

NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXXIV NO. 2

FALL ISSUE

OCTOBER 2008

FALL CONFERENCE AT ENDICOTT COLLEGE in BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS

Saturday, October 25, 2008
SECOND CALL

The 81st meeting of the Association will be held on October 25 at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts (978-927-0585). The program is listed on pages 3-5 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Laura Prieto** (Simmons College) arranged this splendid program. **James P. Hanlan** and **Mark Herlihy** of the Endicott College Department of History will make the local arrangements. This is our first meeting since 1988 on the historic North Shore, and it will be a popular and scenic seaside location. We are very grateful for Endicott College's hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web pages for other details:

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

The Fall conference begins with registration and continental breakfast on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in the Halle Library. 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 October 17 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 Wax Academic Center on Saturday at 12:00, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us in Beverly, please use this form to pay your 2008 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 Beverly. We recommend the **Inn at Endicott** on campus (1-866-333-0859). Ask for the NEHA discount rate (\$159.00) at the Inn.



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Driving directions: Take I-90 West (Mass Turnpike) to Route 128 North, Exit 17 (Grapevine Road, Beverly Farms). At this exit ramp take a right and a right again after 1.5 miles onto Haskell Street (by the cemetery). Go to the end and at the stop sign turn right onto Hale Street (Route 127). Go 1.5 miles to the Endicott College campus. Follow NEHA signs to park and to the Halle Building.

Driving from Boston: Take I-93N to I-95N to Exit 45, Route 128 North toward Gloucester. Follow the directions above from Route 128 North.

Driving from the West: Take I-90E (Mass Turnpike) to Exit 14, Weston. Follow I-95N to Exit 45, Route 128 N. Follow the directions above from Route 128N.



ADVANCE NOTICE

The Spring meeting will be held at the **University of Southern Maine** in Portland in April, 2009. Vice-President Prieto will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is January 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

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.



FUTURE CONFERENCE SITES

The Association attempts to plan our Fall and Spring conferences well in advance and at various and attractive sites. We depend on the generosity of our members and their colleagues to host NEHA meetings.

If you would like to host one of our future conferences (in 2010 or 2011, for example), please discuss it with your department chair and your dean or president. Your college pays nothing, and only donates free space. NEHA is a non-profit organization.

The next step is to contact our president or executive secretary to extend a tentative invitation. We get more invitations than we can accept, and try to vary the meeting sites around New England. But please consider this opportunity for the benefit of all our members and for your own college or university.

NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A Regional Professional Association for all Historical Specializations Since 1965

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2008

ENDICOTT COLLEGE
BEVERLY, MA

FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

All sessions will be held in either the Halle Library or the Wax Academic Center.

8:00-8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast and Book Exhibit

FIRST MORNING SESSIONS: 8:30-10:00

Session 1 Pirates and Privateers after the "Golden Age"

Room: Halle 122

Chair: Evan Lampe, Endicott College

- Jess Parr, University of New Hampshire, "Patriot or Pilferer? Privateers and the Bounds of Republican Virtue in Revolutionary Massachusetts"
- David Head, SUNY-Buffalo, "The Legal Context of Privateering in the Early American Republic: South American Privateers, Neutrality Violations, Smuggling, Slave Trading, and Piracy, 1810-1820"
- Sean T. Perrone, Saint Anselm College, "The War on Piracy Gone Awry: The Seizure of the *Ninfa Catalana* (1823)"
- Comment: Mark Hanna, College of William and Mary

Session 2. The Radical Possibilities of Education

Room: Halle 202

Chair: Elisa Miller, Rhode Island College

- Anna Cook, Simmons College, "'I Have Been More or Less Dissatisfied': The Educational Project in the Oneida Community"
- Hidetaka Hirota, Boston College, "'Middling' People: The Social Profile of the Boston Irish and the Meaning of College Education in the Early Twentieth Century"
- Cynthia Farr Brown, Lesley University, "Serve and Persist: Edith Lesley Wolfard, Founder of Lesley University"
- Comment: Luther Spoehr, Brown University

Session 3. Writing World History Room: Halle 204

Chair and Comment: David Northrup, Boston College and Past President, World History Association

- Alfred Andrea, Professor Emeritus, University of Vermont and General Editor and Era 5 Editor, World History Encyclopedia, "Holy War in World History: A Prolegomenon to Further Research"
- Wilfred Bisson, Professor Emeritus, Keene State College and Era 4 Editor, World History Encyclopedia, "Population and Environment in World History, 300-1000: A Unifying Theme for Early Medieval World History?"
- Dane Morrison, Salem State College and Era 6 Editor, World History Encyclopedia, "Go East, Young Man: Early American Diasporas in World History"

Session 4. Native Americans, Christianity, and Identity Room: Halle 206

Chair: James Wadsworth, Stonehill College

- Melissane Parm Schrems, St. Lawrence University, "Preaching to the Converted: Gideon Hawley and the Re-construction of Eighteenth-century Mashpee Identity"
- Jeremy Dibbell, Massachusetts Historical Society, "John Eliot's Indian Bible: The Provenance of Certain Surviving Copies"

- Cheryl Boots, Boston University, "Eighteenth- 5Century Indian Community and the Cultural Work of Protestant Hymns"
- Comment: Jean Dunlavy, Boston University

Session 5. Women and 20th-Century Politics in Great Britain and the U.S. Room: Wax 105

