FALL CONFERENCE at
EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY in Willimantic, Connecticut
on
SATURDAY, October 28, 2017

Vice-President Erik Jensen (Salem State University) arranged this fine program. Martin Menke (NEHA’s Executive Secretary) made the local arrangements with the assistance of faculty and staff at Eastern Connecticut State University. People whom we especially want to thank at ECSU include Thomas Balcerski (local arrangements coordinator), Joan Meznar (Chair of the History Dept.), Carmen Sid (Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences), Stacey Close (Vice-President for Equity and Diversity), and John Beck (University Advancement).

We hope that this meeting in Willimantic, CT, will be as well attended and successful as our meeting at Salem State, MA, last fall. We are very grateful for the hospitality shown to us by Eastern Connecticut State University.

The October conference will begin with registration and a complimentary continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning in the Betty Tipton Room at the Student Center. Panels will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Student Center. NEHA members are invited to bring copies of their own recent publications as well as timely professional literature for display or distribution at the book exhibit at 10:00.

The 99th meeting of the Association will be held on October 28, 2017, at Eastern Connecticut State University; 83 Windham St.; Willimantic, CT (860-465-5000). Eastern Connecticut State was founded as the Willimantic State Normal School in 1889. It is the second oldest campus in the Connecticut State University system, and it is located halfway between Boston and New York City. Though founded to train female teachers, ECSU became coeducational in 1893. Forty-four years later it award its first bachelor’s degrees, and in 1958 it established its first graduate program (education). The school acquired its current name in 1983, and it now has 5,447 students.

The program for the fall conference is listed on pages 4-7 of this issue, and it is also posted on our webpage: http://www.newenglandhistorians.org
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 10th is strongly recommended, but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues or graduate students.

Our luncheon will be held at 12:15 in the Betty Tipton Room of the Student Center, but seating is limited. Please reserve your place at lunch when you register by mail. Even if you do not join us, please use this form to pay your 2017 membership dues if you have not already done so. Lunch will be followed by afternoon panels, which will start at 1:45 and end at 3:15.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

**Best Western Storrs** (Basic motel located 2 miles from campus—closest lodging option)
123 Storrs Road
Mansfield, CT
860-423-8451
(AAA rate: $121.50)

**Fitch House B and B** (Upscale B&B located 4 miles from campus)
563 Storrs Road
Mansfield Center, CT
310-868-4445
(Rates: $165-$215)

**Courtyard by Marriott Norwich** (Hotel located 14 miles from campus)
181 W. Town St.
Norwich, CT
860-886-2600
(Rates: $169 upward)

**Quiet Corner Inn** (Basic motel located 20 miles from campus)
479 Providence Road
Brooklyn, CT
860-774-9644
(Rates: $75 upward)

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

**From Hartford**
I-84 East. I-384 East to Route 6. Route 6 east to intersection of Routes 6 and 66. Left on Route 6 to second exit (High Street). Turn right onto High Street to campus entrance, ½ mile on right.

**From Springfield, MA, and Points North**
I-91 south to Route 291 (Exit 35). Route 291 east to Route 384. I-384 East to Route 6; then see Hartford Directions (above).

**From Boston, New Hampshire and Vermont**
I-90 west (Mass Pike) to I-395 (Exit 10). I-395 south to Route 6 (Exit 91). Route 6 west to intersection of Routes 6 and 66. Right on Route 6 to first exit. Turn left at next two lights. Campus is ½ mile on right.

**From Providence and Points East**
Route 6 west to North Windham. Bear right onto Route 6 highway to first exit. Turn left at next two lights. Campus is ½ mile on right.

**From Norwich and New London**
Route 395 north to Route 2 (Exit 81 W). Route 2 west to Route 32 (Exit 25). Route 32 north to Route 66 west. Turn right onto Jackson Street. Turn left onto Valley Street. Turn right onto High Street to campus entrance on left.
Taxis:

Ace Taxi Service
860-222-2222

AAA Cab LLC
860-645-1999

Windham Region Transit District
860-456-2223

PARKING INFORMATION

Parking is available in the Shakespeare or Cervantes garages at ECSU.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Windham Textile & History Museum
411 Main Street
Willimantic, CT
860-456-2178
Hours: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 10:00-4:00
Admission: Adults, $7; Students, Seniors, $5; Groups, $4

Jillson House Museum
627 Main Street
Willimantic, CT
860-456-2316
Hours: Saturdays 10:00-3:00; Sundays Noon-3:00
Admission: A donation of $2 is requested

Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum
55 Bridge Street
Willimantic, CT
860-456-9999
Hours: Saturdays Noon-4; Sundays Noon-3:00

ADVANCE NOTICE

NEHA’s spring meeting is scheduled to be held at St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH, on April 14, 2018. The deadline for submitting paper proposals (one-page abstract and a brief C.V.) is February 1, 2018. To make submissions and/or get information about the program, contact: Erik Jensen; Salem State University; ejensen@salemstate.edu. Information about the program may also be obtained from Martin Menke, Rivier University; 420 South Main Street; Nashua, NH 03060; mmmenke@rivier.edu

