

# NEHA NEWS

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

VOL XXVIII NO. 2

FALL ISSUE

OCTOBER 2002

## FALL CONFERENCE AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Saturday, October 19, 2002  
SECOND CALL

The 69th meeting of the Association will be held on October 19 at Rhode Island College in Providence (401-456-8000). The program is listed on pages 3-4 of this issue and was mailed earlier to all members in September along with registration, motel and travel instructions.

Vice-President **Paul Monod** (Middlebury College) arranged this splendid program. **Joanne Schneider** at Rhode Island College made local arrangements with the expert assistance of Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**. This is the Association's third meeting at Rhode Island College and we are very grateful for the hospitable efforts on our behalf. Please see our web page for other details:

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

The Fall conference begins with registration on Saturday at 8:00 A.M. in Gaige Hall. 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. *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 4 is strongly recommended, but registration at the conference is possible. Please feel free to photocopy the conference registration form on the back page when inviting colleagues, graduate students and friends.

Luncheon will be served in the Faculty Center on Saturday at 12:00, but seating is limited. Please purchase your lunch ticket when you register by mail no later than October 4. Even if you do not join us in Providence, please use this form to pay your annual membership dues. The annual election of Association officers will be conducted at lunch following a brief business meeting, and presentation of our annual NEHA Book Award.

### OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

Providence is an attractive and popular destination in the Fall and demand for room reservations may be high. The Association suggests that members make motel reservations early. Call the Holiday Inn, Downtown (401-831-3900), the Providence Marriott (401-272-2400) or the Courtyard Downtown (401-272-1191).



### TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Driving from I-95 Northbound:** take Exit 21 (Broadway exit), turn left at second traffic light (Atwells Avenue). Follow Atwells Avenue for 1.5 miles to Mount Pleasant Avenue and turn right. The campus entrance is 1.1 miles ahead on the left.

**Driving from I-95 Southbound:** take Exit 21, turn right onto Atwells Avenue and go 1.5 miles to Mount Pleasant Avenue and turn right. The campus is 1.1 miles ahead on the left.

**Driving from 295 Northbound:** take Exit 5 to US Route 6 East. Follow Rt. 6 to the Killingly Street (RI Route 128) exit. Turn left off exit and follow Killingly Street to the end. Turn right onto Greenville Avenue and follow to the first traffic light, bear right at the fork. Campus entrance is 0.2 miles ahead on the right.

**Driving from 295 Southbound:** take Exit 7 to US Route 44 East and follow Rt. 6 to the Killingly Street exit. Turn left off exit to the Killingly Street end. Turn right onto Greenville Avenue to the first traffic light. Turn left at the light and bear right at the

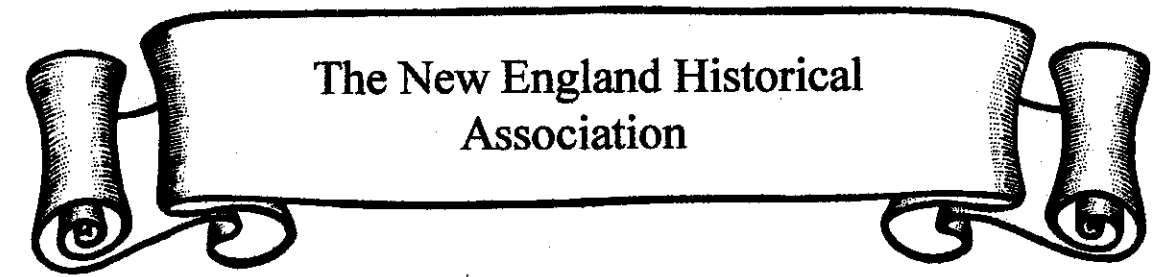
fork. Campus entrance is 0.2 miles ahead on the right.

**Parking** on the RIC campus is available in lots marked with the familiar NEHA signs leading to the Gaige Hall. Public transportation is the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority by bus from Kennedy Plaza and Francis Street in downtown Providence to the campus.



### ADVANCE NOTICE

The Spring meeting will be held at **Bentley College** in Waltham, Massachusetts on April 26, 2003. Vice-President **Paul Monod** will organize the program. The deadline for submitting proposals (one-page abstract and a brief c.v.) is January 15, 2003. For information about the program or submissions contact **Paul Monod**, Middlebury College, Department of History, Middlebury, VT 05753; [monod@jaguar.middlebury.edu](mailto:monod@jaguar.middlebury.edu)



## The New England Historical Association

### FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 19, 2002**

**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

All sessions will be held in Gaige Hall on the campus of Rhode Island College.

