

NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXV NO. 1

SPRING ISSUE

APRIL 2009

SPRING CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE IN PORTLAND

Saturday, April 18, 2009
SECOND CALL

The 82nd meeting of the Association will be held on April 18 at the University of Southern Maine in Portland (207-780-4141). The program is listed on pages 3-7 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Laura Prieto** (Simmons College) arranged this excellent program. **James P. Hanlan** made the local arrangements with the assistance of **Joseph Conforti** and **Kent Ryden** of the USM Department of American Studies. This is our first meeting since 1993 in Maine and the historic city of Portland, but it will be a popular and scenic seaside location. We are very grateful for USM's hospitality on our behalf. Please see our web pages for other conference details:

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

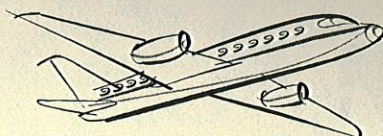
The Spring conference begins with registration and continental breakfast on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in **Hannaford Hall** lobby and mezzanine. Members are invited to bring copies of their own recent publications as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit.

The *registration fee payment is required for everyone on the program* (panelists, chairs and commentators) and all who attend the conference. Pre-registration by mail prior to April 9 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.

Our luncheon will be served in the **Hannaford Hall** 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 Vacation Land, please use this form to pay your 2009 membership dues. Lunch will be followed by the awards ceremony and a brief business meeting.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

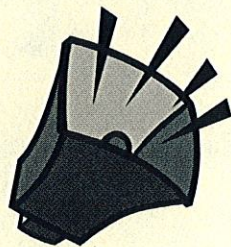
The Association suggests that members make early motel reservations by phone because this will be a busy weekend in Portland. Ask for a NEHA or USM discount rate when you phone for a reservation by April 9. We recommend the **Howard Johnson Motel**, 155 Riverside Street at exit 48 on I-95 (207-774-5861).



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Driving from the South: Take the Maine Turnpike (I-95) to Exit 44, South Portland/Downtown Portland. Follow I-295 to Exit 6B, Forest Avenue North. At the first traffic light, turn left onto Bedford Street. Enter the USM parking garage by taking the next first left onto Surrenden Street after the Alumni Skywalk. Follow the NEHA signs to walk to Hannaford Hall.

Driving from the North: Take the Maine Turnpike to Exit 47, Rand Road/Westbrook. Follow Route 25 east for 3 miles. At the intersection of Falmouth Street, Route 25 (Brighton Avenue), and Bedford Street, bear left on Brighton Avenue that soon intersects with Bedford Street. Enter the USM parking garage by taking the first right onto Surrenden Street before the Alumni Skywalk.



ADVANCE NOTICE

The Fall meeting will be held at the **University of Vermont in Burlington** on October 17, 2009. Our new Vice-President will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is June 15, 2009. For information about the program or submissions, contact: James P. Hanlan, NEHA Executive Secretary, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280; jphanlan@wpi.edu

Those in Portland on Friday April 17 are invited to a NEHA reception at the Maine Historical Society, 489 Congress Street at 5:30.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Abel Alves
Ball State University

Polly Beals
Southern CT State
University

Mimi Cowan

Diana Hennessy-Curran

Susan Goganian
Beverly Historical Society

Alexander Marriot
Clark University

Susan A. Maurer

Michelle Morgan

Jeanne Marie Penvenne

Elizabeth Smith

John Zaborney
University of Maine

Sherry Zane

NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations Since 1965

SATURDAY
APRIL 18, 2009

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE
PORTLAND, MAINE

SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

*Please note there will be a RECEPTION at the MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
489 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, at 5:30 p.m., on Friday, April 17, 2009*

Registration and Continental Breakfast: 8:00-8:30 a.m. – Hannaford Hall, Lobby & Mezzanine

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE IN HANNAFORD HALL

FIRST MORNING SESSIONS: 8:30-10:00, SATURDAY, April 18:

8:30 Session 1: Religious Transformations -- Room: Hannaford 109

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

Scott Marr, Boston University, "Two Churches in One City: Catholic-Huguenot Coexistence in the Work of Moise Amyraut"

Andrea Knutson, Oakland University, "Reviving New England as a Means to Faith: Thomas Shephard's Confessions as a Communal Response to Crisis"

Laura Kathryn Baines, Boston College, "Here We Stand? Revivals, Americanization and the Struggle for Lutheran Distinctiveness"

Douglas Slaybaugh, St. Michael's College, "Muscular Christianity at Oberlin: Laurence MacDaniels, Henry Churchill King, and the Work of Football as God's Work, 1890-1912"

Comment: Thomas Carty, Springfield College

8:30 Session 2: Visions of a Better America -- Room: Hannaford 110

Chair: Ardis Cameron, University of Southern Maine

Scott Gelber, Wheaton College, "Higher Education in Hard Times Past: Populism and Academia during the Gilded Age"

Mark Robbins, Brown University, "Ending the Reign of the 'Milk Barons': The Legacy of Progressive Era Consumer Activism in Post-World War I Los Angeles"

Howard P. Segal, University of Maine Orono, "Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Plant, 1972-1996: Utopian Rhetoric and Reality"

Comment: Edward Rafferty, Boston University

8:30 Session 3: Communities, Movements, and Conflict in 20th-Century Germany and Yugoslavia -- Room Hannaford 213

Chair/Comment: Martin Menke, Rivier College

Katherine Hubler, Boston College, "The Rights of Woman and the Duties of Man: Men, Women, and the Grounding of the Modern German Women's Movement"

Alyssa Pacy, Lesley University, "If You Were Not There, You Could Not Possibly Understand': The Challenges Faced in Documenting the Holocaust Survivor Community"

Robert Niebuhr, "The Croatian Spring: Conflict and Resolution in Cold War Yugoslavia"

8:30 Session 4: Photographs, Objects, Rituals -- Room: Hannaford 214
Chair/Comment: Laura Prieto, Simmons College

Woden Teachout, Union Institute and University, "Recasting the Past: History, Patriotism, and Hereditary Societies in the 1890s"

Anna Dempsey, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, "Selling New England: Photography and Nineteenth Century Women Artists"

