

# NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

Online at: [www.newenglandhistorians.org](http://www.newenglandhistorians.org)

VOL XLI NO. 2

FALL ISSUE

OCTOBER 2014

FALL CONFERENCE at  
FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY in Rindge, New Hampshire  
on  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014  
SECOND INVITATION



The 93rd meeting of the Association will be held on October 18 at Franklin Pierce University; 40 University Drive; Rindge, NH (603-899-4000). Founded as a college in 1962 and named after the only U.S. president from New Hampshire, Franklin Pierce achieved university status in 2007. It has several branches, but its main campus—the original campus—is in Rindge. The campus is situated on 1,200 wooded acres in the heart of the Monadnock Region, and it boasts breathtaking views of Pearly Pond and the famed Mount Monadnock (the second most climbed mountain in the world).

The program for the fall conference is listed on pages 4-7 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Clifford Putney** (Bentley University) arranged this fine program. **James P. Hanlan** made the local arrangements with the assistance of **Mary Kelly** and her colleagues at Franklin Pierce University. We hope this meeting in Rindge, New Hampshire, will be as well attended and successful as our meeting in Springfield, Massachusetts, last spring. We are very grateful for the hospitality shown to us by Franklin Pierce University. Please see our web pages for other conference details:

<http://www.newenglandhistorians.org>

The October conference will begin with registration and a continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning in Spagnuolo Hall. Panels will begin at 8:30 a.m., and they will be held in Petrocelli Hall. NEHA members are invited to bring copies of their **own recent publications** as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit at 10:00.

*The registration fee payment is required for everyone on the program* (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to October 5 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 Spagnuolo Hall at 12:15, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us, please use this form to pay your 2014 membership dues if you have not already done so. Lunch will be followed at 1:30 by a keynote address from **Doug Ley** (Franklin Pierce University).

His address is titled “What Would Frank Pierce and John Hale Do? A Historian in the New Hampshire House.” After the address, afternoon panels will commence at 2:20, ending at 3:50.

## OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

NEHA's fall conference will be held at the height of New England's "leaf-peeping" season in a popular tourist area, so conferees are advised to make overnight accommodations ASAP. Lodging within **ten miles** of Franklin Pierce University's Rindge campus can be found at:

Woodbound Inn  
(3.5 miles from Rindge campus)  
247 Woodbound Road  
Rindge, NH  
603-532-8341

The Fitzwilliam Inn  
(5.4 miles from Rindge campus)  
62 Route 119 West  
Fitzwilliam, NH  
603-585-9000

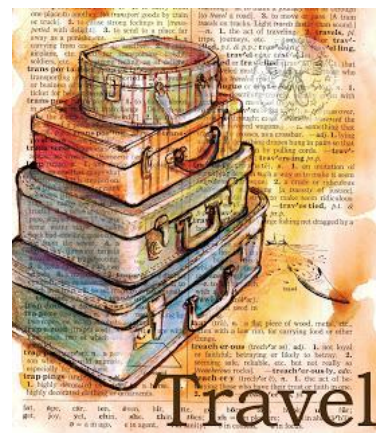
Ashburn House  
(5.5 miles from Rindge campus)  
20 Upper Troy Road  
Fitzwilliam, NH  
603-585-7198

Benjamin Prescott Inn  
(6.8 miles from Rindge campus)  
433 Turnpike Road  
Jaffrey, NH  
603-532-6637

Monadnock Inn at Jaffrey Center  
(6.9 miles from Rindge campus)  
379 Main Street  
Jaffrey, NH  
603-532-7800

The Currier's House  
(6.9 miles from Rindge campus)  
5 Harkness Road  
Jaffrey, NH  
603-532-7670

For lodging **beyond ten miles** of Franklin Pierce University's Rindge campus, please consult the university's website.



## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Franklin Pierce's Rindge campus is located off Route 119 in Rindge, NH, just minutes north of the Massachusetts border. Approximate driving time from New York City is 4 ½ hours; from Boston, MA is 90 minutes; and from Keene, NH is 25 minutes.

### From Western New York/Albany:

- 1.>Take I-90 (or I-88 to I-90) to Exit 24 and take Northway (I-87 North) to exit 7 (7 East/Troy)
- 2.>Take Route 7 East through Troy and continue on Route 7 East to Bennington, VT (Route 7 will become Route 9 in Bennington, VT)
- 3.>Follow Route 9 to Brattleboro, VT, where you will connect with I-91 North (left turn onto I-91)
- 4.>Take I-91 North one exit to Exit 3 connecting to Route 9 East, Keene, NH (16 miles)
- 5.>At the 4<sup>th</sup> stop light in Keene, turn right onto Route 12 South
- 6.>Take Route 12 South to Fitzwilliam where you will come to a blinking yellow light
- 7.>Turn left at the light onto Route 119 East
- 8.>Follow Route 119 East for approximately 6 miles to the University (*Entrance will be on your left at the blinking yellow light*)

*OR:*

- 1.>Take the New York State Thruway East to the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) East to I-91 North to Greenfield, MA (Exit 27)
- 2.>Take Route 2 East to Route 202 North (Exit 19) to Route 119 West in New Hampshire (*1 mile to the University*)



### **From Springfield, MA/Hartford, CT:**

- 1.>Take 1-91 North to Greenfield, MA (Exit 27)
- 2.>Take Route 2 East to Route 202 North (Exit 19) to Route 119 West in New Hampshire (*1 mile to university*)

### **From Boston, MA:**

- 1.>Take Route 128 (I-95) North/South to Route 2 West (*Concord Rotary*)
- 2.>Follow Route 2 West to Route 140 North (*Gardner, MA*)
- 3.>Take Route 140 North to Route 12 North (*Winchendon, MA—You will travel 12 North for 2 miles*)
- 4.>Turn right onto Route 202 North/East
- 5.>Follow Route 202 North/East across the state line into Rindge, NH
- 6.>At the 3<sup>rd</sup> stop light in Rindge, turn left onto Route 119 West
- 7.>Travel 1 ½ miles to the University (*Entrance will be on your right at the blinking yellow light*)

### **From Worcester, MA/Providence, RI:**

- 1.>Take Route 146 to Worcester, MA to Route 290 East to Route 190 West and then to Route 2 West
- 2.>Follow Route 2 West to Route 140 North (*Gardner, MA*)
- 3.>Follow Steps 3-7 as outlined above in the *Boston directions*