**8:00-8:30 REGISTRATION — Gaige Hall Foyer**

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

- 8:30 Session 1: Restoring the Roman Past: Modern Methods and Ancient History**  
 Chair and Commentator: Jacqueline Carlton, Tufts University  
 Joseph DiLuzio, Boston University: "Historiography Meets Archaeology: Evidence for Etruscan Rule in Rome."  
 Zsuzsanna Varhelyi, Boston University: "Roman Prosopography and Microhistory: Convergences and Divergences."  
 Diana Delia, Rhode Island College: "What Lies Beneath: New Approaches to Understanding the Topography and Urban Development of Alexandria in Egypt."
- 8:30 Session 2: Puritans and Others in Colonial New England**  
 Chair: Ronald Dufour, Rhode Island College  
 Commentator: Joseph Conforti, University of Southern Maine  
 Marsha L. Hamilton, SUNY Stony Brook: "'Alternative' Communities in Seventeenth-Century Massachusetts."  
 James L. Walsh, New England College: "Andrew Eliot of North Church, Boston."  
 Annie Parker, University of Iowa: "Sin, Redemption, and Anxiety: John Eliot's Mission to the Indians."
- 8:30 Session 3: Trade and American Expansionism from the Revolution to 1850**  
 Chair and Commentator: Clifford Putney, Bentley College  
 Jennifer Fish Kashay, California State University, San Bernardino: "Western Traders in Hawaii, 1778-1830: Access to Wealth, Status and Power."  
 Paul Burlin, University of New England: "Tragedy All Around: Ladd and Company in Hawaii."  
 Jeffrey Fortin, University of New Hampshire: "When Maine had a Foreign Policy: The Northeastern Boundary Dispute and the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842."
- 8:30 Session 4: Presidential Politics and Policies in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**  
 Chair: Steven Corvi, Northeastern University

Commentator: Donald Harpster, College of Saint Joseph  
Hans P. Vought, SUNY Ulster: "Maintaining Prosperity and the Melting Pot: Calvin Coolidge and National Origins."  
Travis Jacobs, Middlebury College, "Eisenhower, Columbia University and Politics."  
Philip Goduti, Quinnipiac University: "Kennedy and Kruschew: Communicating through the Storm of Berlin."

**Morning Break, 10:00-10:30: Coffee and Book Exhibit**

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

**10:30 Session 5: New Perspectives on Slavery and Anti-Slavery in the Antebellum U.S.**

Chair and Commentator: Melanie S. Gustafson, University of Vermont.  
Matthew H. Crocker, Keene State College: "The Diplomacy of Slavery: Southern Expansionism in the Early Republic."  
Mark Voss-Hubbard, Eastern Illinois University: "The Antislavery Rank and File: Race, Class and Politics in Jacksonian Massachusetts."  
Bruce Laurie, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: "Paternalism and Racism in Antebellum Politics: The Massachusetts Case."

**10:30 Session 6: Law and Society in the Progressive Era**

Commentator and Chair: Michael Willrich, Brandeis University  
William J. Nancarrow, Boston College: "Mrs. Matilda M. Cheesebrough, 'Woman Smuggler': Law and Order Discourse in Progressive Era Criticism of the Judiciary."  
Kyle G. Volk, University of Chicago, "The Reformation of Sunday Law: Labor and the Positive State in Late 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Massachusetts."  
Hal Goldman, University of Illinois at Springfield, "Speculum Raiders in the Green Mountain State: Doctors, Sex, Gender and Law in Vermont, 1813-1920."

**10:30 Session 7: Religion, Education and Nationalism in German-Speaking Europe**

Chair: Joanne Schneider, Rhode Island College  
Commentator: Noel Cary, College of the Holy Cross  
Carla Lovett, Boston University: "'Six Days You Shall Labor': Priest and Parish in Working Class Vienna, 1875-1914."  
Martin Menke, Rivier College: "Thy Will Be Done: Nationalism and Catholicism in Germany, 1918-1945."  
Charles Lansing, Yale University: "German Teachers and the Creation of the German Democratic Republic."

**10:30 Session 8: Responses to Discrimination in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century America**

Commentator and Chair: Eileen Eagan, University of Southern Maine  
Bobby Marlin, University of Houston: "The Texas Death Penalty and Hispanics: Two 1935 Cases."  
Jane Lancaster, Brown University: "Disability and the Feminine Mystique: The Case of the Handicapped Homemakers."  
Teresa Thomas, Fitchburg State College: "The Women's Action Organization and the Advancement of Women in the U.S. Department of State in the 1970s: Moderation or Militancy?"

**12:00 - 12:30: Wine & Cheese Reception**

**12:30 - 1:30: Luncheon and Business Meeting --- Faculty Center, adjacent to Donovan Dining Center**  
**Presentation of the 2002 NEHA Book Award**

**1:30 - 3:00 Afternoon Session:**

**1:30: Session 9: Narratives of Marital Conflict in Early America**

Chair and Commentator: Lisa Wilson, Connecticut College  
Candace Kanes, Maine College of Art: "Advertising Marital Discord: New Hampshire, 1756-1772."  
Elizabeth De Wolfe, University of New England: "Marital Conflict, Print Culture, and the Court of Public Opinion."  
Mary Beth Sievens, SUNY Fredonia, "The Injustice of a Decree: Patriarchy, Masculinity, and Divorce in Nineteenth-Century America."

**1:30: Session 10: Anti-Catholicism in America**

Chair: Peter Holloran, Worcester State College  
Commentator: James Ralph, Middlebury College  
Martin J. Burke, CUNY: "Remembering 1641: Irish History and Anti-Popery in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century America."  
Nancy Schulz, Salem State College: "Pamphlet Wars and the Capital Miracle: Catholic and Protestant Responses to Miracle Cures in Washington, D.C., circa 1824."  
Kevin James Houk, Drew University: "'Can Catholicism Win America?' Liberal Protestantism in Defense of Democracy, 1944-'54."