Chair: Jennifer Tebbe-Grossman, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science

- Nicole Eaton, Brown University, "Transforming the Landscape of History: Rose Arnold Powell and the Mount Rushmore Memorial"
- Sarah Wiggins, Bridgewater State College, "Exploring British Politics in Women's College Debating Societies, 1890-1914"
- Polly Beals, Southern Connecticut State University, "Womanpower in 1908 and 1968: British Fabian Feminism Across the Generations"

Comment: Janet Watson, University of Connecticut

Session 6. New Directions in the History of Foreign Policy Room: Wax 106

Chair: Matthew Masur, St. Anselm College

- Jeffrey Malanson, Boston College, "John Quincy Adams, The Principles of American Foreign Policy, and the Mexican-American War"
- Aaron Gillette, University of Houston – Downtown, "World War I and the Latin Youth League"
- Jeffrey Bass, Quinnipiac University, "From the Illustrious to the Ignoble: The Fall of Senator Thomas J. Dodd"
- Comment: Daniel Williamson, University of Hartford

Session 7. The Boundaries of Slavery and Race in North America Room: Wax 120

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

- Harvey Whitfield, University of Vermont, "New England Migrations and Slavery in Maritime Canada to 1783"
- Ian Delahanty, Boston College, " '...So nearly white': Stephen A. Swails and Black Officers in the 54th Massachusetts"
- Bethany Jay, Boston College, "Creating a More Inclusive History: The National Park Service, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, and American Slavery"
- Comment: Kate Clifford Larson, Simmons College

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

10:30-Noon Second Morning Sessions

Session 8: Students, Soldiers and Exiles – Experiences of the American Revolution Room: Halle 122

Chair: Robert Imholt, Albertus Magnus College

- J. L. Bell, Editorial Consultant, "Latin School Gentlemen in Revolutionary Times: The Culture of Boston's South Latin School under the Lovells"
- Greg Walsh, Boston College, "'We Want Men, Not Money': Military Service in Revolutionary Essex County, New Jersey"
- Emily Iggulden, University of New Hampshire, "America's Internal Exiles: 'Disloyal Citizens' or 'Illegal Aliens': The Loyalists and American Citizenship, 1783-1790"
- Comment: Jim Leamon, emeritus Bates College

Session 9. Princes, Parties, and Politics in Germany Room: Halle 202

Chair: Melanie Murphy, Emmanuel College

- Joanne Schneider, Rhode Island College, "Austrian Cannons Have Destroyed the City: A Day in the Life of Prince Bishop Joseph Konrad von Schroffenberg"

- James Bidwell, Anna Maria College, "Public School Reform and the Bavarian *Kulturkampf*: The Rise of the Bavarian Patriot Party as the Culmination of Conservative Identity Politics, 1848-1871"
- Martin Menke, Rivier College, "Underlying Values in Center Party Decision-Making"
- Comment: Robert Niebuhr, Boston College

Session 10. Negotiating in Early North America Room: Halle 204

Chair: Susan Ouellette, St. Michael's College

- Michael Raposa, Stonehill College, "Non-Market Tribute Exchange in the Pre-Contact Southeast"
- Molly Gallaher, Stonehill College, "Was the 'French Fur Trade' Truly French? Native American Origins of the Northeastern Fur Trade"
- Amy Couto, University of Massachusetts Amherst, "Treaty of Canandaigua: The Political Necessity of Peace"
- Comment: Liam Riordan, University of Maine, Orono

Session 11. Ideology and Exclusion Room: Halle 206

Chair: Noelani Arista, Brandeis University

- Brian Rouleau, University of Pennsylvania, "'They are much like our own Indians': Transporting the Idea of North America's Indigenous Peoples Abroad"
- Darren McDonald, Boston College, "'The Manifest Purpose of Providence': George Bancroft, Religion, and the Mexican-American War"
- Mimi Cowan, Boston College, "'A Fiery Cross Blazed Forth': The K.K.K. in Worcester County, Massachusetts, 1924"
- Comment: Jason Opal, Colby College

Session 12. Radicals and Intellectuals in the 19th-century U.S. Room: Wax 105

Chair: Richard Canedo, The Lincoln School

- Jonathan G. Koefoed, Boston University, "Building and the Republic: Intellectuals and Education in the Life and Thought of James Marsh"
- Gráinne McEvoy, Boston College, "John Mitchel and *The Citizen*: Mid-Nineteenth Century Irish Immigration and American Citizenship"
- Edward C. Rafferty, Boston University, "Cyrenus Osborne Ward and American Radicalism in the Nineteenth Century"
- Comment: Scott Molloy, University of Rhode Island

Session 13. The Local and the National in Twentieth-Century New England Room: Wax 106

Chair: Bruce Cohen, Worcester State College

- Mimi Cowan, Boston College, "'A Fiery Cross Blazed Forth': The K.K.K. in Worcester County, Massachusetts, 1924"
- Seth Meehan, Boston College, "From Patriotism to Pluralism: How Catholics Initiated the Repeal of Birth Control Restrictions in Massachusetts"
- John J. Zaborney, University of Maine at Presque Isle, "'Under the Awesome Shape of a Mushroom Cloud': Civil Defense in Presque Isle and Northern Maine"
- Comment: Mark Herlihy, Endicott College

LUNCHEON: 12:00 – 1:30. The NEHA Book Award will be presented at the luncheon.