### **From Maine:**

- 1.>Take 1-95 South to Portsmouth, NH and connect to Route 101 West
- 2.>Follow Route 101 West for 1 ½ hours (?) to Peterborough, NH where you will connect to Route 202 South/West
- 3.>Take a left onto Route 202 South/West, follow through Jaffrey, NH and continue to the intersection of Route 119
- 4.>Take a right at the light onto Route 119 West
- 5.>Travel 1 ½ miles to the University (*Entrance will be on your right at the blinking yellow light*)

## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

NEHA's spring meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held at Worcester State University on April 18, 2015. The deadline for submitting paper proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is January 15, 2015. To make submissions and/or get information about the program, contact: **Cliff Putney**, Bentley University ([cputney@bentley.edu](mailto:cputney@bentley.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](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu)



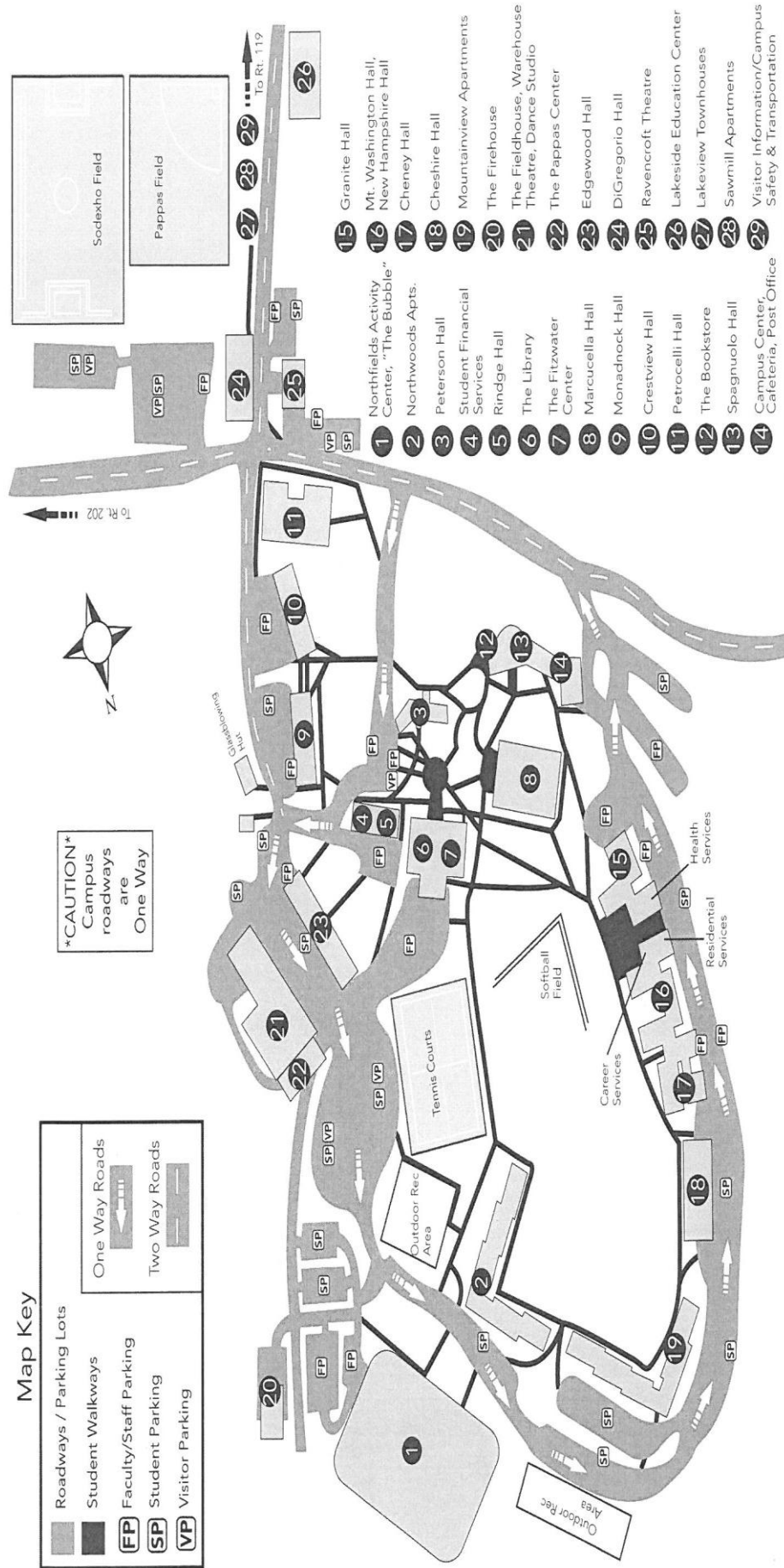
## **PARKING INFORMATION**

Conferees can follow the signs for NEHA parking in the Coles Hall Lot and the Upper Campus Center Lot.

### Map Key

	Roadways / Parking Lots
	Student Walkways
	Faculty/Staff Parking
	Student Parking
	Visitor Parking
	One Way Roads
	Two Way Roads

**\*CAUTION\***  
Campus roadways are One Way



- 1 Northfields Activity Center, "The Bubble"
- 2 Northwoods Apts.
- 3 Peterson Hall
- 4 Student Financial Services
- 5 Rindge Hall
- 6 The Library
- 7 The Fitzwater Center
- 8 Marcucella Hall
- 9 Monadnock Hall
- 10 Crestview Hall
- 11 Petrocelli Hall
- 12 The Bookstore
- 13 Spagnuolo Hall
- 14 Campus Center, Cafeteria, Post Office
- 15 Granite Hall
- 16 Mt. Washington Hall, New Hampshire Hall
- 17 Cheney Hall
- 18 Cheshire Hall
- 19 Mountainview Apartments
- 20 The Firehouse
- 21 The Fieldhouse, Warehouse Theatre, Dance Studio
- 22 The Pappas Center
- 23 Edgewood Hall
- 24 DiGregorio Hall
- 25 Ravencroft Theatre
- 26 Lakeside Education Center
- 27 Lakeview Townhouses
- 28 Sawmill Apartments
- 29 Visitor Information/Campus Safety & Transportation

# FranklinPierce

UNIVERSITY

www.franklinpierce.edu • 40 University Drive, Rindge NH, 03461 • (603) 899-4000

# THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations Since 1965

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 18, 2014**

**FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY  
RINDGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

## FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**8:00-8:30 REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST: Spagnuolo Hall**

*(Note: all session rooms are equipped for internet and projection)*

### **First Morning Sessions, 8:30-10:00:**

**8:30 Session 1: European Intellectuals and Observers**

**Petrocelli 108**

Chair and Comment: Melinda Jette, Franklin Pierce University

“Perceptive English Traveler: Katherine Gertrude Harris in the Russia of Catherine the Great”