Jeff Ball, University of New England, "Intersections between the Public and the Popular: The Dedication Ceremonies for the Missouri State Capitol"

8:30 Session 5: Weapons, Ships, and Soldiers: Innovations in the Waging of War
Chair/Comment: Steven Sodergren, Norwich University -- Room: Hannaford 215

Steve Delisle, Independent Scholar, "Tools in Colonial Diplomacy: The Evolution of the Gorget during the Wars for Empire in North America"

Jonathon Hooks, University of Alabama, "Redeemed Honor: the President-Little Belt Affair and the Coming of the War of 1812"

Andrew Jarboe, Northeastern University, "Unheard Voice from the Front: Nonwhite Colonial Soldiers and the Creation of Trench Culture in World War I"

8:30 Session 6: Books: Identity and Morality -- Room: Hannaford 216
Chair/Comment: Randall Kindleberger, University of Maine, Machias

Jeremy Dibbell, Massachusetts Historical Society, "Rediscovering a Library: George Wythe's Bequest to Thomas Jefferson"

Robert Hodges, University of Maine, "Teaching Identity: Education and Moral Development in Early Loyalist New Brunswick"

Anna Cook, Simmons College, "Inspiring 'Right Feelings': Children and Childhood in Lydia Maria Child's The Mother's Book"

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break & Book Exhibit, Lobby and Mezzanine, Hannaford Hall

SECOND MORNING SESSIONS: 10:30-12:00:

10:30 Session 7: Teaching Roundtable #1: Teaching the Delightful/Dreaded Survey
Chair: Brad Austin, Salem State College -- Room: Hannaford 109

Nicholas J. Aieta, Westfield State College

Richard Canedo, The Lincoln School

Thomas J. Slopnick, Central Connecticut State University/Manchester Community College

Comment: Audience

10:30 Session 8: Class and Labor in Global Perspective -- Room: Hannaford 110
Chair: Bruce Cohen, Worcester State College

Evan Lampe, Endicott College, "Whose Global History? Reading Class into the Early American Pacific"

Kinoshita Jun, Kokugakuin University, Japan, "The Origin of the Fitchburg Plan: The Machinist Strike of 1907"

Rob Weir, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, "Out of the Streets and into the Seats: The Knights of Labor in New Zealand"

Comment: John Stoner, Binghamton University

10:30 Session 9: American Women as Reformers and Activists

Chair: Marcia Schmidt Blaine, Plymouth State College -- Room: Hannaford 213

Anne Gass, Independent Scholar, "Ballots for Both in the Pine Tree State: Maine's Struggle for Woman Suffrage"

Margaux Leonard, University of New Hampshire, "The Vexing Question of the Female Delinquent: Jessie Donaldson Hodder and the Massachusetts Delinquent Law, 1911-1931"

Marcia G. Synnott, University of South Carolina, "Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers, the 'Mother' of the WAAC/WAC and the 'Godmother' of Fort Devens"

Caitlin Casey, Yale University, "'Where Once We Were Victims, Now We Are Rebels': The Underground Press and the Formation of a Feminist Community"

Comment: Margaret Lowe, Bridgewater State College

10:30 Session 10: Irish Nationalism and Imperialism -- Room: Hannaford 214

Chair: Eric Zuelow, University of New England

Hanna Clutterbuck, Simmons College, "'England's Difficulty is Ireland's Opportunity': Irish Nationalist Use of the Boer War"

Mark Doyle, Amherst College, "The Sepoys of the Pound and Sandy Row: Imperialism and Sectarianism in Mid-Victorian Belfast"

Rachel Searcy, Simmons College, "'God Bless Thee, Grace Plunkett': The Nationalist Prescription for Gender in 1916"

Comment: Michael Chapman, Boston College

10:30 Session 11: Fishers of Men: Historical Perspectives on Protestant Missionaries in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

Chair: Peter Holloran, Worcester State College -- Room: Hannaford 215

Paul Burlin, "Internal Missionary Controversies in Hawai'i, 1820-1845"

Bridie Minehan, "Culture, Ethnicity, and Medical Missionary Work: The Career of Wong Fun (Huang Kuan), 1829-1878"

Virginia Metaxas, Southern Connecticut State University, "Medical Women, Missionary and Secular, in Early Twentieth-Century Turkey and Greece"

Comment: Clifford Putney, Bentley College

10:30 Session 12: Political Leadership in Nineteenth-Century America

Chair: Susan Ouellette, St. Michael's College -- Room: Hannaford 216

Jeffrey Malanson, Boston College, "'Washington or Kossuth?': Washington's Farewell Address and American Principles of Foreign Policy in the Popular Mind, 1851-1852"

Kenneth Deitrich, West Virginia University, "The 'Sumner-Brooks Affair' of 1856"

Lawrence Kennedy, University of Scranton, "Leadership in Boston Irish Politics: The Young Patrick Collins"

Comment: John Zaborney, University of Maine Presque Isle

10:30 Session 13: New England Association of Oral History: The Uses of Oral History -- Room: TBA

John Sutherland, Manchester (Connecticut) Community College (emeritus) and past President of the New England Association of Oral History

12:15-1:30 LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING

Presidential Address

Ballard Campbell, Northeastern University, "Authors versus Academics: Reflections on Historical Writing"

1:30-3:00: AFTERNOON SESSIONS

1:30 Session 14: Teaching Roundtable #2: Beyond the State – Rethinking the Study of Global History -- Room: Hannaford 109

Chair: Stephen Ortega, Simmons College

Tom Anderson, Binghamton University, "Global Phenomena and the Making of Global History"

Thomas Rushford, George Mason University, "Through a Thin Wire: Teaching Global History Utilizing Digital Humanities"

Derek Lan, Binghamton University, "Social History in a Global Perspective: Moving Beyond the Nation-State"

Comment: audience discussion

1:30 Session 15: Definitions and Dichotomies in the Environmental History of the Northeast -- Room: Hannaford 110

Chair: Richard Judd, University of Maine

Robert Gee, University of Maine, "Ecological Protectionism: Resource Regulation and Treaty Law in the Late Nineteenth Century North Atlantic Fisheries"