WELCOME
TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Dennis Baez
(US Navy)

Lynne Byall Benson
(Bunker Hill Community College)

Jocelyn Gould
(Boston National Historic Park)

Samantha Kiesel
(Independent Scholar)

Seanan Murphy
(Independent Scholar)

Stefan Papaioannou
(Framingham State University)

Kenneth Paulsen
(Bunker Hill Community College)
Fall Conference Program

All sessions will be held in the Student Center (SC)

8:00-8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast  SC Betty Tipton Room

First Morning Sessions, 8:30-10:00

Session 1: Law and Community in New England and Beyond  SC 223
Chair/Comment: Robert J. Imholt, Albertus Magnus College

“The Qualities for Common Sense: County Court Judges in Colonial Connecticut”
Dominic DeBrincat, Missouri Western State University
“The Moral Treatment’: On the Institutionalization of People with Disabilities in the Anglophone Atlantic, 1660-1860”
Miles Wilkerson, Windham Textile & History Museum
“The Choctaw and petit marronage during the Removal Crisis”
Christian Gonzales, University of Rhode Island

Session 2: Exceptions to feme covert: Colonial Women as Heirs and Property Owners  SC 217
Chair/Comment: Nicole Breault, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

“Perceived Equality: Women, Ethnicity, and Inheritance in Late 18th-Century Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia”
Kenneth S. Paulsen, Bunker Hill Community College
“Margaret Brent: Feme Covert Outlier – Executor to Lord Calvert of Maryland”
Lynn Byall Benson, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Session 3: Liberty for Whom? Perspectives on Slavery and the American Civil War  SC 115
Chair/Comment: Barbara Tucker, Eastern Connecticut State University

“Children of the Revolution: Lydia Maria Child and the Pedagogy of Revolt”
Lila Teeters, University of New Hampshire (graduate student)
“A Class For Themselves: The Civil War as Agrarian Revolution”
Christopher Clark, University of Connecticut
“Liberty’s War: Victim to the Act of Forgetting and Why Americans still ask, ‘What caused the Civil War?’”
Dennis Baez, Independent Scholar

Session 4: Remembering Wars and Warriors  SC 113
Chair/Comment: Jamel Ostwald, Eastern Connecticut State University

“Warriors in History: Achilles and Jake LaMotta Compared”
Joe Delaney, Johnson & Wales University
“Ghost of the Revolution, the First World War, and the Wartime Alliance”
Sarah Goldberger, Community College of Rhode Island
“What Do We Tell the Children? World War II French Occupation, Resistance, and Liberation Taught in 1950s France”
Susann Longva Vaeth, Simmons College
Session 5: Conflict and Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century  SC 219
Chair/Comment: Stefan Papaioannou, Framingham State University

“Russia’s role in the Origins of World War I”
Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

“Popes and Presidents: Sacred and Secular Diplomacy during the early Cold War”
Thomas J. Carty, Springfield College

“The 1982 Falklands War and NATO’s Increased Concern Over ‘Out-of-Area’ Conflicts”
Lauren Stauffer, University of Connecticut

Session 6: The Influence of the West on the World, for Good and Ill  SC 221
Chair/Comment: Joan Meznar, Eastern Connecticut State University

“Great Britain’s Role in Apartheid: How the advent of the Great War resulted in Apartheid”
Christopher H. Beckvold, Winthrop Public Schools

“A SITE to Behold: The U.S.-India Experiment with Satellite Instructional Television”
Marc Reyes, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

“A Professor’s Experience in Indonesia: Examining the Partnership Between University of Kentucky and Bogor Agricultural College 1957-1966”
Adam Murphy, Eastern Connecticut State University (undergraduate student)

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

Second Morning Sessions, 10:30-12

Session 7: Claiming a Space of Their Own: Community and Self-Determination from the Middle Ages to Modern America  SC 219
Chair/Comment: Erika Cornelius Smith, Nichols College

“Standing ‘In the Unsullied Purity of Paradise’: Virginity in Hildegard of Bingen’s Theology and her Spiritual Regimen at Mount St. Rupert”
Alexandra Borkowski, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

“From Mass Rock to Benefice: Catholic missionaries in rural New England, 1825-1875”
John White, University of Dayton

“Archives and Public Discourses: Immigration Narratives from Connecticut’s West Indian Diaspora, 1940-2010”
Fiona Vernal, University of Connecticut

Session 8: Women in American Politics from the Nineteenth to the Twentieth Century  SC 223
Chair/Comment: Eric Cimino, Molloy College

“Infatuated Females’ and the Not-So-Underground World of Polygamy: 1880-1890”
Morgan E. Kolakowski, Simmons College (graduate student)

“The Cradle of Modern Liberalism: Mary T. Norton’s Jersey City”
Robert Chiles, University of Maryland

Lauren Kozakiewicz, SUNY Albany

Session 9: Creating the American Experience  SC 221
Chair/Comment: Madhavi Venkatesan, Bridgewater State University