**1:30 Session 11: State, Society and Education: A World Perspective, 1880-1970**

Chair and Commentator: Bruce C. Meyer, Salem State College  
Antonio Espinoza, Columbia University: "From Positivism to Indigenismo: Primary Instruction in Lima, Peru, 1884-1930."  
Yinghong Cheng, Salem State College, and Patrick Manning, Northeastern University: "The Chinese and Cuban Educational Revolutions: A World History Perspective."  
Gayle V. Fischer, Salem State College: "Who Has the Authority? Students, the Courts, and Clothing in the United States."

**1:30 Session 12: Public History, Museums and Collecting in the U.S. and Germany**

Commentator and Chair: Jane Becker, Lowell National Historic Park  
Frank Clark, Lowell National Historical Park: "Public History and the Beginnings of the Industrial Revolution in America."  
S.J. Wolfe, American Antiquarian Society, and Robert Singerman, University of Florida, "'A Few More Egyptian Carcasses'-- Padihershef and the Beginnings of 'Mummy Mania' in America."  
David Marshall, University of California, Riverside: "The Museum for German History, 1952-1970."

**3:00 Adjournment**

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**Bruce Cohen** (Worcester State College), chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the following candidates were elected on April 20:

President **James O'Toole**  
(Boston College)  
Vice-President **Paul Monod**  
(Middlebury College)  
Secretary **Peter Holloran**  
(Worcester State College)

Executive Committee:

**Altina Waller**  
(University of Connecticut)  
**Robert Weir**  
(Bay Path College)

Nominating Committee:

**David Balfour**  
(St. Joseph's College)  
**S. J. Wolfe**  
(American Antiquarian Society)

We congratulate those candidates elected and thank those members who stood for election and all those who made nominations. Any member may nominate himself or herself or another member for election to any Association office by writing to the Executive Secretary. All dues-paying members are eligible to vote in person at the annual business meeting in April. Self-nominations are encouraged. Write-in candidates are permitted for any position on the slate.

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee will hold its

annual meeting in Worcester on December 7. The agenda includes reports on the treasury, membership, Nominating Committee, selection of future meeting sites, programs, website, newsletter, NEHA Book Award, NEHA Prize, planning the Spring conference, as well as NEHA panels at the AHA and OAH. Association members may submit a question or agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting on October 19 by writing to the Executive Secretary.



## THE NEHA PRIZE

On April 26 we will award the 2003 NEHA Prize for the most outstanding paper presented at the Fall or Spring 2002 conferences.

Each session chair may nominate one paper for this prize and a committee of three members appointed by the president will judge all nominations. The criteria are scholarship, presentation and originality. The prize is intended to encourage and recognize outstanding research papers by more graduate students at our conferences. Session chairs are invited to recommend papers presented by a graduate student at the Spring or Fall meetings. For details, contact the Executive Secretary: **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609; [jphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu).

## NEHA BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE

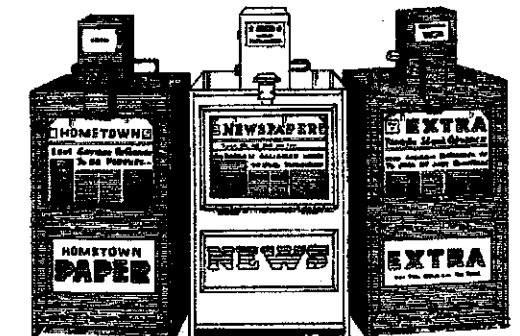
**Joanne Schneider** (Rhode Island College), the Book Award Committee chair, will present the 2002 NEHA Book Award on October 19 to the winner. Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan**, WPI, Department of Humanities, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280 or email him at [jphanlan@wpi.edu](mailto:jphanlan@wpi.edu) by June 1, 2003. Monographs on any historical time, topic or place published in 2002, 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 to be presented at the October 2002 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 is presented to the winner at the conference each Fall.

The members of the NEHA Book Award Committee for 2001 are **Joanne Schneider**, chair (Rhode Island College); **Joseph McCarthy** (Suffolk University); **Dona Brown** (University of Vermont); **Jack Resch** (University of New Hampshire-Manchester); and **Peter Holloran** (Worcester State College).

## CONFERENCE REPORT

The 68th meeting of the Association at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay on April 20 was well attended with 85 historians registered for 11 sessions with 30 papers. The plenary session on *Beyond the Hype: Technology and History* was also well attended. At the luncheon on campus 72 members joined us for food, drink and the business meeting.

This meeting was made possible by the splendid efforts on our behalf by the program chair, Vice-President **James O'Toole** (Boston College), Executive Secretary **James P. Hanlan** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), and a very cooperative local arrangements committee headed by **Ron Smith** and **Christopher Hannan** from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy History Department. The conference concluded with a delightful cruise on Cape Cod Canal aboard the MMA training ship, *Ranger* for 54 NEHA members and 6 stowaway tourists.



## NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

**Richard D. Brown** (University of Connecticut) was elected president of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR).

**Charles H. Capper** (Boston University) received a National Humanities Center fellowship to study *The Transcendental Movement: Romantic Intellect and America's Democratic Awakening*.

**Bernard P. Fishman** was appointed the new Executive Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society in April.

**Peter C. Holloran** (Worcester State

College) was appointed Book Review Editor of the *Journal of Popular Culture*.

**Dietrich Orlow** (Boston University) has retired as Professor of Modern European History.

**Jonathan Zatlin** (MIT) was appointed assistant professor of History at Boston University.



#### BOOK NEWS

**David W. Blight** (Amherst College) published *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Harvard University Press) which won the OAH's Merle Curti Award.