PLENARY SESSION: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. ---- Little Theatre, Halle Library Building

Vernon Horn, Internet Projects Manager, American Historical Association, "ArchivesWiki: A First Resource for All Research Projects and All Researchers"

3:00 Adjournment

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee announced the following candidates were elected on April 26:

President **Ballard Campbell**
(Northeastern University)
Vice-President **Laura Prieto**
(Simmons College)
Secretary **Peter C. Holloran**
(Worcester State College)

Executive Committee:

Jason Opal
(Colby College)
Kristen Petersen
(MA College of Pharmacy & Health Studies)

Nominating Committee:

Beth Salerno
(St. Anselm College)
Daniel C. Williamson
(University of Hartford)

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 Northeastern University at the conclusion of the April 26 meeting. The agenda included

future meetings sites, the customary postmortem on the conference, and appointment of new committee members. For the October 25 meeting agenda, submit items to the Executive Secretary by October 10.

The Executive Committee annual meeting will be held at WPI on December 6, 2008. The agenda will include 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 any Executive Committee meeting contacting the Executive Secretary.



THE NEHA PRIZE

At the Fall meeting, we will award the annual NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper by a graduate student presented at a recent conference. The winner is **Stephen Pierce** (Northeastern University) for his excellent paper *Confining bodies, freeing minds: Rhetoric of violence in 1950s Kenya* presented at the April 2008 meeting.

Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and a committee of four members appointed by the president judges all nominations. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. This year the committee members were; **Mark Cheatham** (Southern New Hampshire University), chair; **Daniel Williamson** (University of Hartford); **Kristen A. Petersen** (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy); and **Steven Seegal** (Worcester State College). 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 **Aldo Guevara** (Worcester State College), chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee, will present the 2008 NEHA Book Award. The winner is **Elizabeth A. De Wolfe** (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 May 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 2008 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 2008 were: **Aldo Guevara**, chair (Worcester State College); **Thomas Carty** (Springfield College); **Michael Gesin** (Worcester State College); **Suzanne Kelley McCormack** (Springfield College); and **Valerie Ramseyer** (Wellesley College).

CONFERENCE REPORT

The 80th meeting of the Association at Northeastern University on April 26 was well attended with 98 historians registered for 18 sessions with 42 papers. The program included two roundtables, one on Public History in New England and another on Maps and History and one pragmatic presentation on *Getting Published*. We were pleased to join 80 members for lunch on a beautiful Spring afternoon. Association President **Luci Fortunato** conducted the annual election of Association officers and a brief business meeting at lunch.

This meeting was made possible by the outstanding efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **Ballard Campbell** (Northeastern University), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and the local arrangements committee from the Northeastern Department of History.



NEWS of the PROFESSION

Alfred J. Andrea (Emeritus, University of Vermont) was elected vice-president of the World History Association for 2008-2009.

Clement Delaney (Worcester State College) has retired after teaching American history since 1965.

Michael Gesin was appointed an assistant professor of European history at Worcester State College.



Tona Hangen (Brandeis University) was appointed an assistant professor of American history at Worcester State College.

Suzanne O'Brien (Loyola Marymount University) was appointed an assistant professor of Japanese history at Boston University.

Kristen A. Petersen (Pine Manor College) was appointed an assistant professor of history at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science.

Clifford Putney (Bentley College) received the 2008 Adamian Award for excellence in teaching in May.

Steven Seegal (Worcester State College) was appointed an assistant professor of history at the University of Northern Colorado.

Robert W. Smith (Bridgewater State College) was appointed an assistant professor of American history at Worcester State College.

Robert M. Spector, who taught history at Worcester State College for 45 years, died in August.

Cynthia J. Van Zandt (University of New Hampshire) won a University Excellence in Teaching Award.

Diana Wylie (Boston University) was appointed National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Teaching Professor for 2008-2011.

Jonathan Zatlin (Boston University) was promoted to associate professor of modern German history.

BOOK NEWS

Andrew J. Bacevich (Boston University) published *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism* (Metropolitan Books).

Renee Bergland (Simmons College) published *Maria Mitchell and the Sexing of Science: An Astronomer Among the American Romantics* (Beacon),

Ballard Campbell (Northeastern University) published *Disasters, Accidents, and Crises in American History* (Facts On File).

James Calvin Davis (Middlebury College) published *On Religious Liberty: Selections from the Works of Roger Williams* (Harvard University Press).

Elizabeth A. De Wolfe (University of New England) won the Northeast PCA/ACA's annual Peter C. Rollins book award for her outstanding book, *The Murder of Mary Bean and Other Stories* (Kent State University Press).

Eric Jay Dolin (MIT) published *Political Waters: The Long, Dirty, Contentious, Incredibly Expensive but Eventually Triumphant History of Boston Harbor—A Unique Environmental Success Story* (University of Massachusetts Press).

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

Susan Dunn (Williams College) published *Dominion of Memories: Jefferson, Madison, and the Decline of Virginia* (Basic Books).

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

Paula J. Giddings (Smith College) published *Ida: A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching* (Amistad).

Michael Hoberman (Fitchburg State College) published *How Strange it Seems: The Cultural Life of Jews in Small-Town New England* (University of Massachusetts Press).

Thomas A. Horrocks (Harvard University) published *Popular Print and Popular Medicine: Almanacs and Health Advice in Early America* (University of Massachusetts Press).