“Defining American Womanhood: Godey’s Lady’s Book in an Age of Panic and Reform”
Amy Sopcak-Joseph, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

“Journey to Freedom: a USCT Case Study, 1835-1900”
Kimeberly Windham, Independent Scholar

“A Kitchen Chronotope: Seeing Ethnic Identity through a Cookbook”
John Sisinni, Emanuel College (undergraduate student)
Session 10: Oppression and Reaction in America and Guatemala
Chair/Comment: Michael E. Neagle, Nichols College

“Sites of Resistance: Spatial Control, Community Gatherings, and Negro Election Day in Eighteenth Century New England”
   Stephanie Krauss, Simmons College (graduate student)
“Breaking the Silence: The Story of the Ixil Maya of Union Victoria during the Guatemalan Civil War”
   Megan Marucci, Sacred Heart University (graduate student)
“Freedom Songs and Nazi Chants: Eye-Witness Accounts and the Continuing Struggle About Race in America from Danville (1963) to Charlottesville (2017)”
   Cheryl C. Boots, Boston University

Session 11: Teaching Social Studies (roundtable)
Chair: Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

Discussants:
   Frank Tupka, Milford Public Schools
   Catherine Nuzzo, Wallingford Public Schools
   Patrick R. Cumpstone, Amity Regional High School
   Gene Stec, Trumbull Public Schools
   Jim Loughead, Mansfield Public Schools

Session 12: More Than a Name on the Wall: The Men and Women of the Worcester Memorial Auditorium
Chair: Zachary Washburn, Worcester State University
Comment: Linda Hixon, Worcester State University

“Letting the Story Unfold”
   Ahenebah Nez Lane, Worcester State University (graduate student)
“Earl Lovejoy: A Soldier’s Life Before War”
   William Whearty, Worcester State University (undergraduate student)
“Not Just Soldiers: The Story of a Dentist and a Chauffer in World War I”
   Theodore Racicot, Worcester State University (undergraduate student)
“An Experience of a Lifetime: Researching WWI Heroes”
   Timothy Jarvis, Worcester State University (undergraduate student)

Session 13: American Girls: Reflection on History as Play and Profession (presentation)
Presenters:
   Allison Horrocks, National Parks Service
   Mary Mahoney, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

12:15-1:35 Lunch and Business meeting
Afternoon Sessions, 1:45 – 3:15

Session 14: America and the Politics of Union
Chair/Comment: Melanie Newport, University of Connecticut

“A General Union of the Continent’: John Adams, Machiavelli, and the American Revolutionary Imperative”
   Jonathan A. Hanna, Claremont Graduate University (graduate student)
“Swiss Myths: The Swiss Model and the Debate over the Constitution”
   Robert W. Smith, Worcester State University
“The Presidential Election of 1936 in New England”
   Philip A. Grant, Jr., Pace University
Session 15: Perceptions of War and Terror from Habsburg Austria to the United States in the Twentieth Century  SC 223
Chair/Comment: Dominic DeBrincat, Missouri Western State University

“The Reluctant Warrior: War and Memory in Habsburg Austria”
Scott Moore, Eastern Connecticut State University
“The Bandit as Terrorist: American Perceptions of Pancho Villa”
Michael E. Neagle, Nichols College
“Grants for Guerrillas: Americans and International Terrorism in the 1970s and 1980s”
Caitlin Carenen, Eastern Connecticut State University

Session 16: Far from Home: Adventure, Labor, & Tragedy on the Seas & Across the Ice  SC 115
Chair/Comment: Thomas Balcerski, Eastern Connecticut State University

“Ship’s Boys: Child Labor on the High Seas, 1800-1860”
Barbara Tucker, Eastern Connecticut State University
“Why 1844-1891 Was Not an ‘Age of Averted Interest’ in Antarctic History”
David Lipton, Middlesex County College
“The Rescue of Titanic Survivors, April 15-18, 1912”
Eric Cimino, Molloy College

Session 17: Violence, Resistance, and Progress in 20th-century Eastern Europe  SC 223
Chair/Comment: Alexis Peri, Boston University

“The Balkans as European Bellwether: Bureaucratization of Violence against Non-Combatants as a Rupture Within the First World War”
Stefan Papaioannou, Framingham State University
“The YMCA, Internationalist Progressives, and American Foreign Relations: the Case of Czechoslovakia”
Erika Cornelius Smith, Nichols College
“Vladko Maček, Nonviolence, and the Militarization of the Croatian Peasant Party”
Nicolas Hardisty, Independent Scholar

Session 18: Development and Redevelopment in New England  SC 219
Chair/Comment: Joe Delaney, Johnson & Wales University

“Exploring Sustainable Development: An Assessment of the Economic History of Southeastern Massachusetts, 1860-1979”
Madhavi Venkatesan, Bridgewater State University
“Don’t Tear Me Down: Urban Renewal in a New England Mill Town”
Anna Kirchmann, Eastern Connecticut State University
“Engineering the Exodus: People, Environment, and the Building of Boston’s Quabbin Reservoir, 1927-1939”
Jeffrey Egan, University of Connecticut (graduate student)

