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ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

NCPH would like to congratulate the following NCPH institutional members for receiving awards from the American Association for State and Local History:

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Department of History for winning a Certificate of Merit for their Public History Program and the Japanese American National Museum for the special project “Life Interrupted: The Japanese American Experience in World War II.”

Indiana Historical Society for winning a Certificate of Commendation for the Indiana History Train.

Arizona Historical Society for winning a Certificate of Commendation for the Rio Nuevo Project.

Maine Historical Society for winning a Certificate of Commendation for the Maine Memory Network.

Ohio Historical Society for winning a Certificate of Commendation for the restoration of the Paul Laurence Dunbar House.

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NCPH Board Appoints Dichtl as New Executive Director

The Board of Directors of the National Council on Public History has appointed John R. Dichtl as the next Executive Director of NCPH. John comes to us from the Organization of American Historians, where he has worked since the early 1990s, most recently as Deputy Executive Director and Acting Executive Director. While at OAH, John advanced various programmatic initiatives and improved the organization's operations significantly. He worked productively on strategic planning initiatives, led development efforts, and handled a myriad of responsibilities ranging from staff management to marketing and outreach. John has developed wide-ranging networks of historians, teachers, and public history professionals over the years. John will begin his work at NCPH in January 2006.

This appointment is rooted in a long range planning process that the NCPH Board announced in the spring of 2004. The plan that emerged at that time proposed ambitious changes to NCPH, including a re-defined Executive Director position and new responsibilities for the board and officers. Several NCPH members participated in the formulation of this plan and in the organizational self-assessment that followed. In addition, NCPH Vice President Bill Bryans led a search committee that included Jon Hunner, Dee Harris, Marianne Babal, and Michael Snodgrass of IUPUI in conducting a national search for the position.

Please welcome John to his new position at NCPH. You will be able to meet him at the upcoming spring conference in Washington DC.

How the Homeless of Central Florida Experienced the Three Hurricanes: Charley, Frances, and Jeanne

by Luke Leonard and C. Reider Howe
diggidy01@yahoo.com

The homeless have existed on the fringe of society with only begrudging recognition at the best of times. In 2004, with three major hurricanes, Charley, Frances, and Jeanne, impacting Central Florida and causing significant and long term damage and costing Floridians millions of dollars in lost wages, property damage, and insurance claims, the plight of the homeless was conspicuously absent from the myriad of media coverage and the overflow of good will. Free from the bonds of material possessions and the concerns that accompany home ownership in the aftermath of the storms, this Project¹ sought to understand the effect the three hurricanes had on this invisible section of the population. We interviewed residents of the Coalition for the Homeless in Orlando², Florida. By exploring how this homeless community endured those storms, both similarities and stark differences emerged between how the homeless population prepared for the hurricanes, survived their immediate effect, and dealt with the aftermath of property damage and cleanup.

The most immediate difference was our study population's lack of material possessions such as; homes, cars, or land. This condition tends to make the transient community very unfettered by concerns to stay in one place, lacking strong ties to the community and largely free from material responsibilities. The first two interviewees were Robert Lee Fox, or "Hercules," from Virginia and Patrick Salzer, from Denver, Colorado. Hercules, a good-natured man who has fallen on hard times and who, in the past, indulged in drug use, but now he seems to be partially reformed. At the time of interview, he had only been in Florida for two months and possessed numerous manual labor skills that were useful in the aftermath of the hurricanes. Patrick was also a skilled laborer and came to Orlando to assist with the cleanup of Charley. Patrick seemed focused and determined to succeed, and he repeatedly stated his desire to obtain work and support himself. Our second two interviewees were Joe Jackson, a resident of the Coalition for all three hurricanes, and Farley Wattsmann, from Miami, Florida. Joe's right arm has been crippled for five years, impairing his ability to work. He has been homeless for that time and shares his time between the Coalition and Lakeside, a mental health facility. Farley has stayed at the Coalition for at least a few months and worked there.³

Universally, their experience with the hurricanes was positive. Their lack of material possessions meant fewer concerns. A perfect example of the lower concerns was Hercules who when asked what he did to prepare for the Hurricane he said, "I got beer and sat out and watched the storm from the place I was staying". For those homeless who stayed at the Coalition, they were provided them with alternative shelters and food. Some residents chose to assist the Coalition while others either chose to endure the storm on their own or simply waited for the Coalition to take care of them. Both Hercules and Patrick had relatives and stayed with them, but Joe and Farley stayed at the center and assisted in the preparations for securing the Center against the hurricanes. Furthermore, all four reported that they found work after the hurricanes and that people who

¹ Project was for a class in Oral History asking the question "How did the hurricanes of 2004 affect the community of Central Florida?" We chose the homeless population as the focus for our project.