Kate Clifford Larson (Simmons College) published *The Assassin's Accomplice: Mary Surratt and the Plot to Kill Abraham Lincoln* (Basic Books).

Charles S. Maier (Harvard University) published *Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors* (Harvard University Press).

Cathal Nolan (Boston University) published *Wars in the Age of Louis XIV, 1650-1715* (Greenwood Press).

Padraig O'Malley (University of Massachusetts, Boston) published *Shades of Difference: Mac Maharaj and the Struggle for South Africa* (Oxford University Press).

Kevin Rozario (Smith College) published *The Culture of Calamity: Disaster & the Making of Modern America* (University of Chicago Press).

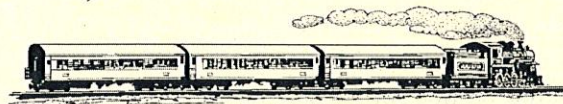
Howard P. Segal (University of Maine) published *Recasting the Machine Age: Henry Ford's Village Industries* (University of Massachusetts Press).

Bruce Schulman (Boston University) and **Julian Zelizer** published *Rightward Bound: Making America Conservative in the 1970s* (Harvard University Press).

Bonnie Yochelson and **Daniel Czitrom** (Mount Holyoke College) published *Rediscovering Jacob Riis: Exposure Journalism and Photography in Turn-of-the-Century New York* (The New Press).

Cynthia J. Van Zandt (University of New Hampshire) published *Brothers Among Nations: The Pursuit of Intercultural Alliances in Early America, 1580-1660* (Oxford University Press).

Diana Wylie (Boston University) published *Art and Revolution: The Life and Death of Thami Mnyele, South African Artist* (Jacana Media).



CONFERENCES MEETING

The **Society for French Historical Studies** meets in St. Louis on March 26-29, 2009. Contact James Smith at SFHS2009@siu.edu

The **New England American Studies Association** (NEASA) holds its annual conference at Yale University on September 19-20, 2008 on the theme *Infectious Democracy: Histories and Cultures of American Politics*. For more information contact neasacouncil@gmail.com

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 (due by January 15), and registration materials see www.thewha.org Also NEHA members may

take advantage of a 50% discount on **Northeast Regional WHA** annual dues, paying \$10 not \$20 by seeing www.nerwha.blogspot.com

The **National Council on Public History** holds its annual conference in Providence on April 2-5, 2009. For further information see the website at www.ncph.org or email the program chair at ncph@iupui.edu

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) holds its 31st annual conference at the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth on October 31-November 1, 2008. Contact the NEPCA program chair, **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

The **12th Annual Salve Regina University Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation** meets in Newport, Rhode Island on October 23-25, 2008 on the theme *Creating and Preserving the American Home, 1820-1920*. Contact **Catherine Zipf**, Salve Regina University, 100 Ochre Point Avenue, Newport, RI 02840; Catherine.Zipf@salve.edu

The **Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH)** holds its annual meeting at the University of Connecticut at Avery Point on November 1, 2008. The theme is *East and West of the River: A Comparative Approach*. Contact the program chair: Guocun Yang, Manchester Community College, Social Sciences Department, PO Box 1046, Manchester, CT 06045-1046; email: gyang@mcc.commnet.edu.

The **New England American Conference for Irish Studies** (NEACIS) holds its annual conference at Boston University on November 8, 2008. Contact **Sally Sommers**, Boston University, College of General

Studies, Boston, MA 02115 (ssommers@bu.edu) for additional information or see www.bu.edu/cgs/neacis2008.html

The annual **Film & History Conference** meets on October 30-November 2, 2008 in Chicago. For further information contact **Cynthia Miller** at cymiller@tiac.net or see the website www.uwosh.edu/filmandhistory

The **Popular Culture/American Culture Association** holds its 39th annual conference at the New Orleans Marriott on April 8-11, 2009. 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 for New England Studies, **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College, pholloran@worcester.edu.



CONFERENCES MEETING ABROAD

The **British Association for American Studies** holds its 54th annual conference at the University of Nottingham on April 16-19, 2009. For further information email the conference chair **Celeste-Marie Bernier** at baas2009@nottingham.ac.uk

The **National American Conference for Irish Studies** (ACIS) holds its 2009 meeting in Galway on June 10-13. Contact Louis De Paor, irishstudies@nuigalway.ie

The **Canadian Historical Association** holds its 2009 meeting at Carleton University in Ottawa on the theme *Authority in the Past, Authority of the Past*. Contact the program chair, John Walsh at john_walsh@carleton.ca

The **North American Victorian Studies Association** meets jointly with the **British Association for Victorian Studies** at Cambridge University on July 13-15, 2009. Contact the program chair at past-vs-present@victorians.group.cam.ac.uk



AUTHORS WANTED

The editorial staff for the 21-volume **ABC-Clio World History Encyclopedia** seeks authors. Inquiries are welcomed by **Carolyn Neel**, Project Editor, CNeel@abc-clio.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 pop 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 1967 by the Popular Culture Association, seeks contributions (articles, book reviews, and guest editorials). For more information, contact the book review editor: **Peter Holloran**, Worcester State College,

Department of History, 486 Chandler Street, Worcester, MA 01602; pholloran@worchester.edu

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The **American Antiquarian Society** offers the Hensch Post-Dissertation Fellowship for scholars no more than three years beyond receipt of the doctorate. This year-long fellowship at the AAS, Worcester's most famous national research library, provides time and resources (with a \$35,000 stipend) to revise the dissertation for publication. For more information contact Paul J. Erickson, Director of Academic Programs, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA 01602; perickson@mwa.org or see the website: www.americanantiquarian.org/post-diss.htm

The **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.