Abby Davis, University of Maine, "The Evolution of the Appalachian Trail Idea, 1921-1968"

Dale Potts, Colby College and University of Maine, "'Community within Nature': Northern Agrarianism, Environmental Preservation, and the Farm Literature of New England, 1930-1950"

James Passanisi, University of Maine, "Re-defining Wilderness: The Wilderness Idea and Eastern National Forests, 1964-1975"

Comment: Blake Harrison, Southern Connecticut State University

1:30 Session 16: Immigrants and Travelers -- Room: Hannaford 213

Chair: Laurie Crumpacker, Simmons College

Patrick Leehey, Paul Revere House, "Huguenot Refugees in Boston: The Faneuils and the Reveres, a Class Comparison"

Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont, "From Bangor to Stuttgart: Blanche Willis Howard's Search for Literary Success and Personal Autonomy"

Polly Welts Kaufman, University of Southern Maine, "U.S. Migration, a Two-Way Street: The View from Norway"

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

1:30 Session 17: Insults, Violence, and Opposition in Latin America

Chair: Aviva Chomsky, Salem State College -- Room: Hannaford 214

David Carey Jr., University of Southern Maine, "The Goat and Chicken Thieving Son of a Bitch Tailor and Other Insulted Parties: Honor, Gender, and Ethnicity in Modern Guatemala"

Anna Belinda Sandoval Girón, Simmons College, "Narratives of Violence in an Era of 'Savagery' and Modernity: Guatemala in the Post-Civil War Era"

John Paton, University of Maine, "Worldwide Opposition to the U.S. Occupation of the Dominican Republic, 1916-1924"

Comment: Aldo V. García Guevara, Worcester State College

1:30 Session 18: British Imperialism in India and China -- Room: Hannaford 215

Chair: George Dameron, St. Michael's College

Whitney Howarth, Plymouth State College, "Re-Defining the Dharma: Shifting Views of Hindu Statecraft in Late 19th-century South India"

Colin Sargent, Northeastern University, "Culture of Opportunity: How Commercial Adventurers

Comment: Jennifer Purcell, Saint Michael's College

Chair: Rebecca Noel, Plymouth State College -- Room: Hannaford 216

Comment: Hilary Moss, Amherst College

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REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee announced the following candidates will be on the April 18 ballot:

President **Laura Prieto**
(Simmons College)
Vice-President **Melanie Gustafson**
(University of Vermont)
Treasurer **Bruce Cohen**
(Worcester State College)

Executive Committee:

Martin Menke
(Rivier College)
Edward C. Rafferty
(Boston University)
Kent C. Ryden
(University of Southern Maine)
Howard P. Segal
(University of Maine)

Public History Position **Chuck Arning**
(NPS, Blackstone River Valley)
Niles D. Parker
(Penobscot Marine Museum)

Nominating Committee:

Jeffrey D. Bass
(Quinnipiac University)
Mark Herlihy
(Endicott College)
Ellen Dyer
(Henry Knox Museum)

We congratulate those candidates 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 met briefly at Endicott College at the conclusion of the October 25 meeting. The agenda included future meetings sites, the customary postmortem on the conference, and appointment of new committee members. The Executive Committee annual meeting will be held at WPI on December 1, 2008. The agenda included reports on the Nominating Committee, selection of future meeting sites, conference programs and attendance, the NEHA Book Award and the NEHA Prize committees, planning the conference deadlines, as well as NEHA panels at the AHA.

Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting in December by contacting the Executive Secretary.



THE NEHA PRIZE

At the October meeting, we awarded the annual NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper by a graduate student 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; **Tona Hangen** (Worcester State College), chair; **Dale Potts** (University of Maine, Orono); and **Jennifer Tebbe Grossman** (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science). 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 25 **Tom Carty** (Springfield College), of the NEHA Book Award Committee, presented the 2008 NEHA Book Award to **Elizabeth DeWolfe** (University of New England) for her outstanding book *The Murder of Mary Bean and Other Stories* (Kent State University Press).

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, Department of Humanities, 100 Institute Road, Worcester,

MA 01609-2280 or email him at jphanlan@wpi.edu by June 1, 2009. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2008, 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 2009 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 2009 are: **Thomas Carty**, chair (Springfield State College); **Clifford Putney** (Bentley College); **Elizabeth DeWolfe** (University of New England); **Don Wyatt** (Middlebury College); and **Melanie Murphy** (Emmanuel College).

CONFERENCE REPORT

The 81st meeting of the Association at Endicott College on October 25 was well attended with 85 historians registered for 13 sessions with 39 papers. We were pleased to join 55 members for lunch on a beautiful Fall afternoon in the campus chapel overlooking the sea. The dean of the college, **Laura Rossi-Le**, greeted us at lunch and Association President **Ballard Campbell** conducted the awards presentations. The program concluded with a fascinating plenary session by **Vernon Horn**, an AHA Internet projects manager, on *ArchivesWiki: A First Resource for All Research Projects and All Researchers*.

This meeting was made possible by the outstanding efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **Laura Prieto** (Simmons College), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and the local arrangements committee at Endicott College chaired by **Mark Herlihy**.



NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

Betty Anderson (Boston University) was promoted to associate professor of history.

Mary Battenfeld (Wheelock College) was elected president of the New England American Studies Association.

Martin Blatt (Boston Historical National Park) was elected Vice President of the National Conference on Public History.

Ethel "Billie" Gammon, founder of the Washburn-Norlands Living History Center in Livermore, Maine, died in January at age 92.

Linda Killian (Boston University) was named to a two-year term as a senior scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington.

Sarah Phillips (Columbia University) was appointed an assistant professor of history at Boston University.

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich (Harvard University) was elected president of the AHA.

John K. Thornton (Boston University) was elected as AHA Councilor Research.



BOOK NEWS

Ballard C. Campbell (Northeastern University) published a new paperback edition of *American Disasters* (Checkmark Books).

Thomas J. Carty (Springfield College) published a new paperback edition of *A Catholic in the White House? Religion, Politics, and John F. Kennedy's Presidential Campaign* (Palgrave Macmillan).