**Cecelia Bucki** (Fairfield University) published *Bridgeport's Socialist New Deal, 1915-36* (University of Illinois Press).

**Fredric L. Cheyette** (Amherst College) published *Ermengard of Narbonne and the World of the Troubadours* (Cornell University Press), which won the David Pinkney Award for the Outstanding Book in French History by the Society for French Historical Studies.

**Joseph A. Conforti** (University of Southern Maine) published *Imagining New England: Explorations of Regional Identity from the Pilgrims to the Mid-Twentieth*

*Century* (University of North Carolina Press), which won the 2002 Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association annual book award.

**Gary Edgerton** (Old Dominion University) and **Peter C. Rollins** (Oklahoma State University) published *Television Histories* (University Press of Kentucky) which won the 2001 Ray and Pat Browne Award for the best book on American culture.

**J. William Harris** (University of New Hampshire) published *Deep Souths: Delta, Piedmont and Sea Island Society in the Age of Segregation* (Johns Hopkins University Press) which won the OAH's James A. Rawley Prize.

**Anthony W. Lee** (Mount Holyoke College) won the Smithsonian American Art Museum's 2002 Charles C. Eldredge Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in American Art for *Picturing Chinatown: Art and Orientalism in San Francisco* (University of California Press).

**Leonard L. Richards** (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) published *Shays's Rebellion: The American Revolution's Final Battle* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

**Nicholas E. Tawa** (University of Massachusetts-Boston) published *From Psalm to Symphony: A History of Music in New England* (Northeastern University Press).

**Denise J. Youngblood** (University of Vermont) published *The Magic Mirror: Moviemaking in Russia, 1909-1918* (University of Wisconsin Press).

#### CONFERENCES MEETING

The **American Society for Environmental History** annual meeting will be held in Providence on March 26-30, 2003 on the theme *Frontiers in Environmental History: Mainstreaming the Marginal*. Contact Ravi Rajan, ASEH Program Chair, Department of Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; [srrajan@cats.ucsc.edu](mailto:srrajan@cats.ucsc.edu) or see the website: [www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ/asehform1.pdf](http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ/asehform1.pdf)

The **Society of Early Americanists** holds its third biennial meeting in Providence on April 10-12, 2003 on the theme *Communication in Early America: Beyond Anglophone Print Culture*. Contact Philip Gould, Department of English, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912, or email Mary Helen McMurrin: [mmcmurra@chicago.edu](mailto:mmcmurra@chicago.edu)

The **Social Science History Association** holds its 27<sup>th</sup> annual conference in St. Louis on October 24-27 on the theme *International Perspectives on Social Science History: Thinking Globally, Researching Locally, Working Cooperatively*. Contact Ellen Dwyer, Department of History, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

The **New England American Studies Association** (NEASA) holds its annual conference in Hartford at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House on April 25-27, 2003 on the theme *Religion in America*. For information contact Lisa MacFarlane, University of New Hampshire, Department of English, Durham, NH 03824; [lwm@cisunix.unh.edu](mailto:lwm@cisunix.unh.edu)

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) invites

scholars interested in pop culture or American culture to attend its 25<sup>th</sup> annual conference at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, NH on November 8-9, 2002. For information contact the program chair, Margaret Wiley, Colby-Sawyer College, New London, NH 03257; [mwiley@colby-sawyer.edu](mailto:mwiley@colby-sawyer.edu) or see the NEPCA website: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html](http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html)

The **Film and History League** holds its second national conference in Kansas City on November 7-10, 2002. The conference theme is *The American West(s) in Film, TV, and History*. Contact the Film and History League, RR 3, Box 80, Cleveland, OK 74020; phone: (918) 243-7742; fax: (312) 577-0742; email: [FlmHisLeag@aol.com](mailto:FlmHisLeag@aol.com); or see the web site: [www.FilmandHistory.org](http://www.FilmandHistory.org)

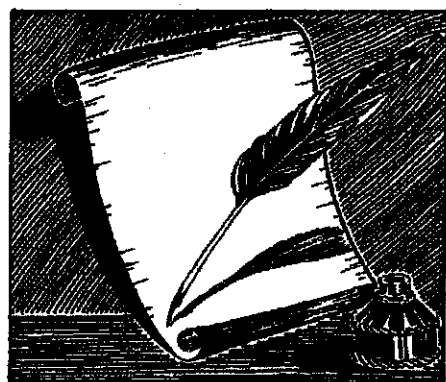
**Historic Deerfield** will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2002 and the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Deerfield Massacre of 1704 with a major conference, lecture series, publications, special events and tours in Deerfield, Massachusetts from 2002 to 2004. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the executive director, Donald R. Friary at (413) 775-7166 or by email: [dfriary@historic-deerfield.org](mailto:dfriary@historic-deerfield.org)

#### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Andrew Bunie  
Boston College

David Cameron

Adam Hogue  
University of Massachusetts  
Lowell



### CONFERENCE CALLS FOR PAPERS

The Historical Society holds its national conference at Boothbay Harbor, Maine on June 3-6, 2004 on the theme *Reflections on the Current State of Historical Inquiry*. Proposals may be submitted by December 31 to The Historical Society, 2004 Conference, 656 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215-2010; (617) 358-0260. For more information see the website: [www.bu.edu/historic](http://www.bu.edu/historic).