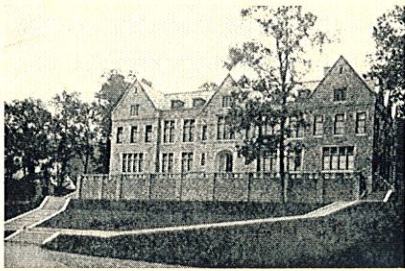
The **Massachusetts Historical Association** offers long and short term fellowships each year for scholars using their extensive materials. Contact **Cheryl Pina**, MHS, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02115; cpina@masshist.org or see the MHS website www.masshist.org/fellowships.html

The MHS also announced its 2008-2009 seminar series schedule. For information about the Boston Immigration and Urban History Seminar, the Boston Environmental History Seminar, the Boston Early American History Seminar and the Boston Seminar on the History of Women and Gender, email **Conrad E. Wright** at cwright@masshist.org



PRESIDENTS OF THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

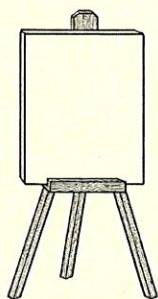
1966-1967	Frank Friedel, Harvard University
1967-1968	Reinhold Dorwart, University of Connecticut
1968-1969	Louis Morton, Dartmouth College
1969-1970	Daniel Thomas, University of Rhode Island
1970-1971	J. H. Hexter, Yale University
1971-1972	Helen Mulvey, Connecticut College
1972-1973	Sidney A. Burrell, 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. Cazal, 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
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1999-2000	Alan Rogers (Boston College)
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1972	University of New Hampshire		John F. Kennedy Library & University of Massachusetts- Boston
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	Connecticut College	1993	University of Southern Maine
1974	Rhode Island College		John Carter Brown Library & Brown University
	Clark University	1994	Bentley College
1975	Pine Manor College		University of Hartford
	University of Maine, Portland	1995	Mount Holyoke College
1976	St. Joseph's College		Saint Anselm College
	Exeter Academy	1996	Amherst College
1977	Harvard University		Roger Williams University
	University of Connecticut	1997	Northeastern University
1978	University of Massachusetts, Amherst		University of Connecticut
	University of Lowell	1998	University of Vermont
1979	Boston College		Connecticut College
	Colby-Sawyer College	1999	Rivier College
1980	Old Sturbridge Village		Suffolk University
	Rhode Island College	2000	Tufts University
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	Roger Williams College	2003	Bentley College
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	Framingham State College	2004	Newbury College
1985	Bowdoin College		College of Saint Joseph
	University of Connecticut	2005	Regis College
1986	American Antiquarian Society		University of Rhode Island
	Boston College	2006	Bridgewater State College
1987	Historic Deerfield		University of Massachusetts- Dartmouth
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			Worcester Polytechnic Institute
		2008	Northeastern University
			Endicott College

BOOK REVIEWS



Laura Hapke. *Labor's Canvas: American Working-Class History and the WPA Art of the 1930s*. New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008.

The title of Laura Hapke's brilliant but dense *Labor's Canvas* predicates its topic. Hapke structures her book from the 1880s to the 1930s, depicting the working-class iron molders and steel workers of Thomas Anshutz and Joseph Stella as representing "two crucial iconographic precedents" (8). Anshutz and Stella were quite far apart from the majority of WPA-era social protest artists who drafted cartoons in the 1920s (23). While Anshutz's work focused on the age of iron working and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers (AAISW), Stella portrayed the steelworkers while working as the lone industrial artist of the Pittsburgh Survey. Thus, Stella's social reform study concentrated on assimilating the working class, not on labor-management conflicts. Hapke analyzes how these artists "revealed personal & cultural anxieties about the 1930s workers" (44).

In chapter 4, "Looking Whiteness in the Face: Portraits by Three Cultural Workers", the artists Alice Neel, Raphael Soyer, and Alice Olds told a story of the white labor force, and Hapke suggests their significance in the following statement: "Political portraitists all three, if they whitened the typical laborer of the old craft unions, they also signaled a new identity for the cross-racial CIO era" (93). In the heart of the Great Depression a new force emerged from "Big

Labor" strikes in San Francisco, Flint, and Youngstown, and the breadlines through the Works Progress Administration (WPA) art of Kish, Dixon, Patri, Gropper, and Marsh. These artists "...constructed workers en masse in ways that varied what might be called the CIO approach" (131). The disaffected masses, whether on breadlines or picket lines, were another side of the working-class experience.

When covering the 1930s Hapke discusses WPA art in terms of working-class self construction; the "bodies" of steelworkers, construction workers, miners, and clothing workers were depicted by "the realist coalition" of the artists Harry Sternberg, Louis Lozowick, Louis Ribak, and Mitchell Siporin. These four artists all worked for the WPA, which included the FAP. In "Part Two: Catching the CIO Spirit: The Federal Art Project (FAP) and Multicultural Workers," Hapke describes how the artists cross-reference such themes as ethnicity, race, gender, and skill level as well as craftsmanship as cultural workers.