² The Coalition for the Homeless is a complex of shelters located on 639 W. Central Blvd in Orlando, FL

³ For the first interviews with Hercules and Patrick, Reider and I asked over twenty people if they had stayed at the Coalition during any the hurricane before we discovered our interviewees. For the interviews two weeks later, the Director Leo Devlin asked people he knew had lived at the center for the three hurricanes. I then asked the manager if either Hercules or Patrick was still at the Center but they had moved on.

probably would never have interacted with them were genuinely appreciative of their work clearing debris from their properties.⁴

Hercules and Patrick also reported an increased level of social freedom. Hercules and Patrick passed the time consuming beer during the hurricanes. This behavior was holistic and seemed directed to a joy of life and recognition of a force of events beyond their control. Thus, this allows us to come to the conclusion that the residents of the Coalition for the Homeless were, in fact, better off than the average population: better cared for, free from worry about the destruction of their homes and loss of material possessions, and enjoyed an elevation in good will toward them from the general public.

Finally, a Manager of the Coalition for the Homeless, Leo Devlin⁵, admits that the strain was probably easier on the residents than on the general population because they did not have to concern themselves with the everyday living. Also, since the homeless population is used to nonstandard living conditions, being without electricity or three meals a day is not a change, so they were able to adapt to the change in lifestyle much easier. Therefore, the homeless population of the Center for the Coalition of the Homeless seemed to have less disruption of their lives than the general population directly after the hurricanes, and that allowed them contribute rather than become a hindrance during the aftermath of the hurricanes for the greater population of Orlando.

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⁴ Patrick actually reported a higher state of good will shown by the general population to the homeless population who were willing to work. He was brought drinks, food, and even taken to an expensive restaurant, Kobe’s Steak House, where an average meal can cost over twenty dollars, as a token of appreciation. Patrick furthermore reports he obtained employment with a roofing company as a direct result of the hurricanes.

⁵ Leo Devlin is the director of the men’s shelter at the Coalition. He is a remarkable man who devotes time to this demanding job, his doctoral studies, and his family.

Luke Leonard and C. Reider Howe are graduate history students at the University of Central Florida.

Creating a Homeland Security History Office

by Priscilla Dale Jones, Ph.D.

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The terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 led to a massive reorganization of the U.S. federal government, which included the establishment of a new department and, eventually, a new federal history office. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 established the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as the fifteenth Cabinet-level department,¹ and Tom Ridge, the former governor of Pennsylvania, was sworn in as the first Secretary of Homeland Security on 24 January 2003.²

In 2002, before the Homeland Security Act was signed, members of the federal historical community began expressing interest in establishing a DHS history office. Dr. Bruce Craig of the National Coalition for

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History, for example, wrote to Senators Robert C. Byrd and Joseph Lieberman and other legislators encouraging them to include a history office in the new department. In the end, the act did not include such a provision. But Senate Report 108–86, which accompanied the fiscal year 2004 appropriations bill for DHS,³ contains language requested by Senator Byrd encouraging Secretary Ridge to establish a departmental history office. The report maintains that a knowledge of history is critical to effective policy making, makes recommendations as to the mission of the history office, and briefly comments on funding requirements.⁴

For some time, several senior DHS officials in the Office of the Secretary and specifically in the Office of Public Affairs had been interested in adding a historian to the staff. In early October 2003, DHS advertised for a civil service historian to be the department historian and to establish the DHS history office.

I was then nearing my tenth anniversary as a historian and, more recently, contract histories manager for what is now the Air Force Historical Studies Office at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. I had joined that office after receiving a Ph.D. in history at the University of Cambridge and an M.A. in modern European history at the University of California, Los Angeles.⁵

I applied for the position at DHS in October 2003, and during the last of three interviews, I met Secretary Ridge and my future supervisor, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Susan Neely. The Chief Historian position is situated in the Office of Public Affairs (OPA) and was until recently a direct report to the Assistant Secretary. Ms. Neely's access to and close working relationship with Secretary Ridge proved of great benefit to my initial work and to the establishment of the DHS History Office.