Susan Vorderer, Merrimack College

“The Anxiety of Autonomy in German Idealism”

Nicholas Germana, Keene State College

“Rationalist Aesthetics: Emile Durkheim’s Critique of Republican Art”

Michael King, Drew University

**8:30 Session 2: Colonial American History**

**Petrocelli 102**

Chair and Comment: Elizabeth De Wolfe, University of New England

“A Colonial Text for English Eyes: *Mourt’s Relation* and the Beginnings of English Transatlantic Print Culture”

Sean Delaney, Northeastern University

“Smallpox in Colonial America: ‘The most terrible of all the ministers of death’”

Ann Becker, Empire State College (SUNY)

“‘The Work of Nature may at one place please the eye and displease’: Ordering the Eastern County Wilderness during the Invasion of Canada, 1775”

Daniel Soucier, *Maine History*

**8:30 Session 3: The U.S. from 1780 to 1863: Books, Newspapers, and Slavery**

**Petrocelli 101**

Chair and Comment: Tona Hangen, Worcester State University

“‘My Designed History of the Present Glorious Contest for Liberty’: Print Culture and the Politics of History in the early American Republic”

Steven Smith, Providence College

“Joel Tiffany’s Half-Hearted Unconstitutionality-of-Slavery Treatise”

Helen Knowles, Skidmore College

“‘This war is a war for Civilization’: The *Lewiston Daily Evening Journal* on the Fate of Slavery, 1861-1863”

Eben Miller, Southern Maine Community College

**8:30 Session 4: American Business History**

**Petrocelli 117**

Chair and Comment: Doug Ley, Franklin Pierce University

“Staying Afloat: Colonial Connecticut and the Litigated Maritime Economy”

Dominic DeBrincat, Eastern Connecticut State University

“To the Embarrassment of the Treasury’: Borrowing, War Finance, and the American Government in the War of 1812”

Patrick Callaway, University of Maine

“Benjamin Strong, Jr.: The Common Monetary Thread”

Richard A. Naclerio, Sacred Heart University

**8:30 Session 5: Expanding Nineteenth-Century Narratives:  
Complicating Historical Texts with Interdisciplinary Analysis**

**Petrocelli 116**

Chair and Comment: Rebecca Noel, Plymouth State University

“Complicating a Victorian Woman’s Life Story: Interdisciplinary Historical Scholarship Using Biography and Religious Studies Theory”

Lisa Howe, Florida International University

“A Spring of Gender Consciousness: Breaking Away from the Binaric Memory of the First Women’s Movement with Social Movement Theory”

Patricia Farless, University of Central Florida

“The Rhetoric of the Amistad: Teaching How Arguments Shape Historical Memory”

Martha Marinara, University of Central Florida

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

**Petrocelli 112**

**Second Morning Sessions, 10:30-12:00:**

**10:30 Session 6: Environmental History and Historical Environments in the U.S.**

**Petrocelli 108**

Chair and Comment: Marcia Schmidt Blaine, Plymouth State University

“Colonial and American Revolutionary Education and Interpretation: Challenges and Opportunities for Local Historic Organizations—Two Case Studies”

William Marsch, Consultant to Non-Profit Organizations

“Defending the Commons: Fish, Rivers, and Industry in New England, 1801-1812”

Erik Reardon, University of Maine

“The Legacy Ecosystem: Places for People and Nature in the Merrimack River Landscape of the Twenty-First Century”

Timothy Melia, University of New Hampshire

**10:30 Session 7: Women and Religion in New England**

**Petrocelli 102**

Chair and Comment: Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont

“Captivity and Conversion: Puritan Theology and Expression in Mary Rowlandson’s Narrative”

Wesley Fiorentino, Simmons College

“The Women of Hopedale Sewing Circle”

Linda Hixon, Worcester State University

“Christian Commitment in an Era of Choices: Navigating Religious Options in 19<sup>th</sup> Century New England”

Beth Salerno, St. Anselm College

**10:30 Session 8: U.S. Labor History**

**Petrocelli 101**

Chair and Comment: Mary Kelly, Franklin Pierce University

“The Black Pacific Rim: Black Californian Laborers, Merchants, & Ship Workers, and the Rise of Pacific Commerce”

Eunsun Han, Brown University

“A Church of Two Steeples: French-Canadian Immigration, Labor, and Catholicism in New England, 1869-1890”

Patrick Lacroix, University of New Hampshire

“A Generation of Hope, Pain, and Heartbreak: The Worcester Molders’ Union, 1904-1921”

Bruce Cohen, Worcester State University

**10:30 Session 9: International Perspectives on Black and Hispanic History**

**Petrocelli 114**

Chair and Comment: Nicholas Germana, Keene State College

“Hard Scrabble and Snow Town Race Riots: The Vestiges of Slavery in Providence, Rhode Island”

Christopher Martin, U-Mass, Boston

“Steve Biko: The Intellectual Roots of South African Black Consciousness”\*

Alex Habibi, Keene State College

“Bilingual Journalism and Anglo-Hispanic Relations: The Role and Impact of *El Sol*, Houston’s first Spanish/English Newspaper”

Chrystal Pit, U-Mass, Lowell

“Nunca Olvide: Reframing Historical Discourse on Cuban Exile Terrorism”\*

Miles Wilkerson, Eastern Connecticut State University

**10:30 Session 10: Public History and Students**

**Petrocelli 116**

Chair and Comment: Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

“Hometown Histories and Oral History in Maine”

Allison Hepler, University of Maine at Farmington

“Site Visits, Blogs, Field Trips: Bringing Local Public History into the Classroom”

Libby Bischof, University of Southern Maine

“From Primary Source to Online Interpretation: Maine Memory Network and Public History”

Candace Kanen, Maine Historical Society

“Town-Gown Collaborations, Student-Curators and Museum Exhibits: Taking the Classroom to Local History”

Elizabeth De Wolfe, University of New England; and Camille Smalley, Saco Museum

**12:15 - 1:30 LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING**

**Spagnuolo Hall**

(The NEHA Book Award Will Be Presented at Lunch)

**1:30-2:10 Keynote Address**

“What Would Frank Pierce and John Hale Do? A Historian in the New Hampshire House”

Doug Ley, Franklin Pierce University

**Afternoon Sessions, 2:20-3:50**

**2:20 Session 11: Military History: The Roman Navy, WWI, and the Korean War**

**Petrocelli 108**

Chair and Comment: Martin Menke, Rivier University

“Mare Nostrum No More: The Roman Navy in Late Antiquity”

Robert Holmes, Independent Scholar

“The Importance of the Zuber Thesis on the Historiography of Germany and the Great War”

Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

“A Catholic Comic Book, Communists, and the Korean War”