Session 19: Teaching with the Archives: How (and Why) to Engage Undergraduates in Archival Research (roundtable)  SC 107
Chair and discussant: Laura R. Prieto, Simmons College

Discussants:
Marta Crilly, City of Boston
Pamela Hopkins, Tufts University
Caitlin Birch, Dartmouth College
Anna J. Clutterbuck-Cook, Massachusetts Historical Society

Session 20: The State of the History Survey  SC 113
Chair: Matthew Dunne, Housatonic Community College

Discussants:
Todd Byrda, Northwestern Connecticut Community College
Sarah Cieglo, Manchester Community College
Bradley C. Davis, Eastern Connecticut State University
NEHA NEWS AND THE NEHA WEBSITE

Clifford Putney (Bentley University) is the editor of NEHA News. If you have a submission for the Spring 2018 issue of the newsletter, please send it to Cliff (cputney@bentley.edu) by February 1, 2018. Book reviews should be sent to Thomas J. Carty (Springfield College), the book review editor (tcarty@spfldcol.edu), by February 1, 2018. If you have a book that you want reviewed, mail it to Tom at: Department of Social Sciences; Springfield College; 263 Alden Street; Springfield, MA 01109.

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

Our website is located at http://www.newenglandhistorians.org, which nicely echoes the American Historical Association’s web address (http://historians.org), since we are the New England regional affiliate. The website is a news hub for information about upcoming conferences, our current call for papers, and the annual prizes. It also contains a growing archive of our past semiannual meetings and newsletters, as well as the organization’s bylaws and a list of past presidents. From the website you can download a membership or conference registration form or the latest issue of NEHA News. Announcements of interest from related organizations can be found on our sidebar “bulletin board.”

We have just gained the capacity to join and renew membership or make a donation online. Our news and announcements have RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feed, so you can either subscribe to new posts by email or add the site to an RSS reader of your choice, such as Google reader. NEHA is also tweeting and welcoming new followers on our Twitter account, @NEHistoryAssoc.

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

RESULTS OF NEHA’S APRIL 22, 2017, ELECTION

President

Troy Paddock (Southern Connecticut State)

Troy Paddock is Professor of Modern European History and Chairperson at Southern CT State University and co-editor of Environment, Space, Place. He was a member of the Executive Committee previously (2002-04) and was reelected to the Committee in 2015. He would be happy to serve as NEHA Vice President. He teaches courses in Western Civilization, 20th-century Europe, German history, European intellectual history and historiography. He has published articles in German History, Central European History and Rethinking History. His monograph Creating the Russian Peril: Education, the Public Sphere and National Identity in Imperial Germany, 1890-1914 appeared with Camden House in 2010. He was also responsible for NEHA’s 50th anniversary conference at Southern Connecticut State University in Fall 2015.
**Vice President**

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

**Treasurer**

**Sean Perrone (St. Anselm College)**
Sean Perrone is professor of history at St. Anselm College. He holds a B.A. from Rutgers University and a Ph.D. from the Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison. His research has focused on fiscal negotiations between the Castilian Crown and the Assembly of the Clergy in the early modern period and on the Spanish consular service in the Early American Republic. He has published a book and several articles. He has been a member of NEHA for eighteen years.

**Executive Committee**

**James P. Hanlan (WPI)**

**Linda Upham-Bornstein (Plymouth State University)**
Linda Upham-Bornstein teaches in the Department of History and Philosophy at Plymouth State University. Her current book “Mr. Taxpayer versus Mr. Tax Spender;” Taxpayers’ Associations, Pocketbook Politics and the Law During the Great Depression is currently under review. While she is primarily a legal and socio-political historian, her research and teaching also embrace race, labor, and immigration history in the United States.

**Ella Howard (Wentworth Institute of Technology)**
Ella Howard teaches urban history, digital history, and the history of technology as Associate Professor of History at Wentworth Institute of Technology. Her book Homeless Poverty and Place (2013) was the first history of New York City’s Bowery as a skid row.

**Miriam Reumann (University of Rhode Island)**
Miriam Reumann is a Teaching Professor in the Department of History at the University of Rhode Island. She is the author of American Sexual Character: Sex, Gender, and National Identity in the Kinsey Reports (University of California Press, 2005); “Sex and Science,” in Georgina Montgomery and Mark Largent, eds. A Companion to the History of American Science (Wiley-Blackwell Press, 2015).

**Nominating Committee**

**Matthew Dunne (Housatonic Community College)**
Matthew Dunne is an Instructor of History and Political Science at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where he teaches courses on American politics, U.S. foreign policy, and the history of medicine. He earned a Ph.D. in U.S. History from Brown University in 2008, and has also taught at Stonehill
College, MCPHS University and Bay Path University. His first book, *A Cold War State of Mind: Brainwashing and Postwar American Society*, was published in 2013 by the University of Massachusetts Press. He recently contributed a chapter to the upcoming *Routledge Handbook of Gender, War, and the U.S. Military*, and is currently working on a social and cultural history of autism in the United States.