Barbara B. Diefendorf (Boston University) published *The Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford/St. Martin's Press).

Mary Lee Dunn (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) published *Ballykilcline Rising: From Famine Ireland to Immigrant America* (University of Massachusetts Press).

Patricia J. Fanning (Bridgewater State College) published *Through an Uncommon Lens: The Life and Photography of F. Holland Day* (University of Massachusetts Press).

David Hackett Fischer (Brandeis University) published *Champlain's Dream: The European Founding of North America* (Simon & Schuster).

Ronald P. Formisano (University of Kentucky) published *For the People: American Populist Movements from the Revolution to the 1850s* (University of North Carolina Press).

David Frankfurter (University of New Hampshire) published *Evil Incarnate: Rumors of Demonic Conspiracy and Satanic Abuse in History* (Princeton University Press).

David D. Hall (Harvard University) published *Ways of Writing: The Practice and Politics of Text-Making in Seventeenth-Century New England* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College) published *The Aryan Jesus: Christian*

Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany (Princeton University Press).

Linda M. Heywood (Boston University) and **John K. Thornton** (Boston University) published *Central Africans, Atlantic Creoles, and the Foundation of the Americas, 1585-1660* (Cambridge University Press), which won the African Studies Association's annual Melville J. Herskovits Award.

Peter C. Holloran (Worcester State College) and **Andrew Hunt** (University of Waterloo) published *Social History of the United States: 1980s* (ABC-Clio).

Jason M. Opal (Colby College) published *Beyond the Farm: National Ambitions in Rural New England* (University of Pennsylvania Press) and was featured in the History News Network in March as one of the Top Young Professors.

Dietrich Orlow (Boston University) published *The Lure of Fascism in Western Europe: German Nazis, Dutch and French Fascists, 1933-1939* (Palgrave-Macmillan).

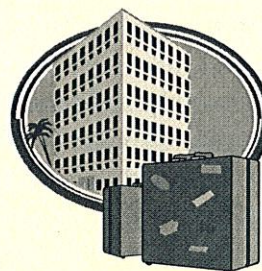
Susan D. Pennybacker (Trinity College) published *From Scottsboro to Munich: Race and Political Culture in 1930s Britain* (Princeton University Press).

Ethan Pollock (Brown University) published a new paperback edition of *Stalin and the Soviet Science Wars* (Princeton University Press).

Alan Rogers (Boston College) published *Murder and the Death Penalty in Massachusetts* (University of Massachusetts Press).

Eric C. Schneider (University of Pennsylvania) published *Smack: Heroin and the American City* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

Nina Silber (Boston University) published *Gender and the Sectional Conflict* (University of North Carolina Press).



CONFERENCES MEETING

The **18th Annual World History Association Conference** meets in Salem, Massachusetts on June 25-28, 2009, with the main venue at Salem State College. The conference theme is *Merchants and Missionaries: Trade and Religion in World History*. For further information, paper and panel proposal forms, and registration materials see www.thewha.org

The **Middle East Studies Association** holds its annual conference in Boston at the Marriott Copley Place on November 21-24, 2009. For more information contact the MESA: Mark J. Lowder, m.lowder@u.arizona.edu

The 2009-2010 **Boston Seminar in Immigration and Urban History** will meet on the third or fourth Thursday evening of the month between September and April at the Massachusetts Historical Society. The steering committee welcomes suggestions for papers dealing with all aspects of American immigration and urban history and culture, not confined to Massachusetts topics. If you would like to give a paper or attend the seminars contact Conrad E. Wright, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston,, MA 02215; cwright@masshist.org

The **National Conference on Public History** (NCPH) holds its annual conference in Providence on April 2-5, 2009. For further information contact the program chair at: NCPH@iupui.edu

The 13th Annual Salve Regina University Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation meets in Newport on October 15-17, 2009 on the theme *The Art, Architecture, and Literature of the Gilded Age*. To submit a proposal contact Catherine Zipf, Salve Regina University, 100 Ochre Point Avenue, Newport, RI 02840; Catherine.Zipf@salve.edu

The New England American Studies Association (NEASA) holds its annual conference in Lowell on October 16-18, 009 on the theme *The Post-American City*. To submit a proposal contact Mary Battenfeld, NEASA President, Wheelock College, 200 The Riverway, Boston, MA 02215; mbattenfeld@wheelock.edu

The Popular Culture/American Culture Association holds its annual conference at the Marriott Hotel in St. Louis on March 00-00, 2010. For information on this interdisciplinary conference see the PCA/ACA webpage at www.pcaaca.org/conference/2008. To submit a proposal on any New England topics, please contact by October 1 the ACA program chair **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College, pholloran@worchester.edu.

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) holds its 32nd annual conference at Queensboro Community College in Bayside, New York on October 23- 24, 2009. Contact the NEPCA president, **Carol-Ann Farkas**, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Carol-Ann.Farkas@mcphs.edu. For more information, see the NEPCA website: www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html

CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

The International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS), which meets every five years, will hold its next conference in

Amsterdam on August 22-28, 2010. For further information see the ICHS website at www.ichs2010.org or email the program chair at info@ichs2010.org

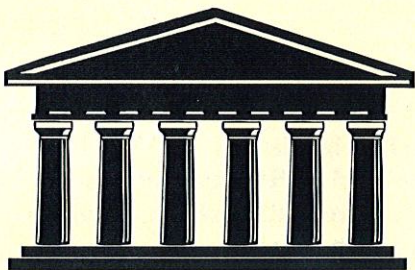


AUTHORS WANTED

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 2008 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2009. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2009 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: **Robert E. Weir**, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; weir.r@comcast.net

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

The Journal of Popular Culture, a scholarly journal published bimonthly since 1975 by the Popular Culture Association, seeks contributions (articles, book reviews, and guest editorials). For more information, contact **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College, pholloran@worceter.edu



GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **Boston Athenaeum** and the **Massachusetts Historical Society** offer the *Loring Fellowship* on the Civil War. It includes a \$4,000 stipend for eight weeks of research at both institutions. For information on the Loring Fellowship contact Jane Becker, Manager of Research, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215; (617) 646-0518; jbecker@masshist.org; or see the website: www.masshist.org/fellowships