Dennis Gildea, Springfield College

**2:20 Session 12: U.S. Women's History: Reformers and Traditionalists**

**Petrocelli 102**

Chair and Comment: Kristen Petersen, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

"Anti-Suffragists on Campus: The Progressive Era Campaign against the Nineteenth Amendment at American Colleges and Universities"

Kelly Marino, Binghamton University

"Frances Parkinson Keyes Writes from the Nation's Capital to American Women: *Good Housekeeping's* 'Letters from a Senator's Wife' Column in the 1920s"

Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont

"Is a nation a country or a people?' Transnational State-building and Citizenship between the World Wars"

Erika Cornelius Smith, Nichols College

**2:20 Session 13: The Upper South: Manumission, Tenant Farmers, and Black Baltimoreans Petrocelli 101**

Chair and Comment: John Lund, Franklin Pierce University

"'Wave the law and obey the commands of duty': Manumission in the Upper South, 1831-1861"

John "Sean" Condon, Merrimack College

"Antebellum Southern Farm Tenants Reconsidered: The Case of Virginia"

John Zaborney, University of Maine at Presque Isle

"An Imperfect Pluralism: The Baltimore *Afro-American* and the 'Revolution of '28'"

Robert Chiles, University of Maryland

**2:20 Session 14: Gilded Age/Progressive Era History: Hypnosis, Sports, and Masculinity**

**Petrocelli 117**

Chair and Comment: Peter Holloran, Worcester State University

"The Hypnotic Criminal and the Liberal Subject in Turn-of-the-Century America"

Elizabeth Searcy, Brown University

"Physical Education at Springfield College: The Historical and Philosophical Origins of Gulick's Triangle"

Herbert Zettl, Springfield College

"The Masculine Sphere: A Look at Victorian Masculinity in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Adventure Literature"

Michael Baker, Worcester State University

**2:20 Session 15: Teaching History: The Methods, Writing-Intensive, and Capstone Sequence (A Roundtable Discussion)**

**Petrocelli 116**

Moderator: Dane Morrison, Salem State University

Panelists

Rebecca Noel, Plymouth State University

Marcia Schmidt Blaine, Plymouth State University

Students, Plymouth State University

Comment: The Audience

\*Indicates undergraduate paper







## **NEHA NEWS AND THE NEHA WEBSITE**

**Clifford Putney** (Bentley University) is the editor of *NEHA News*. If you have a submission for the Fall 2014 issue of the newsletter, please send it to Cliff ([cputney@bentley.edu](mailto:cputney@bentley.edu)) by Sept. 1, 2014. *Book reviews* should be sent to **Thomas J. Carty** (Springfield College), the book review editor ([tcarty@spfldcol.edu](mailto:tcarty@spfldcol.edu)), by Sept. 1, 2014. If you have a book that you want *reviewed*, mail it to Tom at: Department of Social Sciences; Springfield College; 263 Alden Street; Springfield, MA 01109.

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

Our website is 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 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.

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



## **RESULTS OF NEHA'S APRIL 26, 2014 ELECTION**

### **PRESIDENT**

**Mark Herlihy, Endicott College**

I am delighted to serve as President of NEHA. My active involvement in the organization has deepened my appreciation of the role it plays in fostering a sense of community among historians working in and outside the academy. I previously served on NEHA's executive committee and as chair of its nominating committee. I have also participated in numerous NEHA conferences as a presenter, chair, or commentator. My research and teaching interests are varied and interdisciplinary and include the history of Boston, suburbs, sports, and public history. I have presented papers at OAH, ASA, and PCA/ACA meetings and my publications

include an essay and forthcoming book on the history of Revere Beach. I am Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences and Chair of Humanities at Endicott College. I earned a Ph.D. and MA in American Civilization at Brown University and a BA at Tufts University.



### **VICE PRESIDENT**

#### **Clifford Putney, Bentley University**

Clifford Putney is an associate professor of history at Bentley University, where he has received several teaching awards. He holds a bachelor's degree from Hampshire College, a master's degree from Harvard Divinity School, and a Ph.D. from Brandeis University, where he focused on U.S. religious history. As a specialist in that subject, he has been interviewed by media outlets such as the History Channel and *The Wall Street Journal*, and he has published twelve journal articles, three book chapters, and four books (two of them edited). His best known publications are *Muscular Christianity: Manhood and Sports in Protestant America, 1880-1920* (Harvard University Press, 2001), and *Missionaries in Hawai'i: The Lives of Peter and Fanny Gulick, 1797-1883* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2010). For fifteen years, Cliff has been an active member of NEHA, and he has edited the Association's newsletter since 2011. He is very happy to serve as NEHA's Vice President.

### **SECRETARY**

#### **Tona Hangen, Worcester State University**

I am a social and cultural historian of the U.S. in the late 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries and Associate Professor of History at Worcester

State University, where I teach courses in contemporary U.S. history, historical methods, citizenship/immigration, religious history, and medical history. I am the author of *Redeeming the Dial: Radio, Religion, and Popular Culture*, with published essays in *American Quarterly*, *The Cambridge History of Religions in America*, Routledge's *Companion Volume to Religion and Popular Culture*, and *Radio Cultures*, among others. I am currently working on a book on religious dimensions of the battles over school desegregation in the South from the 1950s to the 1970s. My scholarly interests include media history, religious studies, the pedagogy of history, and digital humanities. I have been a member of NEHA since my graduate studies in the 1990s and have participated as a panelist or panel chair at many of its meetings. Most recently I have been serving the organization on the nominating committee and as NEHA's volunteer website and Twitter feed administrator since 2010. Through building NEHA's online presence I have become excited about the many possibilities of our organization's continued growth, and I look forward to serving as NEHA secretary to help carry the organization forward in the digital age.

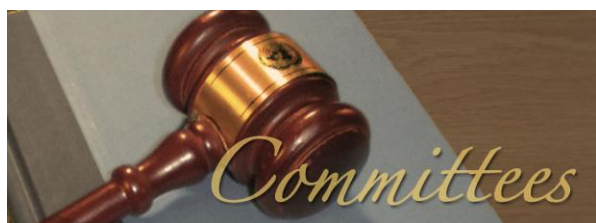
### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Cheryl Boots, Boston University**

A frequent NEHA conference presenter, Cheryl C. Boots is a senior lecturer at Boston University's College of General Studies in the Humanities Division. She teaches introduction to humanities (an interdisciplinary course in literature, visual art, and music taught from a historical/cultural perspective). She also teaches courses in American history and American literature. Her interests are 19<sup>th</sup> and early twentieth century America. Her book, *Singing for Equality: Hymns in the American Antislavery and Indian Rights Movements, 1640-1855* was published in 2013 by McFarland Press.