**Katheryn Viens (Massachusetts Historical Society)**

Katheryn Viens is Research Coordinator and Book Review Editor at the Massachusetts Historical Society. She is a doctoral candidate in the American and New England Studies Program at Boston University, where she is writing a dissertation on the development of early Massachusetts railroads. She is a former executive director of the New England Museum Association.

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**A MESSAGE FROM NEHA'S PRESIDENT**

Dear Colleagues,

As we begin the new year, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Don Wyatt, my predecessor, for his thoughtful leadership the past year. He is a tough act to follow, but I will endeavor to do my best. We have an interesting program for the fall conference at Eastern Connecticut State University, and we have our program chair, Erik Jensen, and our host, Tom Balcerski, to thank for all of their hard work. As the NEHA website continues to move towards the twenty-first century, we all owe a debt of gratitude to Tona Hagen, our Secretary and Web Master, and Martin Menke, our Executive Secretary, for making it possible to register for the conference electronically. On that note, I would like to encourage you all to register early for the conference. It will assist us greatly in preparing for the conference if we have a good idea beforehand of the number of people attending and of the number of people intending to have lunch.

While many history departments have experienced a significant decline in the number of majors, events over the last year have shown us that the need to understand history has never been greater and, sadly, that public awareness perhaps has never been lower. Recent events, with Charlottesville being only the most dramatic, have forced citizens in the United States to reconsider how they understand and commemorate their past. The role of statues and monuments are only the tip of this historical iceberg. Historians must be involved in these discussions—to provide the historical context surrounding both the events and their commemoration. NEHA will remain an active voice in these public discussions.

Let me conclude by asking you all to consider lending your talents to NEHA. As an association, we thrive when more members contribute. My recent involvement in NEHA has centered around trying to find ways to generate more interest in our organization and conferences. Last year, Jessica Parr organized a session that focused on digital history and the classroom. Jessica and Ella Howard organized that THAT Camp, which NEHA helped sponsor. It is my hope that NEHA can regularly devote panels to digital pedagogy and research. This October at Eastern Connecticut State University, we will have a roundtable consisting of Connecticut social studies teachers discussing issues that they face. I hope that this can be a regular occurrence and can serve as a form of outreach to grade 7-12 social studies teachers. These are two recent initiatives NEHA has taken to expand its appeal. We encourage members to offer other suggestions for outreach. Increased
participation in NEHA can only be a good thing. When the call for nominations comes out in the Spring, please consider nominating yourself. Thank you and I hope to see many of you in Willimantic in October.

Troy Paddock, NEHA President (2017-18) Southern CT State University

NEHA STATEMENT ON CHARLOTTESVILLE, RACISM AND HISTORY (Adopted 8/23/17)

The New England Historical Association condemns, in the strongest possible terms, white supremacy, racism, anti-Semitism, and all other acts of bigotry. We also reject the false equivalencies drawn between the actions of hate groups, and those who protested against them. While recent conversations have understandably focused on the incidents of white supremacy in Charlottesville, we urge people to remember that our country has a long and troubled history when it comes to racism, and one from which other regions of the country (including New England) are not immune. The Southern Poverty Law Center’s hate map, which documents 917 different hate groups across the United States (as of August 2017) is one of many sobering reminders of the pervasiveness of racism and other forms of hate in the United States. It is therefore critical that we do our utmost to contribute to ongoing conversations about race and racism, and not to silence the voices of people who have suffered.

As historians, we also must remind people that monuments and statues are political artifacts that may or may not, in fact, accurately represent history. In the case of the monuments of the Confederacy, most of them were constructed decades after the Civil War, during a particularly dark episode of our nation’s history. A study by the Southern Poverty Law Center reveals large spikes in the building of Confederate monuments and schools with Confederate namesakes that correspond with key events, such as the founding of the NAACP (1909), the 1915 resurgence of the KKK, and the battle for the desegregation of United States schools and universities in the 1960s (SPLC, 2017). These monuments honor slave owners and others who fought to preserve an empire of slavery. They are not limited to states that were members of the Confederacy, either. The recently-removed statue of Roger Taney stood in front of the Maryland Statehouse, honoring a judge who denied the humanity of African Americans under the law. Maryland had remained with the Union during the American Civil War.

Whether these statues are ultimately removed, or reinterpreted to acknowledge these pasts, we support our colleagues, students, and others who are the targets of hate. And we recognize the importance of speaking up about these histories.

THE NEHA GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE

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

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

Prize nominations must be submitted by June 1, 2018. They may be submitted either to the NEHA President, or to the Award Committee Chair, Paul Lambert (Nichols College). Other members of the committee include Martin Menke (Rivier University), Melanie Gustafson (University of Vermont), and Tona Hangen (Worcester State University).

NEHA BOOK AWARD

NEHA welcomes nominations for the James P. Hanlan Book Award. This prestigious award has been presented annually since 1985 to an author who has produced an outstanding work of history.