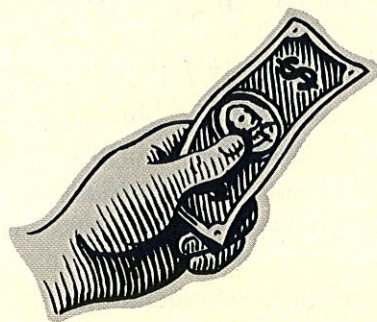
The **New England History Teachers Association** offers the annual *Vera and Andrew J. Laska Award*, a cash prize of \$2,000 and a certificate for an undergraduate majoring in History. For details on how to apply, contact Philip Whitbeck, Laska Committee Chair, 29 Princess Road, West Newton, MA 02465; pwhitbeck@rcn.com or see the NEHTA webpages at www.nehta.net

Fellowships at the **Mary Baker Eddy Library** in Boston are now available for scholars, graduate students and independent researchers on the history of Christian Science, women's history, religious studies, journalism and related topics. For information email the library at fellowships@mbelibrary.org or see the website: www.marybakereddylibrary.org/collections/fellowships.jhtml

The **American Philosophical Society Library** in Philadelphia offers competitive short-term fellowships supporting in-residence research in its renowned scholarly collections. Applicants who hold the Ph. D

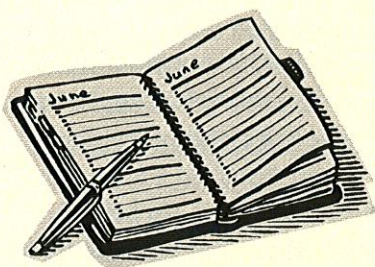
or are advanced Ph.D. candidates or independent scholars may apply for the fellowships which have a monthly \$2,000 stipend for 1-3 months. For applications see: www.amphilsoc.org/grants/resident.htm

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



NEHA FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

The **Association Fund** was created many years ago to support some of the Association's activities not related directly to the annual conference, newsletter, mailings or other routine expenses. It has supported the annual NEHA book award and the NEHA Prize, and to subsidize graduate students presenting a paper, and 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.



PLAN AHEAD

American Historical Association

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

2010 * Washington * 7-10 April
2111 * Houston * 17-20 March
2012 * Milwaukee * 19-22 April
2013 * San Francisco * 11-14 April
2014 * Washington * 2-5 April

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American Conference for Irish Studies

2009 * Galway * 10-13 June

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2010 * St. Louis * April
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23-24 October

Oral History Association

2009 * Louisville * 14-18 October

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2009 * Tucson * 11-13 September

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2009 * Providence * 2-5 April

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2009 * Long Beach * 12-15 November
2010 * Chicago * 18-21 November

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic

2009 * Springfield, IL * 16-19 July

World History Association

2009 * Salem, MA * 25-28 June
2010 * San Diego *
2011 * Beijing * 7-11 July

BOOK REVIEWS

Hannes Möhring. *Saladin: The Sultan and His Times, 1138-1193*. Translated by David S. Bachrach. Introduction by Paul M. Cobb. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005.

This translation of a German work provides English-speaking readers with a worthy introduction to Saladin. Although its usefulness for scholars is limited by the lack of footnotes, it will be particularly valuable to non-professionals, and especially to undergraduates. Its accessibility is enhanced by Paul M. Cobb's introduction, which provides historical, geographical, and cultural context for the Middle world from the origins of Islam to Saladin's own day.

Möhring arranges his text chronologically, beginning with brief surveys of the history of the crusades and the growth of jihad and crusade ideology before Saladin. Credit is due to the author and translator for the concise clarity of the writing. The author displays great facility with the contemporary Arabic and Latin sources. Although secondary works are not engaged directly, it is clear that Möhring's judgments are thoroughly informed by significant modern scholarship. The influence of Andrew S. Ehrenkreutz (*Saladin*, 1972) is evident, for instance, in Möhring's emphasis upon the importance of Egypt's financial resources to Saladin and the deleterious impact his campaigns had upon the economy of that state. Likewise, there are echoes of M.C. Lyons and D.E. P. Jackson (*Saladin: The Politics of the Holy War*, 1982) in the author's central point that, although the "fundamental theme" of Saladin's "propaganda" was the reconquest of Jerusalem, his "ultimate goal" was the "re-establishment of the Islamic empire under his own rule" (97).

In a brief but rich final chapter entitled "Saladin and Posterity," the author first traces – through the works of Boppcaccio, Voltaire and others – the evolution in the West of the sultan's image as a "noble heathen." This image reached its apex in the highly romanticized portrait of Saladin in Scott's *The Talisman* (1825), which exerted considerable influence on Western scholarship, as evidenced, in particular, in Poole's laudatory 1898 biography. Yet, in spite of the fact that Westerners praised Saladin for positive qualities such as generosity and

tolerance, they saw the sultan as "exceptional" among Muslims in these regards, a devotee of "Western" religious and chivalric ideals. Some even speculated that he was "a secret Christian" (96) who had been knighted as a youth. Thus, Westerners were able to exalt Saladin's virtues while they maintained very negative views of Islam and Muslims in general. Möhring, however, points out that the qualities which Westerners found so "exceptional" in Saladin are all firmly grounded in Islamic culture. To cite just one example, his "tolerance" toward Christian and Jews reflected the Qur'anic prohibition against compulsion in religion. Such information is still significant and fresh for many Western readers.

Turning to the East, Möhring notes that there was relatively scant interest in Saladin in the Islamic world until the second half of the nineteenth century, when it was stimulated largely by Western fascination with the subject. He shows how since that time Islamic images of Saladin have been filtered through diverse and sometimes contradictory prisms including resistance to Zionism, aspirations for Arab unity, Kurdish nationalism, and the manipulations of despots such as Saddam Hussein who have exploited the memory of Saladin to further their territorial ambitions and other ends.