## **Erik Jensen, Salem State University**

Erik Jensen is a historian of the ancient Mediterranean at Salem State University. He earned his BA at Sarah Lawrence College and his Ph.D. at Columbia University. His area of research is in cultural interactions in the ancient world and he is currently working on a project studying the practice of diplomacy on the northern frontiers of the Roman Empire. In addition to his teaching at Salem State, he advises the Student Historical Association and the pre-legal concentration in the History Department.



### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

## **Elizabeth M. Covart, Independent Scholar**

Elizabeth M. Covart is a historian of early America with a strong interest in the history of the Revolutionary and Early Republic periods. She earned a Ph.D. in history from the University of California, Davis, in 2011.

Liz has published articles in both academic and popular print and online publications. At Uncommonplace Book

([www.uncommonplacebook.com](http://www.uncommonplacebook.com)), Liz posts weekly articles about the information historians need to ply their craft in the twenty-first century. Presently, Liz is revising her first book manuscript, tentatively titled: *America's First Gateway: Albany, N.Y., 1614-1830*. Visit [www.elizabethcovart.com](http://www.elizabethcovart.com) for information about Liz.

## **Rebecca R. Noel, Plymouth State University**

Rebecca R. Noel is Associate Professor of History at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hampshire. She teaches courses on nineteenth-century America, the American West, and American childhood, medical, and intellectual history. She earned a Ph.D. in American and New England Studies from Boston University and has also taught at Harvard University and Vermont College. Her work has appeared in *Children and Youth in a New Nation*; *Salem: Place, Myth, and Memory*; and the Dublin Seminar Proceedings, *The Worlds of Children, 1620-1920*. Her book in progress chronicles the campaign to protect the health of schoolchildren in antebellum America. Her most recent research finds some of this crusade's origins in European medical and educational developments in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.



### **A MESSAGE FROM NEHA'S PRESIDENT**

Dear Colleagues and NEHA members,

Greetings. I write this message at the end of the first full week of the fall semester, a time when those of us who work at colleges, universities, and high schools devote attention – more or less, depending on our load - to teaching. It is noble and important work, and the privilege of educating others is one reason we pursued careers in education. But as we know, teaching can become all-consuming. While our research

and that of others often informs our teaching, the day-to-day demands of the classroom can make it difficult to maintain an active research agenda and to keep up with developments in the field. For this reason alone, I encourage you to attend NEHA's October 18 conference at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire, even if you are not on the program. NEHA's biannual gatherings are terrific occasions to (re)connect with historians working in and outside of the academy, and to stay abreast of new work and methods showcased in presentations delivered by emerging and established scholars.

Vice-President Clifford Putney (Bentley University) has organized a stimulating program, featuring panels examining a broad range of topics, periods, and regions. The organization is indebted to Cliff for his fine work on this conference (as well as for editing NEHA News), and to Mary Kelly and her colleagues at Franklin Pierce for handling local arrangements. I hope to see you there!

**Mark Herlihy, NEHA President (2014-15)**  
**Endicott College**

### **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, 2015. They may be submitted either to NEHA President **Mark Herlihy** ([mherlihy@endicott.edu](mailto:mherlihy@endicott.edu)) or to the Award Committee Chair **Kristen Petersen** ([kristen.petersen@mcphs.edu](mailto:kristen.petersen@mcphs.edu)). Other members of the committee include **Melanie Gustafson** (University of Vermont), **Tona Hangen** (Worcester State University), and **Martin Menke** (Rivier College).



### **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](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu) by June 1, 2015. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2014, 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 current chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee is **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State University). Other members of the committee include **James Bidwell** (Anna Maria College), **Kristen Petersen** (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences), Paul Leehey (Paul Revere House), and Robert Smith (Worcester State University).

The 2014 book award goes to **Allegra Di Bonaventura** (Yale University) for her outstanding book, *For Adam's Sake: A Family Saga in Colonial New England* (W. W. Norton).

The book award nominations for 2014 included the following fine books:

Cheryl. Boots, *Singing for Equality* (McFarland)  
David Carey, *I Ask for Justice* (University of Texas Press)  
Matthew W. Dunne, *A Cold War State of Mind* (University of Massachusetts Press)  
Allegra Di Bonaventura, *For Adam's Sake* (W. W. Norton)  
Doris Kearns Goodwin, *The Bully Pulpit* (Simon & Schuster)  
Jack P. Greene, *Evaluating Empire* (Cambridge University Press)  
Katherine Howlett Hayes, *Slavery Before Race* (New York University Press)  
Lucianne Lavin, *Connecticut's Indigenous People* (Yale University Press)  
George Michael, *Extremism in America* (University Press of Florida)  
Sarah Mittlefehldt, *Tangled Roots* (University of Washington Press)  
Nathaniel Philbrick, *Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution* (Viking)  
Diana Howansky Reilly, *Scattered: The Forced Relocation of Poland's Ukrainians after World War II* (University of Wisconsin Press)  
Marilynne K. Roach, *Six Women of Salem* (Da Capo Press)

Alan Rogers, *The Child Cases: How America's Religious Exemption Laws Harm Children* (University of Massachusetts Press)

A. Douglas Stone, *Einstein and the Quantum* (Princeton University Press)

Matthew Warshauer, *Inside Connecticut and the Civil War* (Wesleyan University Press)

Mark S. Weiner, *Rule of the Clan* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Richard E. Winslow, *Race of Shipbuilders* (Portsmouth Marine Society)

J. D. Zahniser and Amelia R. Fry, *Alice Paul: Claiming Power* (Oxford University Press)



## SPRING 2014 CONFERENCE REPORT

The 92<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Association was held at Springfield College in Springfield, MA, on April 26, 2014. It was a remarkably successful conference, and it attracted 147 conferees. This is *the largest number of conferees* that **James Hanlan** (WPI) has seen at a NEHA conference in his 20 years as the Association's Executive Secretary.

The conferees enjoyed panels and roundtable discussions—30 sessions total—focusing on a range of topics, including the history of labor, sport, women's rights, slavery, religion, higher education, and diplomacy. Other sessions focused on public history, teaching history online, the Middle East, India, Ireland and Irish-America, New England, and the American Revolution. A roundtable discussion on Ukraine provided historical context to enhance understanding of the current crisis in that land.

**Marty Dobrow** (Springfield College) delivered a keynote address entitled “Ever So Close to Silence: The Perilous Journey of Martin Luther King, Jr. to Springfield College in 1964.” His talk commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King’s commencement address at Springfield and the circumstances (including pressure on the college from the FBI to disinvite him) that almost prevented King from making his address.