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to Martin Menke, Rivier University; 420 South Main Street; Nashua, NH 03060, or email him at mmenke@rivier.edu by June 1, 2018. Monographs on any historical topic, time or place published in 2017, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA Book Award. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. The award certificate and $300.00 stipend are presented to the winner at the Fall Conference.

The current chair of the NEHA Book Award Committee is Peter Holloran (Worcester State University). Other members of the committee include Kristen Petersen (MCPHS University), Bruce Cohen (Worcester State University), Ian Delahanty (Springfield College), and Marie MacDonald (Southern Connecticut State University).

This Year’s Book Award Winner

The NEHA Book Award Committee is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2017 J. P. Hanlan Book Award is Nathaniel Philbrick for his outstanding monograph Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution (Penguin Books, 2016).

Spring 2017 Conference Report

The 98th meeting of the Association was held in the Classroom Building at Salem State University in Salem, Massachusetts, on April 22, 2017. It was a scintillating conference and it attracted 88 conferees. There were two dozen sessions, which focused on a broad array of topics. Outside of the building, the weather was overcast.

At the delicious luncheon that followed the morning paper presentations, conferees were formally welcomed to Salem State University by Gail Gasparich, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. After the luncheon, Don Wyatt, the outgoing president of NEHA, addressed the conferees. Also after the luncheon, elections were held for NEHA posts (see election results elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter).

A highpoint of the conference was a postprandial meeting of regional department chairs to discuss topics of mutual interest, such as advocating for the value of history degrees on our campuses. Troy Paddock, NEHA’s current president, organized the conference, which will hopefully become an annual event.

The meeting at Salem State University was made possible by tremendous efforts on our behalf by Program Chair Troy Paddock (Southern CT State University), Executive
Secretary Martin Menke (Rivier University), and Salem State historians such as Erik Jensen, the chair of the local arrangements committee. In his words, “It would be nice to extend thanks to Donna Seger, Chair of the History Department, who supported us bringing NEHA back to Salem State, and Analee Solis, History Department Secretary, who worked hard to make sure everything ran smoothly.”

BOOK NEWS

Kathryn Edney (Regis College) published Teaching History with Musicals (Rowan & Littlefield, 2017).


Michael E. Neagle (University of Connecticut) published America’s Forgotten Colony: Cuba’s Isle of Pines (Cambridge University Press, 2016).


CONFERENCES OF REGIONAL INTEREST

The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic will hold its annual meeting in Cleveland, OH, on July 18-22, 2018.

The New England American Studies Association (NEASA) has yet to post the date of its next annual meeting.

The Italian American Studies Association (IASA) will hold its annual conference in Washington, DC, on November 2-4, 2017.

The New England regional meeting of the American Conference for Irish Studies will be held at Husson University in Bangor, ME, on Oct. 13-14, 2017.

The Berkshire Conference on the History of Women (aka the “Big Berks” conference) will be held in 2020 in Baltimore, MD (exact date TBA).

The Massachusetts Historical Society (1154 Boylston St., Boston) invites people to attend its seminars: Boston Area Early American History Seminar, Boston Environmental History Seminar, Boston Immigration and Urban History Seminar, Boston Seminar on the History of Women and Gender, and New England Biography Seminar. For more information about the conference or the seminars, contact Kate Viens, Research Coordinator: 617-646-0568, or seminars@masshist.org
The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife has yet to post the date of its next meeting.

The New England Regional World History Association (NERWHA) will hold a symposium at Salem State Univ. on Nov. 4, 2017. The topic of the symposium will be “Tolerance and Intolerance in World History.”

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) will hold its annual conference on October 27-28, at U-Mass, Amherst.

AUTHORS WANTED

The Historical Journal of Massachusetts (HJM) seeks articles about any aspect of Massachusetts history, culture, politics, and life. HJM is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year since 1972. We are especially interested in articles on the history of recent immigrant communities. Subscriptions are $12.00 per year, and the acceptance rate is 35%. For submission guidelines see www.wsc.mass.edu/mhj/ or email masshistoryjournal@westfield.ma.edu

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

The International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science (IJLASS), a newly established, open access, peer-reviewed journal, seeks all manner of contributions, including articles about history. Send your manuscripts to the editor at editor@ijlass.org, or editor.ijlass@hotmail.com.

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) offers its annual Peter C. Rollins Book Award for the best book on any American culture or popular culture topic published in 2017 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 1, 2018. The award certificate and $200 prize will be presented to the winner in October 2017 at the annual NEPCA conference. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary, Robert E. Weir, NEPCA, 15 Woods Road, Florence, MA 01062; robweir7@gmail.com

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

The New England Quarterly editors invite submissions for their consideration. This historical review of New England life and letters has been published since 1928. The journal’s mission remains the same as that set forth by its founders: NEQ is an open forum dedicated to the exploration and discussion of New England civilization and its effects on the nation and the world. The journal is open to any historical method, and there is no restriction on the time period covered. Features also include brief memoranda, recently discovered documents, reconsiderations of historical controversies, periodic essay reviews, and approximately fifteen book reviews per issue. Manuscripts should be sent to the editor, Jonathan Chu, at: jonathan.chu@umb.edu
All Things New England, an online publication focusing on life in New England, is looking for interesting stories from knowledgeable people pertaining to New England landmarks and historical places. Average articles range from 800-1200 words and are featured on the publication’s homepage. For more information contact Jessica Layne (allthingsnewengland@gmail.com) or consult the publication’s website: www.allthingsnewengland.com

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Massachusetts Historical Society is offering short-term and long-term research fellowships for the academic year 2018-19. The Society is a participant in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. For more information please visit the website, www.masshist.org/fellowships, or contact Kate Viens (fellowships@masshist.org, 617-646-0512.