During the first year of my tenure, I was granted frequent access to senior leaders in a variety of settings—including unclassified and classified senior leadership meetings and briefings and a number of other important events and milestones—and the history office made significant progress. I attribute this access to the keen sense of history on the part of the first team of senior DHS leaders, particularly—but by no means exclusively—Secretary Ridge, Deputy Secretary James Loy, and Ms. Neely.⁶

As I settled into the department, I focused my initial efforts on four priorities: establishing the Historian position and setting its direction; records preservation; planning the oral history program; and staffing the DHS History Office.

The first priority was to draft a strategic plan for my position and the DHS History Office. The plan highlighted a primary function and unique contribution of federal government historians in departments like DHS: the production of classified monographs for the benefit of current and future senior leadership. I briefed Secretary Ridge and his senior leadership on the strategic plan on 14 April 2004. Four months later, the secretary signed a charter that I had drafted, which formally established the position of Historian and set out its core responsibilities. These include producing classified and unclassified historical studies and providing historical information and analysis to support senior leadership decision and policy making.

The second priority was to assist in preserving DHS records. Again with the support of senior leadership, I successfully urged the dissemination of an official memorandum from the under secretary for management to employees on their responsibilities to preserve federal paper and electronic records. I also worked with a variety of colleagues and DHS offices to draft and implement formal exit procedures aimed at preventing the loss of electronic records of departing employees, particularly senior leaders.

The third priority was to establish an oral history program. The Office of Public Affairs engaged the services of a contract transcription firm, and I began in the summer of 2004 to converse with the first team of senior leaders and with other current and past employees who had first-hand knowledge of the work of the Office of Homeland Security and the establishment of the department. As of late summer 2005, the program has helped to preserve the recollections and perspectives of almost fifty members of the first team of senior leaders and staff, a great many of whom are no longer with the department.

⁶ Deputy Secretary Loy, for example, a retired admiral and a former commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, recognized and had written on the contribution that history can make to the development of an organizational culture, identity, and esprit de corps. Donald T. Phillips and James M. Loy, *Character in Action: The U.S. Coast Guard on Leadership* (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2003). Ms. Neely had studied French civilization as an undergraduate at the University of Iowa.

The fourth priority was to promote the hiring of additional staff. In late July 2004, senior OPA leadership decided to assign a full-time, permanent civil service slot to the History Office and to set aside a contract position for an archivist. The staff historian position was advertised in December 2004. Meanwhile, DHS had awarded a contract for archival services to History Associates Incorporated of Rockville, Maryland. Elizabeth Borja began work at DHS in January 2005 and has made great progress since in establishing the History Office archive.

In early 2005, Secretary Ridge and a large number of other senior leaders left, or were soon to leave, the department, and the History Office suffered a setback with respect to the staff historian position. A highly qualified candidate had been selected, but the public affairs office was unable for budgetary reasons to move forward with an offer of employment.

Additional changes in DHS senior leadership came with or soon after the arrival of Secretary Michael Chertoff and his team. The Office of Public Affairs has been reorganized, and the Chief Historian now reports to OPA Chief of Staff Joe Adamoli, rather than to the new Assistant Secretary, Brian Besanceney.

Invitee lists to senior leadership and other high-level meetings have also undergone revision; consequently, the Historian no longer attends those meetings. This poses a serious impediment because it denies the Historian insight into the decision-making process and the mood of the leaders. The department will be served best if it maintains the most accurate and objective historical record possible. Such a history is invaluable not only for future DHS leaders to learn what really happened in the past and why it happened, but also as an indispensable source in answering congressional and other governmental and public inquiries.

I expect to focus in the near future on expanding the oral history program and on research and writing. Current projects include producing historical perspectives on, and documenting the DHS response to, Hurricane Katrina. Future writing efforts will include an analysis of the evolving role of the DHS intelligence function in the larger intelligence community.

The complex and sometimes controversial history of DHS will provide many fruitful avenues for historical inquiry. The final say on even the first year of DHS is perhaps decades down the road and will be had by future historians. I hope that the work of the DHS History Office in documenting and analyzing the work of the department will be of some small assistance to that effort.