The program was arranged by **Mark Herlihy** (Endicott College). NEHA would like to thank officials at Springfield College for agreeing to host the conference, and it would particularly like to thank **Tom Carty** (Springfield College) for making the local arrangements.



## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NEHA’s Executive Committee met at Worcester Polytechnic Institute on January 18, 2014. NEHA’s President, **Dane Morrison** (Salem State University), presided over the meeting, and NEHA’s Executive Secretary, **James Hanlan** (WPI), reported on the overall state of the Association. Other NEHA officers gave reports as well, and it was agreed that the Association is basically in good shape, financially and organizationally.

## NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

**The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** has awarded **Brandeis University** a \$175,000 grant to organize a year-long seminar on the subject of the American, French, and Haitian Revolutions.

President **Barack Obama** recently gave the National Humanities Medal to **David Brion Davis** (Yale University) for his work on slavery and abolitionism.

**John Dower** (MIT) received a 2014 award for scholarly distinction from the AHA for his contributions to US and East Asian history.

**James Hankins** (Harvard University) has recently been elected to be a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.

**Jim Johnson** (Boston University) was recently awarded the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowship to facilitate his work on French history.

**Barbara Krauthamer** (U-Mass, Amherst) and Deborah Willis (Tisch School of the Arts) received a 2014 NAACP Image Award for their book, *Envisioning Emancipation: Black Americans and the End of Slavery* (Temple University Press, 2012).

**Rachel Maddow**, a popular television personality, recently declared history to be the “king” of undergraduate majors.

Some of the world’s leading medical libraries have collaborated to form the **Medical Heritage Library**, a collection of 55,000 digitized medical rare books, pamphlets, journals, audio recordings, and films, all of which are openly available for use at no cost.

The movement to unionize adjunct professors continues to gain ground. Adjunct professors at **Northeastern University** recently voted to unionize, and adjunct professors at **Boston University** and **Simmons College** will vote soon on whether or not to unionize.

**Carol Pal** (Bennington College) received the AHA’s 2014 Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in Women’s History for her book, *Republic of Women: Rethinking the Republic of Letters in the Seventeenth Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

**John Fabian Witt** (Yale University Law School) received the AHA’s 2014 Littleton-Griswold Prize for his book, *Lincoln’s Code: The Laws of War in American History* (Free Press, 2012).



## BOOK NEWS

**Jeremy Clarke** (Boston College) published *The Virgin Mary and Catholic Identities in Chinese History* (Hong Kong University Press, 2013).

**Erez Manela** (Harvard University) and **Robert Gerwarth** (University College of Dublin) published *Empires at War, 1911-1923* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

**Eugenio Menegon** (Boston University) collaborated in a new translation of Matteo Ricco’s *Diary* (Commercial Press of Shanghai, 2014).

**Mo Moulton** (Harvard University) published *Ireland and the Irish in Interwar England* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).

**Brian Purnell** (Bowdoin College) published *Fighting Jim Crow in the County of Kings: The Congress of Racial Equality in Brooklyn* (University Press of Kentucky, 2013).

**Heather Cox Richardson** (Boston College) published *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party* (Basic Books, 2014).

**Dana Sajdi** (Boston College) published *The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Levant* (Stanford University Press, 2013).

**Susan Tananbaum** (Bowdoin College) published *Jewish Immigrants in London* (Pickering & Chatto Publishers, 2014).

## CONFERENCES OF REGIONAL INTEREST

The **Society for Historians of the Early American Republic** will hold its annual meeting in Raleigh, NC, on July 16-19, 2015.

The **New England American Studies Association** (NEASA) will hold its annual meeting on October 17-18, 2014, at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI.

The **Italian American Studies Association** (IASA) will hold its annual conference at the University of Toronto on October 17-19, 2014.

The New England regional meeting of the **American Conference for Irish Studies** will be held on November 21-22, 2014, at Wheaton College, Norton, MA.

The **Berkshire Conference on the History of Women**: The date of the next “Big Berks” Conference has yet to be determined. Interested parties can contact Laura Lovett: [lovett@history.umass.edu](mailto:lovett@history.umass.edu)

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** (1154 Boylston St., Boston) invites people to submit papers for a conference in Boston on April 2-4, 2015. The title of the conference is “‘So Sudden an Alteration’: The Causes, Course, and Consequences of the American Revolution.” For more information about the conference, contact **Conrad Edick Wright** ([cwright@masshist.org](mailto:cwright@masshist.org)).

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** (1154 Boylston St., Boston) 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 about the conference or the seminars, contact **Kate Viens**, Research Coordinator: 617-646-0568, or [seminars@masshist.org](mailto:seminars@masshist.org)

The date of the next **Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife** has yet to be determined.

The **New England Regional World History Association** (NERWHA) will be holding a symposium on October 25, 2014,

at Middlesex Community College, U-Mass Lowell, and the National Park Service (Lowell). The theme of the symposium is “Industrialization and World History.”

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) will hold its annual conference on October 24-25, 2014, at Providence College in Providence, RI. For more information about the conference, contact **Robert Hackey** ([rhackey@providence.edu](mailto:rhackey@providence.edu)).



## 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/](http://www.wsc.mass.edu/mhj/) or email [martin.masshistory@wsc.ma.edu](mailto:martin.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](mailto:editor@ijhssnet.com)).

The *International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science* (IJLASS), a newly established, open access, peer-reviewed journal, seeks all manner of contributions, including articles about history. Send your manuscripts to the editor at [editor@ijlass.org](mailto:editor@ijlass.org), or [editor.ijlass@hotmail.com](mailto:editor.ijlass@hotmail.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 2014 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2015. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2014 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary, **Robert E. Weir**, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; [robweir7@gmail.com](mailto:robweir7@gmail.com)

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](mailto: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](mailto:l.rhoades@new.edu), or see our website: [www.newenglandquarterly.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:allthingsnewengland@gmail.com)) or consult the publication's website: [www.allthingsnewengland.com](http://www.allthingsnewengland.com)



## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** is offering short-term and long-term research fellowships for the academic year 2014-15. The Society is a participant in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. For more information please visit the website, [www.masshist.org/fellowships](http://www.masshist.org/fellowships), or contact Kate Viens ([fellowships@masshist.org](mailto: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](http://www.amphilsoc.org/grants/resident.htm)

The **American Antiquarian Society** in Worcester offers three broad categories of visiting research fellowships: long-term fellowships, short-term fellowships, and fellowships for creative and performing artists and writers. For more information about the fellowships, please consult the Society's website.

