many text books the rise of American imperialism is presented as a reluctant phenomenon, and the United States is cast as relatively benign in comparison to aggressive European expansionists.



Similarly, the acquisition of the Philippines in the wake of the Spanish-American War appears an accident and the subsequent war against Filipino nationalists as the product of cultural misunderstanding. Scholars like Walter LaFeber have demolished such views as so much wishful nonsense.

Thomas Schoonover reveals an even more sinister dimension. In a breezy but compelling 128 pages, Schoonover argues that the events of 1898 and subsequent were the culmination of an orchestrated plan to draw both East Asia and the Caribbean into an expanding American capitalist network that was dependent upon raw materials, cheap labor, and new markets. The Spanish-American War was not caused by Spanish cruelty, rather it was a natural outgrowth of industrialization, scientific advance, and the rise of new technology. Nor were the Philippines an accidental procurement, they were integral to an overall American design on East Asia whose roots lay in the whaling industry and the China trade. In this regard, the United States was no better (or worse) than the European superpowers and the cultural arrogance with which indigenous cultures and liberation movements were dismissed prepared the soil for future revolutionary movement. Draw a straight line from Columbus to Mao Zedong, Schoonover argues.

To explain why the imperialist impulses aligned in 1898 Schoonover turns to the crisis of the 1890s, a chaotic period whose depths historians have only recently begun to comprehend. The financial pressures of the Panic of 1893 and labor strife coincided with a collapse of central authority in China that made in vulnerable to German, British, and Japanese incursions that might exclude the United States. (This, Schoonover argues, is the true motive behind the "Open Door" policy.) German

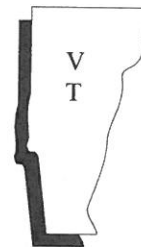
and British influence in Latin America similarly frightened policy-makers and the Cuban crisis intensified those concerns. Thus, 1898 emerges as the culmination of an

industrialization, globalism, imperialism nexus.

Schoonover's linkage of the Caribbean and East Asia is just one of many insights that appear in this brilliant little book, one that reads at once like an extended lecture yet as a detailed history. A review cannot do justice to the way in which he teases out the links between foreign railroads in Latin America, sugar in Hawaii, coaling stations on Wake, fishing in Alaska, and canal dreams in Panama. This provocative book is sure to throw fuel on the globalization debates, especially for those who argue that profit always trumps human rights. Moreover, it is more than tempting to draw parallels between the Filipino insurgency and the contemporary morass in Iraq, not the least of which is the number of casualties in each conflict incurred after hostilities "officially" ceased. This first-rate gem would be a welcome addition to any history classroom.

**Robert E. Weir**

**Commonwealth College, University of Massachusetts**



***Freedom and Unity: A History of Vermont.*  
Michael Sherman, Gene Sessions, and  
P. Jeffrey Potash. Barre: Vermont  
Historical Society, 2004.**

It has been said that Vermont was born in contention and has stubbornly

remained in said state of grace. It is, after all, the only New England state without a seacoast, and the only state in the Union in the past fifty years to send a socialist to

Congress. Moreover, Vermonters have long enjoyed spinning yarns of their uniqueness and state marketers literally cash in on selling singularity to consumers across America. A new history of the Green Mountain State traces its development from prehistory to the present, but its authors are careful scholars more interested in evidence than myth. This meticulously researched text treads the fine line between identity and exceptionalism, and manages to show Vermont's character without resorting to hyperbole.

The authors open most of the chapters with an extended anecdote that metaphorically frames the time period under scrutiny. For example, a chapter on the 18<sup>th</sup> century land squabbles between New York and New Hampshire for control of Vermont opens with the travails of New Hampshire governor Benning Wentworth, who had a vested interest in the outcome. Similarly, the trope for a chapter on Vermont's slide into economic decline and isolation in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century is the great flood of 1927.