The African American Studies Program at Boston University invites proposals for its second annual international conference on April 11-13, 2003. The theme will be *Blacks and Asians in the Making of the Modern World: A Conversation Across Fields*. Send your 250-word abstract and CV to Ronald K. Richardson, African American Studies, Boston University, 138 Mountfort Street, Brookline, MA 02446 by October 15, 2002 or email proposals to [lokenkim@bu.edu](mailto:lokenkim@bu.edu)

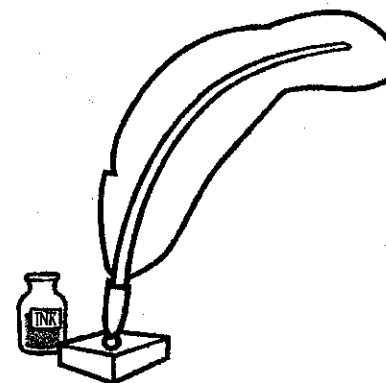
The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) holds its 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference at Worcester State College in Worcester, Massachusetts on October 31-November 1, 2003. Proposed papers or presentations on any pop culture or American culture topics may be submitted (one page abstract & brief CV) by July 1,

2003. Contact the NEPCA program chair, Peter Holloran, Worcester State College, Department of History, Worcester, MA 01602; [pch@world.std.com](mailto:pch@world.std.com) or see the NEPCA website: [www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html](http://www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEPCA.html)

The 2003 National Popular Culture/American Culture Association meeting will be on April 16-19 in New Orleans. For information about the program contact Mike Schoenecke, PCA/ACA Secretary-Treasurer, Department of English, Box 43901, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-3091; [MKschoene@aol.com](mailto:MKschoene@aol.com)

SHEAR, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, holds its 25<sup>th</sup> annual meeting at Ohio State University in Columbus on July 17-20, 2003 on the theme *Re-Constituting New Societies*. Proposed papers may be submitted by December 1 to Jeff Pasley, Department of History, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211; [PasleyJ@Missouri.edu](mailto:PasleyJ@Missouri.edu) or see the website: [www.sla.purdue.edu/jer/#Conference](http://www.sla.purdue.edu/jer/#Conference).

The Chesapeake American Studies Association (CHASA) holds its third annual conference at the University of Maryland in College Park on April 4-6, 2003 on the theme *Bridging the Divide: American Studies in Theory and Practice*. Proposals may be submitted by November 25, see the CHASA website for details: <http://amst.umd.edu/chasa>.



### AUTHORS WANTED

The World History Association invites nominations for its annual book award. Books nominated should be first-rate studies of history from a global or trans-regional perspective and make a significant contribution to the field of world history. Contact David Chappell, WHA Book Award Committee, Department of History, University of Hawaii, 2530 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822-2383; email: [dchappel@hawaii.edu](mailto:dchappel@hawaii.edu)

The Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association (NEPCA) offers its annual book award for the best book on any American culture or pop culture topic published in 2002 by an author in New England or New York. Publishers may nominate one book by June 15, 2003. The award certificate and \$200 prize will be presented to the winner on November 1, 2003 at annual Northeast PCA/ACA conference at Worcester State College. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary: Peter Holloran, Worcester State College, History Department, Worcester, MA 01602; [pch@world.std.com](mailto:pch@world.std.com)

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History offers the Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. Award and the Betty M.

Linsley Award or the best works on that state's history. Contact Patricia Thevenet, 88 B North Shore Road, Voluntown, CT 06384.

The New England Journal of History seeks submissions. For information contact Joseph Harrington, 119 Holmes Avenue, Stoughton, MA 02072; (781) 344-6788; [cacgl@aol.com](mailto:cacgl@aol.com)

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### GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The American Academy in Rome announces its 2003 Rome Prize competition. Each year 12 Rome Prizes are awarded in the fields of Ancient Studies, Medieval Studies, Renaissance and Early Modern Studies and Modern Italian Studies. The winners reside at the American Academy center in Rome with pre-doctoral (\$15,000) and post-doctoral (\$20,000) stipends for one or two years. Contact American Academy in Rome, 7 East 60<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022, phone: (212) 751-7200 or email: [info@aarome.org](mailto:info@aarome.org) or see the website: [www.aarome.org](http://www.aarome.org) by November 1.

The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute offers grants (up to \$2,500) in support of research at the FDR Presidential Library. Contact Chairman, Grants Committee, FERI, 4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538; [www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu)

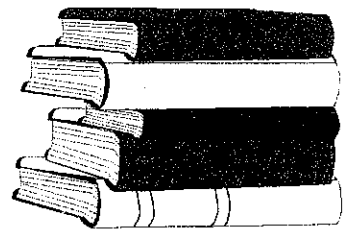
The Agricultural History Society offers the Gilbert C. Fite Dissertation Award to the author of the best dissertation on agricultural



history and the Everett E. Edwards Award to the graduate student who submits the best manuscript on any aspect of agricultural history or rural studies. The award includes a \$200 stipend and publication in *Agricultural History*. For more information contact Alexandra Kindell, Agricultural History editor at (515) 294-1596 or email [aghist@iastate.edu](mailto:aghist@iastate.edu)

The John Nicholas Brown Center for the Study of American Civilization at Brown University offers research fellowships supporting research and writing in American topics. The areas of specialization include history, literature, religion, history of art and architecture, material culture, music, historic preservation and urban planning. Preference is given to those working with Rhode Island materials or New England resources. Fellowships pay a monthly allowance (\$2,500.00) for one to six months with office space, housing and free access to the library. For application information contact Joyce M. Botelho, Director, John Nicholas Brown Center, Box 1880, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912; (401) 272-0357; [Joyce\\_Botelho@Brown.edu](mailto:Joyce_Botelho@Brown.edu).