In this largely synthetic work, Möhring never provides a summary evaluation of Saladin, but his critical judgments throughout are informed and balanced. He fulfills his aim to "clarify the connection between past events and the current issues of religious tolerance and the relationship between holy war and political pragmatism" (viii). The book includes a suggested reading list containing the key secondary sources in German and English, a chronology of Saladin's life, an index of names, and three maps which identify the key places mentioned in the text. Maps indicating political borders, as well as some genealogies and/or dynastic charts, would have been useful.

David Balfour
College of St. Joseph, VT



Elizabeth Brown Pryor. *Reading the Man: A Portrait of Robert E. Lee Through His Private Letters.* New York: Viking, 2007; and **Stephen Budiansky.** *The Bloody Shirt: Terror After Appomattox.* New York: Viking, 2008.

These two recent books on the Civil War period merit the attention of historians and laypersons alike. While neither is written by a traditional academic historian, both offer lessons in how history can reach public audiences.

Elizabeth Brown Pryor, who has worked for the National Park Service and the Department of State, has provided a fascinating biography of Confederate general Robert E. Lee. *Reading the Man*, which was the co-winner of the 2008 Lincoln Prize, approaches Lee's life largely from the perspective of previously unpublished letters. Each chapter begins with a letter, which Pryor then contextualizes as a guide for the part of Lee's life under consideration. Pryor's approach, which I personally found very intriguing, serves to engage the reader in a way that traditional biographies may not.

While military historians will likely want to ascertain what Pryor has uncovered about Lee the soldier (and she does offer significant insights) the chapters on Lee the man were the most fascinating. For example, she addresses -- in the most comprehensive manner that I have read -- Lee's views on slavery and the social position of African Americans in the nineteenth century United States. This aspect of Lee's life remains a point of contention for adherents of the Lost Cause, which depicts the Virginian as a southern gentleman who reluctantly held the slaves owned by his wife's family. Pryor notes that Lee personally owned slaves from the time of his mother's death in 1829 until at least 1852. When his father-in-law, George Washington Parke Custis, died in 1857, he designated Lee as his executor. Custis' will ordered the emancipation of his slaves after his estate's debts had been paid but within five years. Lee followed Custis' directives by hiring out many of the slaves, even if it meant breaking up the slave families, which Custis himself had avoided doing. Not until the very last day that he could legally set them free did Lee agree to manumit the Custis slaves. Ironically, it was 1 January 1863.

Additional chapters that examine Lee's relationship with women, especially his wife, Mary Custis, are just as insightful and will likely prompt new explorations of Lee the man. Lee

was the consummate flirt, and he engaged in his suggestive correspondence and conversations with other women with the knowledge of his wife. Pryor notes that other historians have attempted to psychoanalyze Lee's flirtations and their relationship to his military career. Her assessment of him seems more realistic. Lee found it difficult to manage the masculine world, with its demands for success, so he retreated "to a gentler world," which his good looks and flirtatious nature allowed him to "navigate with ease" (208).

Stephen Budiansky's *The Bloody Shirt* is a well-written account of the violence against emancipated slaves and their white supporters during Reconstruction. An author who has chiefly written books on animals and military history, Budiansky seems just as comfortable addressing what many laypersons consider a murky period of American history. He focuses primarily on violence in South Carolina and Mississippi, using three main individuals to illustrate his theme of Reconstruction violence: Prince Rivers, a former South Carolina slave-turned-state legislator and magistrate who found himself on the wrong side during the Hamburg massacre; Adelbert Ames, the Republican governor of Mississippi who attempted unsuccessfully to combat violence in the state; and Albert T. Morgan, a northern businessman who moved to Mississippi and encountered opposition based on his regional identity and his marriage to a woman of mixed racial heritage.

Budiansky gears his writings toward public audiences, and he openly admits that he is not writing "a complete history of Reconstruction," nor is he "pretend[ing] to explore, much less analyze, all the political and economic nuances that came to bear on the events" of the post-Civil War period (9). Instead, one finds a dramatic narrative filled with details that personalize the travesties visited upon those who opposed the social, racial, and political reshaping of the former Confederate states. His account of Prince Rivers' rise from slavery to political and judicial office, then demise after the massacre of African Americans in Hamburg, South Carolina, in 1876, is especially poignant. Rivers lost his position as magistrate, faced trumped-up charges of fraud and conspiracy, and died working as a hotel coach driver, the same position, Budiansky notes, that he held as a slave. Each of the individuals on whom Budiansky chose to focus his story of

Reconstruction is given similar treatment. My only complaint is minor: while I appreciated the incorporation of primary sources, such as newspaper editorials and personal correspondence, into the narrative, their placement sometimes made for awkward reading.

Those interested in the Civil War period will not be disappointed with either of these books. Pryor's biography of Lee calls for reconsideration of "the Marble Man," who often is so wrapped up in Civil War mythology that his humanity is obscured. Her explication of his life, not just his military career, should be required reading by graduate students who study the period, as well as anyone interested in enjoying a well-written book on the Civil War. Budiansky's work on Reconstruction violence will not shake any historical paradigms, but the vivacity of his writing and his attention to the human element of history demonstrate how historical topics, even those that are often ignored, can be written in a fashion that attract the lay reader.

Mark R. Cheatham
Cumberland University



Benjamin Carter Hett. *Crossing Hitler: The Man Who Put the Nazis on the Witness Stand.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

In this study of an attorney's struggle against National Socialism in courtrooms and concentration camps, Hett provides insights into Weimar jurisprudence, the competition between communists and Nazis, and the often arbitrary nature of Nazi persecution.

The attorney was Hans Litten, a complicated man who achieved great notoriety and who died resisting the National Socialist regime. Litten's father, a Jewish, patriotic legal scholar, professor and rector of Königsberg University, hoped his son would follow in his footsteps and accommodate himself to the majority Christian conservative establishment. Hans Litten, however, supported the establishment of socialism. Admitted to the Berlin bar in 1928, Litten fought cases relating to street fighting between SA-storm troopers and

communist street fighters.