The **American Academy in Rome** gives an annual prize, the Rome Prize, to 15 scholars (working in ancient, medieval, Renaissance and early modern, or modern Italian studies), as well as to 15 emerging artists (working in architecture, landscape architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, literature, musical composition, or visual arts). Recipients of the prize get to study at the academy. The application deadline for next year's prize is November 1.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Historic Deerfield** in Deerfield, MA, invites college juniors and seniors to apply for its nine-week, fully-funded Summer Fellowship Program in History and Material Culture. The due date for applications is February 2015.



## 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

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Doron Ben-Atar, Fordham University  
Erika Briesacher, Worcester State University  
Sharmistha Roy Chowdhurst, Emerson College  
Thomas Conroy, Worcester State University  
Matthew Dunne  
Drew Fedorka  
Richard High  
Jung Hwong, Worcester State University  
Alice Nash, UMass Amherst  
Gary Jones, American International College  
Jill Martin, Quinnipiac University  
Edward H. Miller  
Jessica Parr, University of New Hampshire  
Elizabeth Sharpe





## **PRESIDENTS OF THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

1966-1967	Frank Friedel, Harvard University
1967-1968	Reinhold Dorwart, University of Connecticut
1968-1969	Louis Morton, Dartmouth College
1969-1970	Daniel Thomas, University of Rhode Island
1970-1971	J. H. Hexter, Yale University
1971-1972	Helen Mulvey, Connecticut College
1972-1973	Sidney A. Burrell, Boston University
1973-1974	Kenneth F. Lewalski, Rhode Island College
1974-1975	John G. Gagliardo, Boston University
1975-1976	Jane Pease, University of Maine
1976-1977	Robert Lougee, University of Connecticut
1977-1978	Giles Constable, Harvard University
1978-1979	Gordon Jensen, University of Hartford
1979-1980	Neil Stout, University of Vermont
1980-1981	Fred A. Cazel, Jr., University of Connecticut
1981-1982	Darrett Rutman, University of New Hampshire
1982-1983	John Voll, University of New Hampshire
1983-1984	Emiliana P. Noether, University of Connecticut
1984-1985	Ronald P. Formisano, Clark University
1985-1986	Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr., Rhode Island College
1986-1987	Catherine M. Prelinger, Yale University
1987-1988	Paul A. Fideler, Lesley College
1988-1989	Roger Howell, Jr., Bowdoin College
1989-1990	Barbara Solow, Harvard University
1990-1991	Richard D. Brown, University of Connecticut
1991-1992	Alan J. Reinerman, Boston College
1992-1993	Richard Buel, Wesleyan University
1993-1994	Neal R. Shipley, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
1994-1995	Bruce M. Stave, University of Connecticut
1995-1996	Patricia Herlihy, Brown University
1996-1997	Roland Sarti, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
1997-1998	James S. Leamon, Bates College
1998-1999	Borden W. Painter, Jr., Trinity College
1999-2000	Alan Rogers (Boston College)
2000-2001	Joanne Schneider, Rhode Island College
2001-2002	Joseph Conforti, University of Southern Maine
2002-2003	James O'Toole, Boston College
2003-2004	Paul Monod, Middlebury College
2004-2005	Robert J. Imholt, Albertus Magnus College
2005-2006	Altina Waller, University of Connecticut
2006-2007	George Dameron, St. Michael's College
2007-2008	Luci Fortunato, Bridgewater State College
2008-2009	Ballard Campbell, Northeastern University
2009-2010	Laura Prieto, Simmons College
2010-2011	Melanie S. Gustafson, University of Vermont
2011-2012	Martin Menke, Rivier College
2012-2013	Elizabeth DeWolfe, University of New England
2013-2014	Dane Morison, Salem State University
2014-2015	Mark Herlihy, Endicott College



## MEETINGS OF NEHA

1966	University of Connecticut	1992	Assumption College
1967	Harvard University		Rhode Island College
1968	University of Massachusetts-Amherst	1993	University of Southern Maine
1969	Boston University		John Carter Brown Library & Brown University
1970	University of Rhode Island	1994	Bentley College
1971	University of Massachusetts-Amherst Yale University		University of Hartford
1972	University of New Hampshire University of Hartford	1995	Mount Holyoke College Saint Anselm College
1973	Bentley College Connecticut College	1996	Amherst College Roger Williams University
1974	Rhode Island College Clark University	1997	Northeastern University University of Connecticut
1975	Pine Manor College University of Maine, Portland	1998	University of Vermont Connecticut College
1976	St. Joseph's College Exeter Academy	1999	Rivier College Suffolk University
1977	Harvard University University of Connecticut	2000	Tufts University Stonehill College
1978	University of Massachusetts, Amherst University of Lowell	2001	Salve Regina University Saint Michael's College
1979	Boston College Colby-Sawyer College	2002	Massachusetts Maritime Academy Rhode Island College
1980	Old Sturbridge Village Rhode Island College	2003	Bentley College College of the Holy Cross
1981	Mount Ida College Albertus Magnus College	2004	Newbury College College of Saint Joseph
1982	College of the Holy Cross University of New Hampshire	2005	Regis College University of Rhode Island
1983	Fitchburg State College Roger Williams College	2006	Bridgewater State College University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth
1984	American Antiquarian Society Framingham State College	2007	Southern New Hampshire University Worcester Polytechnic Institute
1985	Bowdoin College University of Connecticut	2008	Northeastern University Endicott College
1986	American Antiquarian Society Boston College	2009	University of Southern Maine University of Vermont
1987	Historic Deerfield Albertus Magnus College	2010	Salem State College University of New England
1988	Salem State College University of Hartford	2011	Worcester State University Emmanuel College
1989	University of Lowell Smith College	2012	Rivier College Merrimack College
1990	Pine Manor College St. Joseph's College	2013	Westfield State University Albertus Magnus College
1991	American Antiquarian Society & Worcester Polytechnic Institute John F. Kennedy Library & University of Massachusetts-Boston	2014	Springfield College Franklin Pierce University

## BOOK REVIEWS



John Demos, *The Heathen School: A Story of Hope and Betrayal in the Age of the Early Republic*. New York: Knopf, 2014.

John Demos' intricate, important telling of the story of the Foreign Mission School at Cornwall, Connecticut, will bring that short-lived institution some richly deserved attention.

The school opened its doors in 1817, under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM), in response to a plea from some young Hawaiians whose nautical employment had brought them to New England ports. During its nine years it drew 95 students (42 Native American, 19 Hawaiian, and 12 from the U.S., along with the others from Europe, East Asia, Mexico and other Pacific Islands). The official name of the school was soon joined by the name given it by locals (which serves as the book's title): "The Heathen School."