The American Philosophical Society Library in Philadelphia offers competitive short-term fellowships supporting in-residence research in its renowned scholarly collections. Applicants who hold the Ph.D. or are advanced Ph.D. candidates or independent scholars may apply for the fellowships which have a monthly $2,000 stipend for 1-3 months. For applications see: www.amphilsoc.org/grants/resident.htm

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

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

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

Historic Deerfield in Deerfield, MA, invites college juniors and seniors to apply for its nine-week, fully-funded Summer Fellowship Program in History and Material Culture. The due date for applications is February 2018.

NEHA FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

The Association Fund was created many years ago to support some of the Association’s activities not related directly to the annual conference, newsletter, mailings or other routine expenses. It has supported the annual NEHA book award and the NEHA Prize, along with subsidizing graduate students presenting a paper, and defraying costs associated with our joint sessions at the AHA. This modest fund is supported by the generosity of our members. Please consider making a donation. Mail
your check (payable to NEHA) to our Executive Secretary, Martin Menke (mmenke@rivier.edu), 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.

BOOK REVIEWS


Richard Rubin went on a journey inspired by some very old people. In the early 2000’s, Rubin found a handful of World War I veterans, most well over 100, and wrote about their Great War experiences in his important book, The Last of the Doughboys: The Forgotten Generation and Their Forgotten War (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013). That book, a recounting of interviews with those survivors, is now followed by Back Over There (St. Martin’s Press, 2017), the story of Rubin’s travels around France in search of the American side of the “War to End All Wars.” For all its horrors, this book is an enjoyable read. Part history, part military treasure hunt, and part travelogue, Rubin takes the reader to the battlefields of France 100 years later to find the locations important to those Doughboys. In the process, he finds himself stumbling not only into trenches but into the paths of others addicted to the history and materiality of what he terms “14-18.”

The areas of France where most Doughboys fought, and died, has changed little since the war. Still mostly agricultural, the landscape clings to the scars of over four years of fighting. Rubin describes the search for the battlefields, which, unlike Civil War battlefields in the United States, have simply been swallowed up by a century of nature and farming. “Strolling around Gettysburg is like watching a documentary on television,” he noted. “Hiking around the Argonne is like travelling back in time.”

Rubin quickly learned over several trips that the French really don’t speak English but really do love Americans. He also discovered how difficult the terrain would have been for the “Sammies,” a term the French used because they couldn’t pronounce “Doughboy.” The German army spent four years digging-in after taking sections of Alsace and Lorraine, and their trenches and encampments still show the might of Germany’s technological savvy. Cement lined, with subterranean bunkers fitted with electricity and running water, the Germans were obviously in France to stay, and their fortifications litter the French countryside, angering farmers to this day.

The French lines, on the other hand, were mostly shallow trenches hand-dug into the French countryside. The French of 1914, Rubin found, refused to give this war permanence. Often only yards from the enemy, the Allied trenches quickly became pits of mud and places of death, but today they barely leave indentations. Rubin described the French mud as less like mud and more like wet clay, sticking to everything in ever-increasing layers and leaving marks akin to acid burns on his clothing – even after washing.

Today, the battlefields not only include man-made structures but the materials of death. The souvenir hunters, and there are many, often find bullets and shrapnel and even unexploded shells scattering the countryside. Rubin was stopped as he reached toward a mustard gas canister that, if breached, could cause as much deadly damage now as it did a century ago. His guide didn’t call the authorities – there are simply too many of these shells for the police to handle each individually. A can of orange spray paint appeared and the offending piece of decaying metal was given a florescent coating.

The fields, now full of wheat and cows, were then filled with death. The Meuse-Argonne offensive, fought in the waning months of the war, was literally the deadliest battle ever fought by Americans, the death toll far exceeding Gettysburg or even the Battle of the Bulge, fought almost 30 years later in roughly the same area. Yet that fact has been lost in this country. American schools miss the importance of the Argonne battle, and the overwhelming fact that nearly 120,000 Americans lost their lives in barely a year of fighting in France.

That’s our shame. That, and the fact that after the war, American military units built dozens of monuments to their dead all over France, believing families and countrymen
would come on pilgrimages to the area to try to make sense of the carnage. Rubin’s description of the shock of seeing the skull of an unnamed poilus balanced on a pile of bones inside the cloister at L’Ossuaire, bring the horror of this war home, for Rubin and for the reader. The French live with this war today – human remains surface with amazing regularity and many bodies, even back then, were never identified. But Back Over There was still a joy to read, for its lighthearted moments and its easy history of a very hard war.