¹ *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, H.R. 5005, 107th Cong., 2d sess., Public Law 107–296, 25 Nov 2002, 116 STAT. 2135–2321.

² Secretary Ridge had previously led the Office of Homeland Security within the White House, as Assistant to the President for Homeland Security. Executive Order no. 13228, Establishing the Office of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Council, signed by President Bush 8 Oct 2001, 66 *Federal Register* 51812 (10 Oct 2001), <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/10/20011008-2.html>. Most of the component agencies joined the new department on 1 March 2003, the official establishment date of the department.

³ *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2004*, H.R. 2555, 108th Cong., 1st sess., Public Law 108–90, 1 Oct 2003, 117 STAT. 1137–1157.

⁴ Senate Report 108–86, p. 9. In a letter dated 15 Oct 2003, Senator Byrd urged Secretary Ridge “to establish a departmental history office”; the senator concluded by asking the secretary to keep him “apprised of...[his] efforts.” I am grateful to Dr. Craig for describing, in our meeting on 3 Feb 2003, his own considerable efforts in this regard, for bringing to my attention the history of history at DHS, and for loaning to me copies of these and other papers documenting the early interest in establishing a history office at DHS.

⁵ I wrote my doctoral dissertation on British policy towards the so-called “minor” Nazi war criminals, 1939–1958, under the supervision of Sir F. H. Hinsley, official historian of British intelligence during World War II.

⁶ Deputy Secretary Loy, for example, a retired admiral and a former commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, recognized and had written on the contribution that history can make to the development of an organizational culture, identity, and esprit de corps. Donald T. Phillips and James M. Loy, *Character in Action: The U.S. Coast Guard on Leadership* (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2003). Ms. Neely had studied French civilization as an undergraduate at the University of Iowa.

Priscilla Dale Jones, Ph.D. is the Chief Historian for the Department of Homeland Security.

From the Director’s Desk

by David G. Vanderstel
dvanders@iupui.edu

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that this will be my last communication with you as Executive Director of NCPH. I will be departing at the end of this year after 11½ years of service. These have been wonderful and challenging years for me personally and professionally, and we have accomplished much working together to advance public history and the profession.

When I began my professional career in 1982 as a historian at Conner Prairie Museum, I had never heard the term “public history.” Even though it had been an emerging field of study in the 1970s, we never discussed it during my academic training. I soon heard about NCPH, began reading *The Public Historian*, and quickly became more aware of the rapidly developing profession. I never dreamed that I would eventually have the opportunity to lead this organization and to assist in building the profession.

In the summer of 1994, I received an invitation to become the Executive Director, replacing Elizabeth Brand Monroe who led NCPH when it came to Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) in 1990. NCPH was a small operation at the time with a half-time director, a half-time secretary, a graduate intern, and a budget of approximately \$24,000. Things have changed dramatically over the past decade and NCPH has become *the* organization that represents public history educators and practitioners.

Where does NCPH stand today?

- Membership has grown 25 percent and expanded internationally within the past decade.
- The annual meeting has grown in attendance, types of sessions, and become a revenue-generating event.
- NCPH has collaborated with the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the American Association for State and Local History, the Oral History Association, the American Society for Environmental History, the Society for History in the Federal Government, and many other national and regional associations.
- In 2002, NCPH became a member of the American Council of Learned Societies, a federation of 68 scholarly organizations that promotes studies in the humanities and social sciences.
- NCPH expanded its patron and sponsor program and succeeded in securing a major annual gift from The History Channel.
- NCPH developed a web presence and launched the H-PUBLIC listserv to keep members informed about news from the field.
- NCPH became involved in several grants projects, including work with the National Park Service and Parks Canada and partnering with IUPUI on a Teaching American History grant.
- The NCPH administrative assistant became a fulltime position with greater responsibility for coordinating the annual meeting and special events.
- NCPH participated in advocacy on numerous issues pertaining to history and the profession.
- The NCPH Endowment has grown from a few thousand dollars to over \$270,000, assisted in part by a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

I am very proud of what we have accomplished together since I began in August 1994. This could not have happened without the help and support of many of you and of the dedicated, hardworking NCPH staff. I would like to extend my thanks to:

- The many graduate interns who have worked in the NCPH office. They have contributed much to the success of NCPH and I hope that their experience with NCPH has enriched their understanding of public history.
- Joyce Haibe, Tina Trettin, Kelly Barnes, and Gayle Rhynearson who served as NCPH administrative assistant in the early years of my tenure.
- The staff of Campus Print and Design, particularly Kate Voss, Sam Mattes, Heather Zoellick, and Rikki Springs who designed and printed all of our materials over the years.
- The deans of the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts who provided support for this organization and my own work.