In the case which inspired the book's title, Litten subpoenaed Adolf Hitler in an effort to prove the SA was promoting revolution and violence as a means to gain power. Litten drove Hitler into a rage by forcing him to walk a tight line between disavowing the SA and openly admitting the Nazi movement's revolutionary aims. (It would have been useful if Hett had explained the impact of the coup of 1923 on Hitler and his later commitment legally to gaining power.) Furthermore, Litten forced Hitler to disavow a pamphlet in which Joseph Goebbels demanded revolutionary change. Finally, Litten drove the Nazi leader close to perjury and became a marked man.

Litten's legal examination of Hitler lies at the core of Hett's multilayered argument. First, Hett demonstrates that the courts were not always biased against left-wing defendants. Second, Hett argues – in a section that merited further development – that Weimar jurisprudence functioned as fairly as it did because of the multitude of state and public pressure groups involved in the judicial process. Without mentioning the term, Hett argues that the judicial system worked because "intermediary bodies" enforced the constitutional provisions governing the German legal system.

The night the Reichstag burned, Litten, like many others, was arrested. He spent the next four years in prisons and concentration camps. He was beaten severely. Irmgard Litten could not convince attorneys to take her son's case, but remained fearless in her attempts to secure her son's release, which never occurred. There is little to suggest Hitler himself denied the release of Litten, but Hitler feared what communists might do if freed. Hett attributes Litten's fate to notations made in his file by Rudolf Diels, first Gestapo head. Diels hated communists and persecuted them with great zeal. Hett suggests that Diels may have added Litten's name to a list of those to be arrested as public enemies. According to Hett, Diels' characterization of Litten, for example describing him as a leading communist, ensured that Litten never would go free.

In February 1937, unable to bear the physical and psychological burdens, Litten committed suicide in the Dachau camp. In the epilogue, Hett demonstrates how Litten's story was used later by the GDR to emphasize communist resistance among the professions, but

also by western German Christians who highlighted Litten's self-perceived martyrdom, and eventually by the German legal profession which named its national association headquarters after him to highlight resistance among lawyers.

Hett provided not only the narrative of an individual life; he – himself a former trial attorney – provided a reminder about the importance of the legal system and of attorneys as defenders of democracy and human rights. Methodologically, there are only few weaknesses. Most irritating is Hett's consistent translation of all German titles into English, even of newspaper titles. Few German historians translate *Der Angriff* or the *Völkische Beobachter*. While offering a useful discussion of the many archival and scholarly sources used, Hett provides neither a formal bibliography nor a list of abbreviations used to identify archives in the extensive endnotes. Overall, this important and useful book makes a contribution both to our understanding of the demise of Weimar and of the early years of the National Socialist regime.

Martin Menke
Rivier College

Jane Kamensky. *The Exchange Artist: A Tale of High-Flying Speculation and America's First Banking Collapse*. New York: Viking Press, 2008.

Jane Kamensky has brought to life both the story of speculator Andrew Dexter, Jr. and the larger American story of our early experiments with free-market capitalism. Following the American Revolution, "ascent" – to "be up and doing" – was the battle cry for the new nation, an "aspiration" for more and better progress. Into this era stepped Andrew Dexter, Jr.

Dexter made his way from Rhode Island to Boston, New England's "nerve center," to study law with his uncle and to make his fortune. His aspiration was to build a "temple of finance" -- one physical space where all the various "negotiations of commerce" could be conveniently transacted. This monument would rise seven stories tall, and would be christened the *Exchange Coffee House*. He believed it would "elevate all of Boston," benefiting both personal fortunes and the Commonwealth together.

Kamensky notes that on the board of Boston's Exchange Office, Dexter did not just

"keep" bills from various banks in circulation, but also "put" bills into circulation. His "philosophy" was that banknotes were to "go out into the world," maintain value, and not come back to the home bank. With shares available in a newly chartered bank, Dexter resigned his seat on the board and bought a controlling interest – using Exchange Office "paper." Once bought, Dexter then persuaded the new Berkshire Bank to invest in the "Changery," and to accept *his* Berkshire Bank shares as collateral for a loan: "[S]igned and...wrapped, [these] notes became the first bricks in his pyramid." Thus began Dexter's precipitous climb, and ultimate fall, in the world of speculative finance.

To maintain his project, Dexter gained controlling interests in other banks – some as far away as the Michigan Territory. Already in debt for land purchases for the *Exchange*, Dexter found himself increasingly overextended before his monumental project reached completion. In a frantic effort to avoid failure, he offered shares in the *Exchange Coffee House*, then ventured further into banknote speculation – hoping to keep them as far from their origination points as possible. Finally, expenses increasing, Dexter took over the *Farmer's Exchange Bank* in Rhode Island, allowing him to receive signed notes of varying denominations to continue financing his cherished monument.

When local merchants determined the banknotes worthless and any banks under his control insolvent, Dexter's house of paper crumbled. Forced to flee Boston, he avoided prosecution by escaping to Canada. Those who had trusted in his payments for their labor were left behind in jail. The collapse of 1809, Kamensky notes, had ripples so strong that Congress allowed the Bank of the United States' charter to lapse in 1811. Whether divine judgment, as some claimed, or simply the misfortunes of chance, Dexter's financial dream-turned-nightmare burned to the ground in 1818.

Kamensky's informative details and excellent narrative follow Andrew Dexter, Jr. from his early days in Boston through his flight to Canada and back to the US, where he seized an opportunity to purchase land in the new southwest territory of Alabama. Dexter began his speculation all over again. Due to risky investments and other economic factors, the banking collapse of the 1830s brought disaster for Kamensky's "financial-pioneer-turned-confidence-man." While he gained some honor

as one of the founders of Montgomery, Andrew Dexter, Jr. nonetheless died in poverty. *The Exchange Artist* is not an economic history, but a social history of a people caught in the economics of their time. Although with no direct parallels, still one can see the seeds of a speculative capitalism that leaves its mark today with both debacles and "high-flying" gains.

Serena L. Newman
Bay Path College



David G. Surdam. *The Postwar Yankees: Baseball's Golden Age Revisited*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2008.