Chapters 6 and 7 emphasize that both black and female working-class history countered the proletarian image of the 1930s. She juxtaposes the WPA style of four African American artists Dox Thrash, James Lesesne Wells, Charles White, and Ellis Wilson's against the CIO vision. Using social realist technique symbolically, she argues that these WPA artists "allied John Henry's resistant workplace identity to a tradition of African-American labor ability" (175). Yet "John Henry the legendary railroad driller who refused to be beaten by a steam hammer..." (176) was not portrayed as the heroic black industrial worker but as a victim of exclusionary and technological circumstances.

In Chapter 8 "Artists and Plumbers: Imagining the FAP Body" Hapke discusses the conflict between the FAP/AU (Artists' Union) image and that of the representative

working-class worker. Many of the artists, such as Moses Soyer, Peppino Mangravite and Hugo Gellert, presented this tension in their own work, including self-portraits. With the decline of FAP/WPA funding and the tension between the AFL and the "non-working" members of the AU, the 1940s saw the end of the heroic proletarian artists and plumbers image created by the artists. Hapke concludes that "1930s difficulties with labor iconography are ultimately more enduring than the artistry itself" (270). *Labor's Canvas* is a fine synthesis of art history and labor studies that is both deep and broad; art history scholars and labor historians will find it quite perceptive despite its use, at times, of convoluted language.

Bruce Cohen
Worcester State College



Carey, David, Jr. *Engendering Mayan History: Kaqchikel Women as Agents and Conduits of the Past, 1875-1970*. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Combining thorough research and clear writing, David Carey continues his important work of re-examining the history of Guatemala, as much as possible, through the eyes of the Maya majority. In his first monograph, *Our Elders Teach Us*, Carey used over five years of language acquisition, archival research and oral history collection to provide an alternate and complementary history. He again explores how views of the past change if we allow Mayan oral histories to guide our queries and interpretations "rather than European-dominated historiography (Carey, *Elders*, ix)" as Allan Burns noted. This time Carey specifically focuses on Mayan women, their experiences, and their interpretations.

In *Engendering Maya History*, Carey builds upon his work in Kaqchikel communities in the highlands of Guatemala. Despite having learned to speak Kaqchikel, one of the most widely-spoken of the twenty Mayan languages, Carey relied heavily on Mayan research assistants. Their interviews were often conducted without the Anglo-American present so that the indigenous Guatemalans shared in the making of history and were not simply objects of research. This process led the interviews in different directions than if they had been solely guided by the words and interpretations of the North American scholar. Acknowledging and embracing this opportunity and its limitations, Carey critically "read" these oral texts and used them to guide additional research in the archives, which were constructed and selected by chiefly male and Ladino (non-indigenous Guatemalan) officials and therefore shaped by the dominant group's visions of society and their historical memory. This book convincingly integrated the local and Mayan stories with the national narrative.

Beginning with a thorough methodological discussion and a literature review whose integral engagement with the texts graduate students would do well to emulate, Carey firmly establishes that Mayan women's lives were shaped by political, economic, and social structures, but also by their own actions. To help understand their sometimes ambivalent decisions, such as when Mayan women lamented how they were denied access to education yet kept their daughters out of school, Carey demonstrated that they "were both victims and agents in this process (183)." When they transgressed gender norms and used "male" agricultural implements or carried heavy loads on their backs even as they continued to exclusively perform the "female" activities of cooking, cleaning and washing, they reinforced and even exacerbated unequal power relations. Carey's analysis provides a nuanced treatment of the apparent contradictions, at

least to Western eyes, of the actions and decisions of Mayan people and especially women.

Despite these examples that demonstrate the reality and persistence of patriarchy and state oppression, Carey focused on how women across the decades refused to allow structural impediments, Ladino oppression, or the actions of community members to fully define them. They were not passive vessels, as the dominant narratives assert, and their discourses competed with and complemented those of the state and those of Kaqchikel men. Kaqchikel women and girls, in their public and private actions and roles, worked “the system [to their] minimum disadvantage,” to use Eric Hobsbawm’s oft-quoted phrase, and in retelling their histories demonstrated how they conceptualized the past. Carey’s interpretations help us better understand the daily lives of Guatemalan women, and this text deserves to be read widely. The book is far from perfect, of course. Carey repeats many of his arguments and even the same phrases at different points, and despite the quote (183) cited above, he ultimately argues that the women were “neither victims nor revolutionaries (208).” But these are minor issues in a very successful book. Although probably too challenging for undergraduates without a foundation in Guatemalan or Native American history, this text is appropriate for upper-level and graduate courses.

Aldo V. Garcia Guevara
Worcester State College



Nancy Isenberg, *Fallen Founder: The Life of Aaron Burr*. New York: Viking, 2007.

With numerous failed land speculations and an ill-fated attempt to instigate a democratic revolution in Latin America to his name, Aaron Burr (1756-1836) has been historically popularized as a bit of a schemer. But in this biography, Nancy Isenberg argues that these failings and ambitions do not detract from Burr’s contributions as a Founding Father. Past biographies of Burr and studies of politics in the new republic cast Burr as either a tragic figure or a man utterly devoid of principle. And this recent biography extensively uses Burr’s papers and private correspondence to test these oversimplifications of Burr’s character, which Isenberg claims recent popular histories of the Founders merely reify. Indeed, contrary to the dominant caricature of Burr as a licentious opportunist, Isenberg presents him as a principled and thoroughly modern man with his own set of ideological tenets. As a result, the portrait of Burr that emerges from this biography is very different from the Burr we thought we knew.