## BOOK REVIEWS



*Imagining New England: Explorations of Regional Identity from the Pilgrims to the Mid-Twentieth Century.* By Joseph A. Conforti. Chapel Hill: University of

North Carolina Press, 2001.

*Writing New England: An Anthology from the Puritans to the Present.* Edited by Andrew Delbanco. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

These two works, published almost simultaneously, invite comparison and contrast. Although Joseph Conforti's *Imagining New England* is a scholarly monograph designed for an academic audience and Andrew Delbanco's *Writing New England* is an anthology for the general reader, they deal with a common subject and confront similar problems.

In *Writing New England* Delbanco has assembled poetry, letters, memoirs, fiction, and non-fiction by, for, about, and representative of New England and New Englanders. Its seventy-nine selections are divided into eight sections and range from John Winthrop's "A Model of Christian Charity" (1630) to poet Richard Wilbur's reflection on his own mortality in "Mayflies" (1998). Some like Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Nature" are familiar. Well-known writers are represented with less-well known pieces, such as John Updike's "Plumbing." A few selections, like William Apess' 1836 eulogy of King Philip, are well-chosen pieces of unheralded authors. The longest is sixteen pages drawn from Thoreau's *The Maine Woods*; most are considerably shorter. Each of Delbanco's choices, whether reprinted in its entirety or carefully excerpted from a larger work, is a literary gem. *Writing New England* should be found in every Cape Cod cottage and Vermont ski cabin.

Joseph Conforti's *Imagining New England* is both more focused and more expansive. With the goal of analyzing "how regional identity was both created and culturally transmitted" (p. 8), Conforti provides a limited number of "explorations" into attempts to both imagine and shape New England. These range from Puritan efforts to establish a "new" England to the portrayal of the region in the pages of *Yankee* magazine and the poetry of Robert Frost. The effort to "imagine" New England includes verbal expressions of New England's superiority by pre-revolutionary patriots, post-independence geographers like Jedidiah Morse and Timothy Dwight, and anti-slavery advocates like Harriet Beecher Stowe. Some of Conforti's most insightful chapters, however, deal with the visual reification of the concept of New England in John Barber's engravings of New England town greens from the 1830s and the post-Civil War colonial revival in Old York, Maine.

Both of these works are pleasures to read and representative of the high level of scholarship that we have come to expect from their authors. Different though their books are, Delbanco and Conforti confront similar problems of definition and selection. The first problem is to define "New England." Is it defined by geography, ethnicity, history, or culture? For Delbanco, "there does exist something that may be called . . . the 'New England Mind'" (p. ix). The ingredients of this mind include "a soaring aspiration" combined with a "self-criticism of the most stringent kind" (p. xxiv) that constitutes "the hallmark of what Henry James called 'the New England conscience'" (p. xxvi). To Conforti, like Delbanco, New England is "a cultural region" (p. 2), but Conforti's conception of

New England and the nature of regionalism is broader and more complex. This complexity in part stems from greater recognition of evolving nature of New England. While Delbanco seeks "to convey some sense of New England's continuities and coherences" (p. ix), Conforti "emphasizes . . . a continual process of invention and reinvention" (p. 5) as each generation renegotiates regional identity in the confrontation between visions of the past and present realities.

The role they accord Puritanism in defining New England both underscores this difference and reveals Conforti's and Delbanco's intellectual lineage. Delbanco's introduction is almost entirely an essay on the first settlers of New England and the moral seriousness that they deeded to their descendants, a moral seriousness that he hopes "might dissuade readers from believing that Americans possess no traditions opposed to the seemingly ineluctable triumph of marketplace values in our own time" (p. xxix). Delbanco's tinge of nostalgia contrasts with Conforti's recognition that while Puritanism "does loom as a tradition" it "was hardly the cultural juggernaut that typically undergirds interpretations of regional distinctiveness" (p. 4).

Having tried to capture the essence of New England, each scholar confronts problems of selection and organization not unlike those every historians or anthologist encounters. What should be included or excluded? What features are most representative of the phenomenon the scholar wishes to describe?

Conforti's selection challenge involves isolating a limited number of exemplars that convey the evolving image of New England over the past four hundred years. While

there is a tendency to read *Imagining New England* as a collection of such case studies, Conforti deftly weaves into his story familiar New England icons such as Plymouth Rock and the House of the Seven Gables leaving a clear, though not seamless, narrative of the evolving image of the region. Also, Conforti's recognition that the imagined New England is distinct from New England reality of factory towns and immigrant neighborhoods colors his choice of topics. Many of his examples almost seem caricatures of those who "fix New England's essence in some stable, pure, and imagined Puritan or Yankee past" (p. 315).