The postwar period is often portrayed as a golden age of baseball. As economist David G. Surdam notes in *The Postwar Yankees: Baseball's Golden Age Revisited*, those odes are always written by Yankees and Dodgers fans. Surdam finds more dross than gold in the age of Yankee domination. For a variety of reasons, baseball became less attractive at a time when the number of options for increased leisure time and spending exploded. This book is less about the Yankees themselves than the economic structure of baseball and postwar America, using the Yankee empire as the backdrop. Surdam provides a "reexamination of Major League Baseball between 1946 and 1964 through the eyes of an economist." (7) He promises new insight, and he delivers.

What was good for the Yankees was not good for baseball. Between 1946 and 1964 the Red Sox, Indians and White Sox won one pennant apiece, with the Yankees winning the rest. After a brief postwar bump, attendance declined steadily after 1953. The National League steadily outdrew the junior circuit. In the same period, the Dodgers won eight pennants, but every other National League team but the Cubs won at least one. The Yankees were able to develop their own position players, acquire pitchers through trades, and pick up veterans for the stretch drive. The Yankees almost used the Kansas City A's as a farm team, trading for Roger Maris, Cleto Boyer, and a number of other

pitchers and role-players. None of the players New York sent back helped the A's. Surdam argues that the dynamics of player movement were the same before and after free agency. The better players generally wind up with the wealthier clubs. The Yankees remained wealthy and hungry by keeping payroll under control. Outfielder Tommy Heinrich told Red Sox second baseman Bobby Doerr that while the Red Sox enjoyed a more lucrative relationship with owner Tom Yawkey, the Yankees players depended on their World Series checks.

Where were the fans? After 1945, the average American made more money and had a shorter work week. Americans bought cars in record numbers, and traveled more than ever. Records show increased spending on various leisure goods, including radio and television sets, toys, books, records, magazines, record albums and gardening supplies. Surdam points to the spread of air conditioning as something that made a day at home preferable to a day out. (88-89) At the same time, the ballpark became less attractive. "The older stadiums were lacking in two fundamental ways; they were not situated to handle large volumes of automobile traffic and parking, and they were uncomfortable." (107) The Polo Grounds in New York were the worst, but all of the parks built before World War I were designed for trolley traffic, and were often in decaying neighborhoods. In 1955, Commissioner Ford Frick conducted a poll asking fans what changes they would like to see. Fans could choose more than one. More than 70% chose better parking from the list of options, while 58% chose better facilities.

Many executives pointed to television as the source of their problems, but Surdam portrays a more complex situation. "Television had proven to be an ally of dubious worth." (6) Television provided a new revenue stream, but owners feared that television would keep people away from the ballpark when they could watch games for free. Minor league executives blamed television for their decline. Surdam cites overexpansion in the early 1950s and the player drain caused by the Korean War as the real culprits. By looking at the economics of baseball, Surdam replaces the myths of the golden age with a solid insight into the reality of the postwar game.

Robert W. Smith
Worcester State College

***The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic—and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World.* Steven Johnson. New York: Riverhead Books, 2006.**

The Ghost Map is a nonfiction "disease thriller" about the 1854 cholera epidemic in Victorian London. As in other recent historical studies about the physician John Snow, cartography, and the scientific study of cholera, Steven Johnson argues that human beings can choose to use professional expertise and public activism to make changes that improve the lives of people in cities.

In three days—between August 31 and September 2, 1854, one hundred and twenty-seven people living near the Broad Street Pump near Soho, a nearly one square mile neighborhood centered in the West End of London, died of cholera. The story's two protagonists--John Snow, "the most sought-after anesthiologist in the city," (66) and Henry Whitehead, an Anglican minister--lived in Soho and quickly applied a program of action. They interviewed residents about drinking water sources, collected local well water samples, and examined death statistics near the Broad Street Pump, which "had long enjoyed a reputation as a reliable source of clean well water" with a "refreshing taste" (30).

Unlike other scholars of the 1854 epidemic, Johnson focuses intently on the role of Henry Whitehead. Searching for the "index case"--the earliest documented case of cholera that would be included in their epidemiologic study--Whitehead found five-month old baby Lewis. The baby's mother had washed out her daughter's diapers in "a cesspool that lay in the basement at the front of the house" just a few feet from the Broad Street well (179). By September 7, the Board of Guardians of St. James's Parish had the pump handle removed from the well.

Johnson identifies public health authorities who believed foul odors in the atmosphere caused such diseases as cholera---the miasmatisists---as villains in the 1854 cholera story. In the 1840s, public health reformer Edwin Chadwick authorized funding to transport sewage for deposit in the Thames. "In the space of about thirty-five years, the Thames had been transformed from a fishing ground teeming with salmon to one of the most polluted waterways in the world—all in the name of public health"

(120). Johnson discusses why Chadwick, and so many others, attributed miasma as the causal explanation for cholera for so long. Johnson's explanation is the same one that Charles Rosenberg argued in *The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866* (1962): Medical opinion held that the poor were particularly vulnerable to cholera because of moral shortcomings that resulted in their living in filthy, stench-filled conditions in neighborhoods like Soho.

The "Great Stink," occurring during the 1858 summer heat wave in London, closed down Parliament and served as the precipitating factor to create a working sewer system. The Metropolitan Commission of Sewers built a sewer system that reacted to "a profound citywide environmental and health crisis with a massive public-works project that genuinely solved the problem it set out to address", building "a system of sewer lines that would carry both waste and surface water to the east, away from Central London" (207). When another cholera outbreak occurred in 1860, the investigation that followed definitively identified a water-borne rather than an air-borne explanation for the cholera outbreak--the waters of the river Lea had entered the East London Water Company sewer system. This was the last epidemic outbreak of cholera in London.

Most importantly, Johnson identifies "The Ghost Map" which connected the water pumps in the Soho neighborhood to cholera death locations, as the first demographic map placing the behavior of people in an epidemic in their geographical context. Johnson compares the 19th century map to 21st century "geo-mapping software" to improve city dwellers' quality of life (224).

Snow died at age 45 of a stroke when the "Great Stink" was at its peak and long before 1883 when Robert Koch received scientific acclaim for isolating a "species of bacterium," the *vibrio cholerae*, in Egypt (35). This study of the 1854 London cholera epidemic, researched online and in archives in the U.S. and Britain, is an excellent text for undergraduate courses in the history of the city or of infectious diseases.

Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

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NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

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

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

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