The authors are clearly enamored of Vermont and its people, but they do not gloss the fact that theirs is essentially a defensive story. Behind the picture postcard beauty and pre-packaged nostalgia lies the reality of a region's fall from political prominence. If Congressman Bernard Sanders represents the independent spirit of Vermonters—to say nothing of embodying how far Vermont has traveled ideologically in the 110 year period from the 1850s into the 1960s in which the Republican Party completely controlled the state—one cannot help but note that he is Vermont's sole

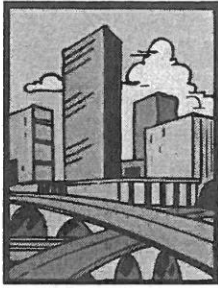
representative. In 1814, Vermont had six representatives; as late as 1840, it had five. Just 42 years later it had but two and it lost one of those in 1932. For all the progress made since World War II, Vermont still contains fewer people than several Chicago wards. The authors end their book with a section titled "Imaging Vermont," which properly identifies the split between those who want Vermont to continue as an anachronistic "frontier society" (617) and those who think it's time to scuttle the backwoods folksiness.

This book is a welcome addition to New England scholarship, though where it fits in problematic. Its scholarly tone and the sheer volume of detail make its reading level too difficult for high school history classes, and its insufficiently gripping for a general readership. Yet, at 622 pages it is probably too long for college classrooms (few of which teach Vermont history in the first place). Although scholars will admire this work, the authors should consider a livelier abridged version.

**Robert E. Weir**  
**Commonwealth College, University of Massachusetts**



## ~ NOTES ~



## **PLAN AHEAD**

### **American Historical Association**

2006 \* Philadelphia \* 5-8 January  
2007 \* Atlanta \* 4-7 January  
2008 \* Washington \* 3-6 January  
2009 \* New York City \* 2-5 January  
2010 \* San Diego \* 7-10 January  
2011 \* Boston \* 6-9 January  
2012 \* Chicago \* 5-8 January  
2013 \* New Orleans \* 3-6 January

### **Organization of American Historians**

2006 \* Washington, DC \* 20-23 April  
2007 \* Minneapolis \* 29 March-1 April  
2008 \* New York \* 28-31 March  
2009 \* Seattle \* 26-29 March  
2010 \* Washington \* 7-10 April

### **American Studies Association**

2005 \* Washington, DC \* 3-6 November  
2006 \* Oakland \* 12-15 October  
2007 \* Philadelphia \* 11-14 October  
2008 \* Albuquerque \* 16-19 October  
2009 \* Washington, DC \* 5-8 November

### **American Conference for Irish Studies**

2006 \* St. Louis \* 19-22 April

### **Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association**

2006 \* Atlanta \* 12-16 April  
2007 \* Boston \* 4-9 April  
2008 \* San Francisco \* April

### **National Conference on Public History**

2006 \* Washington, DC \* 19-22 April

### **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association**

2005 \* Sacred Heart University \* 28-29 October  
2006 \* Rivier College \* 27-28 October

### **Oral History Association**

2005 \* Providence \* 2-6 November  
2006 \* Little Rock \* 25-29 October

### **Social Science History Association**

2005 \* Portland \* 2-6 November  
2006 \* Minneapolis \* 2-5 November  
2007 \* Chicago \* 15-18 November  
2008 \* Miami \* 23-26 October  
2009 \* Long Beach \* 12-15 November  
2010 \* Chicago \* 18-21 November

### **Society of Historians of the Early American Republic**

2006 \* Montreal \* July  
2007 \* Springfield, IL \* July  
2008 \* Philadelphia \* July  
2009 \* Lowell \* July

### **Southern Historical Association**

2005 \* Atlanta \* 2-5 November  
2006 \* New Orleans \* 17-20 November  
2007 \* Richmond \* 31 October-3 November

### **Economic History Association**

2006 \* Boston \* 6-8 January

# 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](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu)  
Web site: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA](http://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 history or American Studies. The Association is affiliated with the **American Historical Association**.

Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$20.00, or \$7.50 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  
Bridgewater State College  
April 22, 2005

Fall Meeting  
UMass-Dartmouth  
October 14, 2006

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New England Historical Association  
100 Institute Road  
Worcester, MA 01609-2280**

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