I am, however, most grateful to two specific individuals who have made my work with NCPH easier and more enjoyable. Phil Scarpino, chair of the History Department, has been a strong supporter of NCPH for years and worked with me to make many things possible for our ever-expanding operations here. I am deeply indebted to Dana Ward who has served as NCPH's first fulltime administrative assistant. Since November 2000, she has brought order and efficiency to the NCPH Executive Offices, provided excellent services to our members, worked well with the board and our many committees, and assisted us in building a stronger association.

I feel very privileged and honored to have been given the opportunity to lead this organization for the past 11½ years and I am very proud of the many accomplishments that occurred under my watch. I wish you and new executive director John Dichtl the best in your continued pursuits of expanding and promoting public history.

With warm regards,

David

BULLETIN

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND INTERNSHIPS

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission invites applications for its 2006-2007 Scholars in Residence Program, including applications for collaborative residencies. The Scholars in Residence program provides support for up to eight weeks of full-time research and study in manuscript and artifact collections maintained by any Commission facility, including the Pennsylvania State Archives, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, and twenty-five historic sites and museums around the state. Collaborative residencies fund original analytic and/or synthetic research that relates to the interpretive mission and advances the programmatic goals of a PHMC program or facility, including the agency's historic sites and museums. A collaborative residency application must be filed jointly by the interested scholar and host program/facility. For a full description of the residency program and application materials, as well as information about Commission research collections, go to the PHMC website: www.phmc.state.pa.us. You may also write: Scholars in Residence Program, Bureau of Archives and History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Commonwealth Keystone building – Plaza Level, 400 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053; or call: 717/787-3034; or email: RA-PHMCscholars@state.pa.us. **Deadline for application is 13 January 2006.**

The Lemelson Center Fellows Program supports projects that present creative approaches to the study of invention and innovation in American society. These include, but are not limited to, historical research and documentation projects resulting in publications, exhibitions, educational initiatives, and multimedia products. The fellowship program provides access to the Smithsonian's vast artifact and archival collections, as well as the expertise of the Institution's research staff.

The Center offers fellowships to scholars and professionals who are pre- or postdoctoral candidates or who have completed advanced professional training. Fellowships are awarded for a maximum of ten weeks and carry a prorated stipend. The deadline for applications is **15 January 2006**. Application materials are available on the web at invention.smithsonian.org/resources/research_fellowships.aspx or contact: Maggie Dennis, Fellowship Coordinator, National Museum of American History, Rm. 1016, MRC 604, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. Tel: 202-633-3441. Fax: 202-357-4517. E-mail: dennism@si.edu

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History invites applications for short-term fellowships for scholars and for doctoral candidates who have completed exams and begun dissertation research and writing. The Gilder Lehrman Fellowships support work in one of five archives in New York City: The Gilder Lehrman Collection, on deposit at the New-York Historical Society, the Library of the New-York Historical Society, the Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the New York Public Library, and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. For more information, visit the institute's webpage at: www.gilderlehrman.org. **Application deadline is 1 May 2006.**