Linda Hixon
Worcester State University


As of 2012, over 36 million Americans (17.2%) self-identify as Baptist (248). Baptists in America seeks to show how and why this large and influential religious tradition “transformed numerically from a beleaguered minority into a Protestant behemoth” (x). The book’s focus is solely on U.S. Baptists (1645–2015), in contrast to other recent works that cover the global history of the Baptist faith (e.g., Nettles 2007–09, Bebbington 2010, Chute, Finn, and Haykin 2015).

Both Kidd and Hankins are history professors at Baylor University, one of the largest and oldest (1845) Baptist universities in the world. Its motto is Pro Ecclesia, Pro Texana (For Church, For Texas). With a specialty in eighteenth-century North America, particularly evangelicalism, Kidd has authored nine other books. Uneasy in Babylon: Southern Baptist Conservatives and American Culture is one of his works. Though Baptist themselves and evangelical, the co-authors do not believe they have “a theological or political axe to grind in this book.” They “value the Baptist tradition a great deal, while acknowledging its many failures” (xi).

Kidd and Hankins seek “to tell the story of Baptist growth and battles” (x) by chronicling key Baptist events and figures, showing how “ultimate religious outsiders” turned into “religious and cultural insiders” (ix). With a seventeen-page average, the fourteen chapters are evenly distributed. Four chapters each are devoted to colonial times and the twentieth century, and five to the nineteenth century. The last chapter serves as the conclusion and is followed by the endnotes (36 pages), an extensive bibliography (20), and index (21). A preface and acknowledgments sections begin the volume, which includes nine archival images within its 352 pages.

The veteran authors are to be commended for their usual thorough research, succinctness, clarity, fair-mindedness, and humble and honest assessments. I was particularly struck by their following statements: “Baptists still carry in their spiritual DNA a fierce outsider resistance” (252), they have an “embattled mentality” (x), and they have a “penchant for theological feuding” (23). Writing about Baptists is difficult, since “Baptists have been unified on very little throughout their history” and they “rarely agree among themselves about what makes them distinct” (248–49). Nevertheless, Kidd and Hankins create order out of chaos, focusing on universalizing tendencies among Baptists such as liberty of conscience, separation of church and state, believers/credo baptism, autonomy of the local church, and doctrinal orthodoxy. Because the Bible has been “supremely important” (250) throughout Baptist history and as confirmed by the many baptistic creeds and confessions, it would have been helpful if an entire chapter was devoted to the topic.

Baptists in America is ideal for those outside of the Baptist tradition who want to learn about the influential American Protestant denomination “notorious for two things—evangelism and schism” (251). Of course, U.S. Baptists who are unaware of their own heritage—including the fact that Reformed Calvinism once dominated baptistic theology (cf. today’s Calvinistic Baptist resurgence)—will find much value in Kidd and Hankins’s accessible history. From reading chapters on revival (First and Second Great Awakenings), slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Southern Baptist Convention (est. 1845), people interested in these specific topics from a historical Baptist perspective will find Baptists in America a helpful resource. Highly recommended.

Francis Kyle
Louisville, Kentucky
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2016-2017  Don Wyatt, Middlebury College
2017-2018  Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University
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American Historical Association
2018 * Washington, DC * 4-7 January
2019 * Chicago * 3-6 January

Organization of American Historians
2018 * Sacramento, CA * 12-15 April
2019 * Philadelphia * 4-7 April

American Studies Association
2017 * Chicago * 9-12 November
2018 * Atlanta * 8-11 November

American Conference for Irish Studies
2018 * Cork, Ireland * 18-22 June

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association
2018 * Indianapolis * March 25-April 1

Oral History Association
2018 * Montreal * 10-14 October

Economic History Association
2017 * San Jose, CA * 15-17 September

National Council on Public History
2018 * Los Vegas * 21-24 March

North American Conference on British Studies
2017 * Denver * 3-5 November

Italian American Studies Association
2017 * Washington, DC * 2-4 November

Social Science History Association
2017 * Montreal * 2-5 November

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic
2018 * Cleveland * 18-22 July

World History Association
2018 * Milwaukee * 21-23 June

African Studies Association
2017 * Chicago * 16-18 November

American Society for Environmental History
2018 * Riverside, CA * 14-18 March

National Women’s Studies Association
2017 * Baltimore * 16-19 November
NEHA FALL CONFERENCE
EASTERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 28, 2017
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT

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Please do not mail after October 10. Registration will be available at the conference. Use this form to pay your 2017 annual dues, even if you do not attend the Fall meeting. NEHA does not bill for dues. Membership expiration date is noted next to the letters "ex" on your mailing label. Membership is for the calendar year. Note on this form on which committee you would like to serve.

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

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

Make checks payable to NEHA in US funds and return by October 10 to:

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

Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are $30.00, or $15.00 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.
NEHA News is the newsletter of the New England Historical Association, published twice a year and mailed to members and subscribers in April and October. Please address all correspondence to the Executive Secretary.