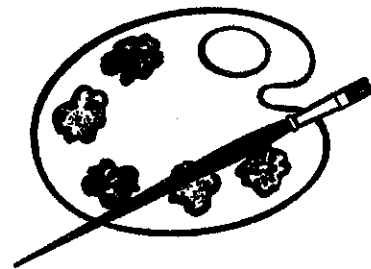
Given the larger number of works included in *Writing New England*, Delbanco would seem to have the easier task. But it is no easy task "to integrate the words of disparate writers into a new collaborative work that . . . has a coherence of its own" (p. 11). And Delbanco has performed the task admirably. Such coherence, however, comes at a cost. Delbanco's New England mind can easily be found in texts from the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Echoes can also be found in the writings of such descendants of the founding generation as Louisa May Alcott, J. P. Marquand, and Robert Lowell. The New England mind that has its roots in Puritanism also serves Delbanco well as an organizing principle. Selections are arranged chronologically in sections (e.g., "The Examined Self" and "Dissident Dreamers") that highlight facets of that legacy.

In shaping his anthology, however, Delbanco seems to fall victim to the weakness of the men and women who people *Imagining New England*, picturing some ideal New England that exists only in the mind. While acknowledging that "New Englanders have come to live in different and distinct regions

of cultural inheritance" (p. ix), the inclusion of such writings as *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Jonathan Kozol's *Death at an Early Age*, and Felix Frankfurter's article on Sacco and Vanzetti, seems dictated more by political correctness than connection to the larger theme. These last writings appear in the section entitled "Strangers in the Promised Land," which suggests a gulf separating them from the "real" New England. Defining New England in the way Delbanco does also gives greater emphasis to works by those from Boston and Massachusetts and from the "literate" classes. Are not the Connecticut Wits, Ethan Allen, and Maine midwife Martha Ballard New Englanders also?

These concerns aside, Delbanco and Conforti have provided us with carefully crafted works that show that the four hundred year old effort to define and create New England continues. Both of these works deserve a wide readership.

Robert J. Imholt  
Albertus Magnus College



*At Home in the Studio: The Professionalization of Women Artists in America.* Laura R. Prieto. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

In this fascinating cultural history, Laura Prieto demonstrates how American women artists negotiated gender prescriptions while

struggling to make a living and earn recognition as professionals. In a book that is both accessible to the general reader and a useful assignment in women's and art history courses, she shows how their strategies changed over time.

Professor Prieto, who teaches history and women's studies at Simmons College, dedicates her book to FMIS. Careful readers of the acknowledgments will learn the initials denote the Female Mutual Improvement Society, her dissertation group at Brown, in which this reviewer played a part. It is a most fitting dedication, as Prieto traces the rise and fall of women's networks, segregated training and professional organizations in the emergence of a cadre of successful women artists.

Prieto uses a variety of sources, including memoirs, novels, prescriptive literature, and the paintings and sculptures produced by the artists under review. She is astute at analyzing the gender implications of the art, but here lies the only problem with this book—the relative dearth of illustrations. The thirteen plates are well chosen and representative, but I longed for more of them.

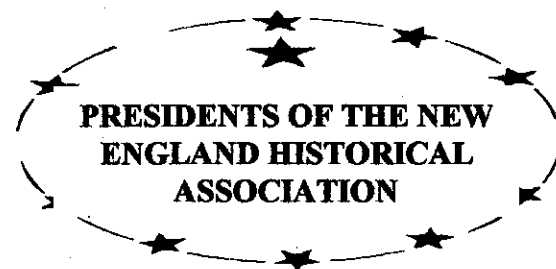
She begins in the 1820s when "artist" as opposed to artisan was becoming established, coinciding with the assumption that a true (read white, middle class) woman was pure, pious, domestic and submissive. Accordingly, women artists claimed their studios as domestic space, a notion that Prieto illustrates by interweaving biographical vignettes with more theoretical insights (her lengthy endnotes are particularly useful as an entrée into the literature.) Thus she gives immediacy to a discussion of how gender prescriptions were

simultaneously utilized and transgressed. Lilly Martin Spencer, for example, had a successful career as a genre painter, while her husband ran the home. Fanny Palmer, Currier & Ives' only female artist, portrayed manly pursuits like shooting and fishing, but as she spent much of her time as a copyist, this was construed as an acceptable activity. Sculptor Vinnie Ream, however, was almost too feminine, and critics suspected female wiles, or worse, sexual transgression, as the basis for her first commission. In mid century many women artists continued to turn gender restrictions to their advantage, while those who flouted conventional notions of respectability soon learned that commissions were hard to win, such as Louisa Lander who was snubbed by Nathaniel Hawthorne when her purity was in dispute.

Separate classes and separatist organizations emerged in mid-century, but the New Women of the 1890s tried (with varying success) to be seen as "just" artists. In the 1920s modernist painters rejected the female culture that had enabled women to become professional artists in the first place. Prieto clearly regrets this. She starts and ends her book with Georgia O'Keeffe, who indignantly told an interviewer in 1977 to "Write about women. Or write about artists. I don't see how they are connected." As Prieto elegantly demonstrates, gender and art are inextricably intertwined.