Isenberg is an excellent writer and she has written something that will be suitable for different readers including graduate students and upper-level undergraduates, scholars of the period and general readers. This book may be too long for younger readers; however, Isenberg’s questioning of how historians unintentionally mythologize the Founders is a valuable perspective for how we study the Founding Fathers. She offers fascinating insights into Burr’s involvement in local politics in the new republic and his relationship with Alexander Hamilton. Burr lived within an intense political climate, in which familial and partisan rivalries were the order of the day with three family dynasties in New York State (the Clintons, Livingstons, and Schuylers) and two factions (Federalists and Anti-Federalists) jockeying for power. It was in this context that Burr first butted heads with Hamilton, thus beginning the rivalry which shaped his

infamous reputation for posterity. This rivalry was a matter of politics, says Isenberg, rather than a matter of personal enmity between the men. Isenberg clearly takes Burr's side in the affair. Hamilton's published defense in regard to his sexual relationship with his mistress, Mrs. Maria Reynolds, and his later attempts to character assassinate both John Adams and Burr speak to Hamilton's volatile nature. In contrast, Isenberg portrays Burr as a more reserved Founder, who never stooped to Hamilton's level in undermining the perceived opposition.

Beyond this well-known rivalry with Hamilton, Burr was an accomplished and principled statesman. As a private lawyer and as a public servant, his legal defense showed great ingenuity and verve, as he frequently battled the party in power. For example, outlining the faults of the Federalist administration of John Adams in the late 1790s, Burr vigorously railed against injustices such as the Alien and Sedition Act. By Isenberg's account, Burr was an exceptional man, differing with many peers in his stance on women. His close relationship with his wife and intellectual equal, Theodosia, as well as his careful attention to the education of his daughter and confidante, mark him as an early feminist.

Isenberg successfully questions our basic assumptions about Burr, while providing a refreshing reminder of how to write history. History, according to her, is not a bedtime story: historians do not create narratives of heroes and villains. And even if Burr persists as an untrustworthy figure in our collective consciousness, he deserves both sympathy, for the way his name has been maligned, and credit for his contributions as a Founder. Isenberg's characterization of Burr is sure to spark conversation among upper-level undergraduates, scholars and the general public.

Ross Newton
Northeastern University



Stacy A. Cordery. *Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, from White House Princess to Washington Power Broker*. New York: Viking Press, 2007.

The name of Teddy Roosevelt and his daughter Alice invokes vivid images of the Rough Rider and his flamboyant eldest daughter. Stacy Cordery's biography of Alice Roosevelt Longworth (1884-1980) fleshes out a fuller characterization of a woman relegated to often-quoted acerbic comments or remarks about her fashion attire. Alice, born near the end of the nineteenth century, daringly asserted her independence from her very private, formal stepmother, Edith and her famous father, President Theodore Roosevelt, in very shocking ways for her time. She smoked in public, drove her own horse or car and flaunted her inherited wealth. As early as age eighteen, Alice enjoyed the role of confidant and advisor to her father and later leading congressmen, presidents and influential government officials stretching into her 90s. While Alice avoided public speaking, Cordery highlights Alice's intellect and wit and her ability to become a formidable presence and power behind the scenes in her drawing room, over dinner parties, through attendance at Senate hearings, and her own newspaper column.

The author set the tone early in the text by recounting the tragic death of Alice's mother and grandmother on the same day at the time of her birth. Cordery wants us to understand Alice's interactions with her father, stepmother, husband and others. When Cordery writes that Alice's father "relegated her to an afterthought"(1), however, this comment seems to ignore Theodore

Roosevelt's purpose in escaping to "the badlands" of the West when life seemed too overwhelming. Throughout this lengthy biography, Cordery writes of the intimate details of the sordid family dramas: Whether it be Alice's childhood; marriage to an unfaithful husband, Congressman Nicholas Longworth; her illicit affair with Senator William E. Borah of Idaho; the birth of her daughter alleged to be the offspring of this affair or her hostile dislike of cousins Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt, Cordery is adamant that we know all. One whole chapter deals with recently deciphered love letters between Alice and Borah. This biography sensationalizes the tensions and seems to go to great length with too much hypothetical analysis.

The author's strength is placing Alice into her expansive examination of almost one hundred years of social, political and women's history in America and abroad. In particular, Cordery provides detailed description of the early American West and Asian history, beginning with Alice's birth in 1884 until her death in 1980. Alice wielded influence by bringing political opponents together at her social gatherings. Seeking out individuals of the Republican and Democratic Party, Alice forced them to come together. Numerous well-known individuals--Joseph McCarthy, Richard Nixon, President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert--crossed paths with Alice. Some enjoyed her witty company while other dodged her scathing tongue. For example, Alice enjoyed a warm friendship with United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis. Cordery quotes conversations and letters between Alice and Lewis exchanging tender words and quoting their shared love of literature.

This biography of Alice moves her out of the shadow of her famous father by highlighting her significant political clout. While never having held political office, Alice played a leading role in Washington, D. C. and

overseas. Despite some unsubstantiated assumptions, this biography does provide an impressive overview of social, political and women's history that would be of interest to scholars of these fields as well as general readers interested in this era, the Roosevelt family and Alice in particular.