CALLS FOR PAPERS/PROPOSALS/ARTICLES

The **National Council on Public History** invites you to submit articles for its quarterly newsletter, *Public History News*. We welcome stories concerning innovative public programs, project updates, important issues concerning public history, interesting collaborations, and new approaches being used to bring history to the public. Articles for *Public History News* should be approximately 750 to 1000 words in length; illustrations accepted as appropriate. Submissions and questions can be sent via email to: nph@iupui.edu or surface mail to: NCPH, 327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Boulevard Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Papers are invited for contributions to the **Memory and Narration – Oral History Research in the Northern European Context** symposium hosted by the Finnish Literature Society in collaboration with the Graduate School of Cultural Interpretations, the Department of Folklore Studies, University of Helsinki and the Finnish Oral History Network (FOHN) in Finland November 15-17, 2006. The Memory and Narration – Oral History Research in the Northern European Context symposium is the first international symposium organized by the Finnish Oral History Network. The aim of this conference is to bring together a large number of scholars in the broader field of the humanities and social sciences whom are focused on methodological issues within oral history research in Northern Europe and to stimulate discussion on the methods and theories used in oral history research. We welcome all scholars working within the field of oral history and life history. The program will include plenary sessions and thematic panel sessions. To ensure the widest possible participation, the principal conference language will be English. If you are interested, please send us a single page proposal including an outline of your paper and the following details: name (with your surname in CAPITAL letters), affiliation, postal address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers. Proposals will be evaluated according to their focus on oral history and methodological and theoretical relevance. We encourage proposals which focus on oral history in the Northern European context. **Proposals must be written in English. Please email your proposal as an e-mail attachment by 31 March 2006** to hum-fohn@helsinki.fi. The acceptance or rejection of proposals will be announced by 30 April 2006. The papers will be available to symposium participants via the WebCT "Oral history research in the Nordic-Baltic area" (<http://webct.e-uni.ee/public/TUOHaLHRitNBA/index.html>). **The deadline for the papers is 31 August 2006.**

The Public Historian invites contributions for "The Public and Private History of Eugenics." In 1883, Francis Galton coined the term eugenics and defined it as: "the science of improving stock - to give the more suitable races or strains of blood a better chance of prevailing speedily over the less suitable than they otherwise would

have had.” Between the late nineteenth and early twenty-first centuries, under the expansive rubric of “race betterment,” eugenics was wide-ranging and accorded scientific, political, and popular support. In the United States, over the course of the twentieth century, eugenics encompassed Progressive reform efforts to secure improved maternal and infant health care, racially motivated immigration policies, and coercive sterilization legislation. In its most virulent form, eugenics provided the impetus for race-based genocide during the Holocaust. Even before World War II, state-ordered sterilization accelerated in some states, and eugenicists found a new arena in population control and family planning. In more recent years, eugenics has resurfaced within academia and the echoes of eugenics have been detected in stem-cell research and specialty sperm and egg donor firms.

The shameful aspect of eugenics has compelled Governors of California, Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina to publicly apologize for their state's eugenics policies, particularly in regard to sterilization and reproductive surgeries. This issue will explore the challenges of researching and writing about eugenics in all of its variations. We welcome submissions about all aspects of eugenics history, especially those focusing on bringing the history of eugenics to the public. Submissions may include research articles, eugenics policy history, case studies of archival collections, and exhibition or website reviews. Possible topics include: forced or coercive sterilization campaigns; historical perspectives on cloning, in-Vitro fertilization and sperm banks; consumer eugenics; stereotypical images and the history of normalcy; local, state-level and/or institutional efforts to expose or hide eugenics; development of exhibits or websites on the history of eugenics; native communities and eugenics; recovering the stories of the sterilized through oral history; and teaching eugenics in academia and to the public. Please submit a one-page proposal and short vita listing relevant qualifications by **15 JANUARY 2006** to: Lindsey Reed, Managing Editor, *The Public Historian*. Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. Email: lreed@ltsc.ucsb.edu.

Individual papers and panels now forming on topics related to American Indians Today in Popular Culture. American Indian culture is diverse and an examination of the culture, influences, adaptation, and cultural syncretism as it is presented in contemporary America is welcome. Proposals that build on American Indian culture, traditions, customs and life ways are of particular interest. One may propose any aspect of: film; theater; literature; poetry; oral tradition; myth; legend; philosophy; arts (painting; sculpture; weaving; basketry; pottery; dance; music, etc.); fashion; artifacts; American Indian foods; journalism; imagery in mainstream media; photography; anthropology; archaeology; identity; cultural and spiritual appropriation; stereotypes, mascots, etc. I am interested in all aspects of American Indian culture. Send an abstract of 100-250 words. Inquiries regarding any topical area or the formation of a panel presentation should be directed to me and I will be pleased to accommodate. Richard L. Allen, Area Chair, American Indians Today, Cherokee Nation. P.O. Box 948. Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465. (918) 456-0671 Ext. 2466. Email: rallen@cherokee.org.