Jane Lancaster  
Brown University





1966-1967	Frank Friedel, Harvard University Reinhold Dorwart, University of Connecticut
1968-1969	Louis Morton, Dartmouth College
1969-1970	Daniel Thomas, University of Rhode Island
1970-1971	J. H. Hexter, Yale University
1971-1972	Helen Mulvey, Connecticut College
1972-1973	Sidney A. Burrell, Boston University
1973-1974	Kenneth F. Lewalski, Rhode Island College
1974-1975	John G. Gagliardo, Boston University
1975-1976	Jane Pease, University of Maine
1976-1977	Robert Lougee, University of Connecticut
1977-1978	Giles Constable, Harvard University
1978-1979	Gordon Jensen, University of Hartford
1979-1980	Neil Stout, University of Vermont
1980-1981	Fred A. Cazel, Jr., University of Connecticut
1981-1982	Darrett Rutman, University of New Hampshire
1982-1983	John Voll, University of New Hampshire
1983-1984	Emiliana P. Noether, University of Connecticut
1984-1985	Ronald P. Formisano, Clark University
1985-1986	Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr., Rhode Island College
1986-1987	Catherine M. Prelinger, Yale University
1987-1988	Paul A. Fideler, Lesley College
1988-1989	Roger Howell, Jr., Bowdoin College
1989-1990	Barbara Solow, Harvard University
1990-1991	Richard D. Brown, University of Connecticut
1991-1992	Alan J. Reinerman, Boston College
1992-1993	Richard Buel, Wesleyan University
1993-1994	Neal R. Shipley, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
1994-1995	Bruce M. Stave, University of Connecticut
1995-1996	Patricia Herlihy, Brown University
1996-1997	Roland Sarti, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
1997-1998	James S. Leamon, Bates College
1998-1999	Borden W. Painter, Jr., Trinity College
1999-2000	Alan Rogers, Boston College
2000-2001	Joanne Schneider, Rhode Island College
2001-2002	Joseph Conforti, University of Southern Maine

### PLAN AHEAD

#### American Historical Association

- 2003 \* Chicago \* 2-5 January
- 2004 \* Washington \* 8-11 January
- 2005 \* Seattle \* 6-9 January
- 2006 \* Philadelphia \* 5-8 January

#### Organization of American Historians

- 2003 \* Memphis \* 3-6 April
- 2004 \* Boston \* 25-28 March

#### American Studies Association

- 2002 \* Houston \* 14-17 November
- 2003 \* Hartford \* 16-19 October

#### Social Science History Association

- 2002 \* St. Louis \* 24-27 October
- 2003 \* Baltimore \* 13-16 November
- 2004 \* Chicago \* 18-21 November
- 2005 \* Portland \* 3-6 November
- 2006 \* Minneapolis \* 2-5 November

#### Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

- 2003 \* New Orleans \* 16-19 April
- 2004 \* San Antonio \* 7-10 April
- 2005 \* San Diego \* 23-26 March

#### Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association

- 2002 \* Colby-Sawyer College \* 8-9 November
- 2003 \* Worcester State College \* 31 October-1 November

#### Oral History Association

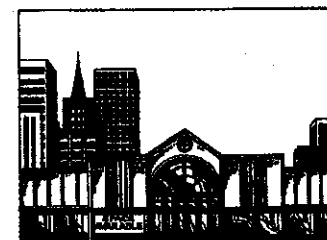
- 2002 \* San Diego \* 23-27 October
- 2002 \* South Africa \* 24-27 June

#### National Conference on Public History

- 2002 \* Washington, D.C. \* 11-14 April

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

- 2003 \* Columbus, OH \* 17-20 July



### PAST NEHA CONFERENCE SITES MEETINGS OF NEHA

1966	University of Connecticut
1967	Harvard University
1968	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
1969	Boston University
1970	University of Rhode Island
1971	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
	Yale University
1972	University of New Hampshire
	University of Hartford
1973	Bentley College
	Connecticut College
1974	Rhode Island College
	Clark University
1975	Pine Manor College
	University of Maine, Portland
1976	St. Joseph's College
	Exeter Academy
1977	Harvard University
	University of Connecticut
1978	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
	University of Lowell
1979	Boston College
	Colby-Sawyer College
1980	Old Sturbridge Village
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1981	Mount Ida College
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	University of New Hampshire
1983	Fitchburg State College
	Roger Williams College
1984	American Antiquarian Society
	Framingham State College
1985	Bowdoin College

1986	University of Connecticut
	American Antiquarian Society
	Boston College
1987	Historic Deerfield
	Albertus Magnus College
1988	Salem State College
	University of Hartford
1989	University of Lowell
	Smith College
1990	Pine Manor College
	St. Joseph's College
1991	American Antiquarian Society & Worcester Polytechnic Institute
	John F. Kennedy Library & University of Massachusetts-Boston
1992	Assumption College
	Rhode Island College
1993	University of Southern Maine
	John Carter Brown Library & Brown University
1994	Bentley College
	University of Hartford
1995	Mount Holyoke College
	Saint Anselm College
1996	Amherst College
	Roger Williams University
1997	Northeastern University
	University of Connecticut
1998	University of Vermont
	Connecticut College
1999	Rivier College
	Suffolk University
2000	Tufts University
	Stonehill College
2001	Salve Regina University
	Saint Michael's College
2002	Massachusetts Maritime Academy
	Rhode Island College

**NEHA FALL MEETING  
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**



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- Registration \$25.00 after Oct. 4 \$.....
- Luncheon \$15.00 per person \$.....
- 2002 dues \$15.00 \$.....
- 2002 dues \$5.00 (student, emeritus, adjunct) \$.....
- Association Fund donation \$.....
  
- Total (US. Funds) \$.....

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**NEHA NEWS**

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

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Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$20.00, or \$5.00 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.

**CALENDAR**



Fall Meeting  
 Rhode Island College  
 October 19, 2002

Spring Meeting  
 Bentley College  
 April 26, 2003

Fall Meeting  
 Holy Cross College  
 October 25, 2003

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