Demos describes in fine detail the founding and development of the school, which arose within the framework of the Second Great Awakening. The guiding vision was to establish a place where young men from other nations could be inspired and trained to return to their homelands as Christian missionaries. His massive research delves into local records, family histories, and the archives of the ABCFM.

The book will be especially valuable in Hawai'i, where the life and work of Henry Opukaha'ia is held in great esteem. Opukaha'ia (called Obookiah in New England) was one of those whose presence in New England was a major influence toward the founding of the Foreign Mission School.

The focal point of the book is a series of events which aroused bitter controversy in the local community, across the region and among some supporters of the school, ultimately leading to the school's closure. Two young women from the local community married Cherokee men who were, or had been, students. Sarah Northrup married John Ridge in 1824, and Harriet Gold married Elias Boudinot in 1826. The thorough detail in Demos' account of these events adds much to our understanding of both the foreign missionary movement and New England life in the early nineteenth century.

The writer continues by following the two couples back to the Cherokee reservation, just as the new Jackson administration was embarking upon its horrendous policy of "Indian removal", pressuring the Cherokees to give up their lands and move west of the Mississippi. The Cherokees were profoundly divided over the issue of removal. However, Demos' sympathetic account of the Boudinots and Ridges, which includes the assassinations of both men in 1839, gives us the perspective of only one side of the controversy, the "Treaty Party".

The book's focus on the story of the school itself is diminished by its sketchy treatment of surrounding actors in the story. This is especially noticeable once the focus shifts to the Cherokees. In that setting its stereotypical picture of missionaries and the

ABCFM is especially misleading. The Board and its agents are portrayed as interested in little other than saving heathen souls.

Actually, at least two of the ABCFM agents who figure prominently in the book, Samuel Austin Worcester and Jeremiah Evarts, were tireless workers on behalf of justice and dignity for the Cherokee people. This is not acknowledged.

Samuel Austin Worcester (1798-1859), was a missionary to the Cherokees for more than three decades. He knew Elias Boudinot from their time together at Andover Seminary. Worcester's memory is still honored within the Cherokee Nation as "The Messenger". Among his many activities, the case before the U. S. Supreme Court, *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832), in which John Marshall and his court ruled in his favor, perpetuates his memory into modern times. Andrew Jackson flouted the Court's ruling, resulting in many declaring Worcester's suit a failure. However, Marshall's ruling in the case was rediscovered in the mid-twentieth century and is now part of the foundation of the U.S. policy that affirms Native American tribal sovereignty.

The work also does not distinguish Samuel Austin Worcester (1798-1859) from his uncle, Samuel Worcester (1770-1821). The latter was a pastor in Salem, Massachusetts, who became the first corresponding secretary of the ABCFM and was influential in that board's decision to send missionaries to the Cherokees. The elder Worcester is buried at the first mission site, in Brainerd, Tennessee.

Jeremiah Evarts, who succeeded the elder Worcester as ABCFM Corresponding Secretary, was the prime mover in the

national campaign opposing President Jackson's legislative proposal to authorize Indian removal. Despite Evarts' heroic efforts the House of Representatives passed the president's bill by five votes, 102-97. Evarts had written pseudonymous articles – under the name William Penn - in the *National Intelligencer*, organized rallies and petitions, and visited the Cherokees annually.

For further information about the missionaries and Cherokee Indian removal, see:

Andrew, John A., III. *From Revivals to Removal: Jeremiah Evarts, the Cherokee Nation, and the Search for the Soul of America*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1992.

Bass, Althea, *Cherokee Messenger*, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1936, 1996.  
Hicks, Brian, *Toward the Setting Sun: John Ross, the Cherokees, and the Trail of Tears*. Atlantic, 2011.

Prucha, Francis Paul, ed. *Cherokee Removal: The "William Penn" Essays & Other Writings by Jeremiah Evarts*. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1981; (containing essays originally published as *Essays On The Present Crisis. American Indians* in 1829).

VanDevellder, Paul, *Savages and Scoundrels: the Untold Story of America's Road to Empire Through Indian Territory*, Yale, 2009.

**Donald J. Severson (Author of *Atkinson: Pioneer Oregon Educator*, Amazon, 2011)**



## PLAN AHEAD

### **American Historical Association**

2015 \* New York City \* 2-5 January  
2016 \* Atlanta \* 7-10 January

### **Organization of American Historians**

2015 \* St. Louis \* 16-19 April

### **American Studies Association**

2014 \* Los Angeles \* 6-9 November

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

2015 \* Fort Lauderdale, FL \* 25-28 March

### **Association of Personal Historians**

2014 \* St. Louis \* 22-26 October

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

2015 \* New Orleans \* 1-4 April

### **Oral History Association**

2014 \* Madison, WI \* 8-12 October

### **Economic History Association**

2014 \* Columbus, OH \* 12-14 September

### **National Council on Public History**

2015 \* Nashville \* 15-18 April

### **North American Conference on British Studies**

2014 \* Minneapolis \* 7-9 November

### **Social Science History Association**

2014 \* Toronto \* 6-9 November

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

2015 \* Raleigh, NC \* 16-19 July

### **World History Association**

2015 \* Savannah, GA \* June 30-July 2

### **African Studies Association**

2014 \* Indianapolis, IN \* 20-23 November

### **American Society for Environmental History**

2015 \* Washington, DC \* 18-22 March

**NEHA FALL CONFERENCE**  
**FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY**  
**RINDGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**OCTOBER 18, 2014**



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

MAILING ADDRESS.....

ZIP CODE.....EMAIL.....

- |                          |  |          |         |
|--------------------------|--|----------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pre-Registration, Members by mail      | \$20.00  | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pre-Registration, Non-Members by mail  | \$35.00  | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | On site Registration                   | \$40.00  | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Luncheon                               | \$18.00* | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2014 dues                              | \$20.00  | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2014 dues (student, emeritus, adjunct) | \$10.00  | \$..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Association Fund Donation              |          | \$..... |

**Total (US. Funds)** \$.....

Please do not mail after October 5. Registration will be available at the conference. Use this form to pay your 2014 annual dues, even if you do not attend the Fall 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.

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

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

Make checks payable to NEHA in US funds and return by October 5 to:

**James P. Hanlan, NEHA Executive Secretary, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280; [jphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu)**







**NEHA NEWS**  
**The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association**

**ASSOCIATION OFFICE**

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*Web site: [www.newenglandhistorians.org](http://www.newenglandhistorians.org)*

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**CALENDAR**



**Fall Meeting**

Franklin Pierce  
University

October 18, 2014



**Spring Meeting**

Worcester State  
University

(Tentative)

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
New England Historical Association  
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