Elaine Gompers Parmett
Independent Scholar



Saul Cornell. *A Well-Regulated Militia: The Founding Fathers and the Origins of Gun Control in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Now that the American gun debate has penetrated university campuses—an effect of the Virginia Tech murders has been proposals that licensed and trained professors and students be allowed to carry concealed guns on campuses—a scholarly book on the meaning of the Second Amendment could not be more timely. Saul Cornell, a constitutional historian and director of the Second Amendment Research Center at Ohio State University, offers an authoritative gloss on the uniquely American right to bear arms.

The Amendment states: *a well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed*. The problem, as Cornell and others have noted, has been exactly to whom this right applies. Were the Framers concerned with rights of individuals or with inviolability of states' rights to organize and arm militias? Dominating American culture is the individual right interpretation, e.g., the 4 million member National Rifle Association's mantra: "You'll take my gun only from my cold dead hands." Elite opinion has tended more toward the state's right version.

Cornell rejects both views as deviant formulations. By consulting the ancient texts, he claims to have recovered the original meaning of the Amendment; it is a "civic right," wherein bearing arms is a legal obligation much like jury duty, only more onerous and problematic. Early American militia laws required non-exempt, able-bodied men to enroll in state militias. Accordingly they had to keep suitable arms, muster and drill. The civic view also necessarily entailed, Cornell says, laws of regulation and taxation. Providing an example of how the civic theory applies today, says Cornell, a "national firearms tax would allow society to shift part of the cost of gun violence back to those gun owners who do not act responsibly." So judging by this and similar remarks by Cornell, the civic rights view seemingly opens the door for powerful, invasive and perhaps unlimited regulation. Such an adjustable-rate social contract seems inconsistent with any of the Amendments, and I am surprised that a constitutional scholar seems to have forsaken the delimiting purpose of a constitution.

Even though I balk at his conclusions, Cornell well covers the complexity of the gun debate. He presents manifold excerpts of legal cases and documents concerning the 2nd Amendment and related matters: e.g., control of the militia; states' rights; right to insurrection; passive militia resistance akin to jury nullification; evolving doctrine of self-defense; regulation of deadly and concealed weapons; and sometimes lethal political battles between Federalists and Anti-Federalists. This review is commendable.

Cornell confounds these complicated matters to reach conclusions unrelated to his premises, e.g., the Anti-Federalist James Reynolds' assault trial in 1799 for brandishing a pistol at a Federalist mob. This "remarkable window into contemporary attitudes," Cornell says, shows neither defense nor prosecution recognized any right

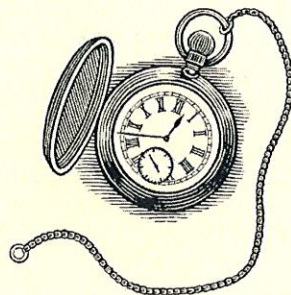
to bear arms, and instead focused on common law self-defense. But the 2nd Amendment conveys no right to assault; such a plea, and his argument about it, constitute livid non-sequiturs. More illogically, he treats the individual, state, and even his own civic rights formulations as if the core American values thus signified are mutually exclusive rather than a complicated balancing between transcendent ethical goals.

Cornell hopes to alleviate the "intellectual poverty" of the American gun debate, by which he seemingly means adopting his civic right theory as the basis of national policy. I suggest we ruminate on that proposition for a good long while.

Brian Anse Patrick
University of Toledo



PLAN AHEAD



American Historical Association

2009 * New York City * 2-5 January
2010 * San Diego * 7-10 January
2011 * Boston * 6-9 January
2012 * Chicago * 5-8 January
2013 * New Orleans * 3-6 January

American Studies Association

2009 * Washington, DC * 5-8 November
2010 * San Antonio * 18-21 November
2011 * Baltimore * 20-23 October

American Conference for Irish Studies

2009 * Galway * 10-13 June

National Conference on Public History

2009 * Providence * 2-5 April

Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association

2008 * University of Mass.-Dartmouth * 31 October-1 November
2009 * Queensboro Community College * October

North American Conference on British Studies

2009 * Louisville * 3-5 October

Oral History Association

2009 * Louisville * 14-18 October

Organization of American Historians

2009 * Seattle * 26-29 March
2010 * Washington * 7-10 April
2011 * Houston * 17-20 March
2012 * Milwaukee * 19-22 April
2013 * San Francisco * 11-14 April
2014 * Washington * 2-5 April

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2009 * New Orleans * 8-11 April
2010 * St. Louis * April
2011 * San Antonio * April
2012 * Boston * April

Social Science History Association

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

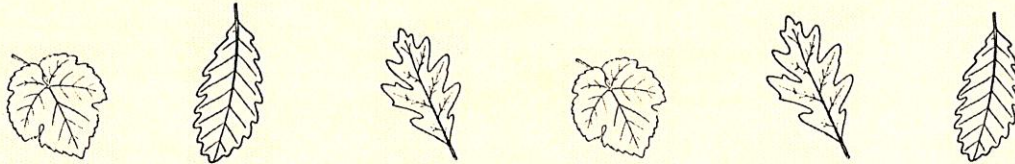
World History Association

2009 * Salem, MA * 25-28 June
2010 * San Diego * 24-27 June
2011 * Beijing * 7-11 July

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NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

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