Borderlands IV: Organizing History- People, Places, Trails, and Local Stories June 9-11, 2006, The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, OH; and Northern Kentucky University's Institute for Freedom Studies, Highland Heights, KY invite presenters to submit a proposal for our annual UGRR conference. The purpose of this conference is to further collaboration among the academic and lay communities in researching, sharing and bringing to public attention, knowledge and accurate information about UGRR. Papers on contemporary slavery are also desired. For the full text of the Call please visit the Institute's website: <http://www.nku.edu/~freedom> **Deadline for proposals due 2 February 2006.**

CONFERENCES, INSTITUTES, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS

The **National Preservation Institute**, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, educates those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. Seminars bring distinguished faculty to highlight state-of-the-art practice in important areas of historic preservation and cultural resource management.

Seminars focus on enhancing the skills of professionals responsible for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of historic, archeological, architectural, and cultural resources. Sample seminars include Archaeological Curation, Conservation, and Collections Management; Cemetery Preservation; and Consultation and Protection of Native American Sacred Lands. Case studies and small group exercise focus on the information, technology, and skills which effective managers require in today's changing preservation environment. NPI can provide on-site and customized training to meet specific organizational needs. For more information, call 703.765.0100 or email info@npi.org. Our website is www.npi.org.

“History and the Public” will investigate the use of history for public purposes and the involvement of the public in the consumption and study of history. Plenary speakers will be Liz Forgan (Heritage Lottery Fund), Ludmilla Jordanova (King's College London), Darryl McIntyre (Museum of London), Charles Saumarez Smith (The National Gallery) and John Tosh (Roehampton University). The conference will focus chiefly on the United Kingdom but will also examine comparative material from different countries and cultures. There will also be parallel sessions featuring speakers drawn from government bodies, universities, historic sites and museums. Date: **13-14 February 2006**

Venue: **Institute of Historical Research, University of London**, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU, United Kingdom. Contact: Richard Butler, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, United Kingdom. Email: ihr.events@sas.ac.uk. Visit the website at <http://www.history.ac.uk>

The Center for Black Diaspora, African Identities: Journal of Economy, Culture and Society (Routledge) and the University of South Africa Press are pleased to announce an international conference on “Theorizing African/Black Diaspora: History and Memory” to be held at DePaul University, 19-20 May 2006. The conference explores the intellectual history, analytical and interrogative discourses that constitute the distinctive and interdisciplinary field of African/Black Diaspora Studies in the production of knowledge of the deterritorialized and transnational nature of the African/Black Diaspora. It will provide a venue for a critical exploration of history and memory and how these ideas illuminate the movement (geographic, cultural, political and psychological) of the African/Black Diaspora in the context of globalized and transnational spaces. A proposal of approximately 300 words should be sent to the organizing committee by 30 January 2006.

Conference Organizing Committee

Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University, 2320 N. Kemore Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614-3250.

Proposals can be submitted by e-mail as a Microsoft attachment, with a subject reading “Theorizing African/Black Diaspora” to: bdiaspora@depaul.edu. Contact : Fassil Demissie, Public Policy Studies. Phone: (773) 325-7512. Fax: (773) 325-7514. Email: fdemissi@depaul.edu. Visit the website at <http://condor.depaul.edu/~diaspora>

Join the **National Council for History Education (NCHE)**, an organization dedicated to promoting the importance of history in schools and society, at the Renaissance Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas, 30 March – 1 April for the 2006 annual conference, “The Americas in World History.” In addition to multiple concurrent sessions related to the conference theme, there will be several field trips to such historically significant sites as The Alamo, The LBJ Presidential Library, and the Bush Presidential Library, among others. For registration information and additional details, please visit: <http://www.nche.net>.

INTERNET

The award-winning **Virtual Oral/Aural History Archive, California State University, Long Beach** (www.csulb.edu/voaha) now has made available the 1100 hours of original oral history recordings of some 343 people, including African Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, Latinos/as and Southern and Eastern

European immigrants. They range from farm laborers to professionals, from social reformers/community activists to anarchists and communists, from ventriloquists to jazz arrangers. Their narratives, organized in 30 series, document the US experience, 1890s to 1990s. They are broken into organic time segments that are summarized and assigned search terms, enabling users to locate relevant segments by search terms, or alternatively, to browse the collection hierarchy and listen to entire tapes or selected segments. Contact: Sherna Berger Gluck and Kaye Briegel. California State University, Long Beach. Department of History. P: 562-985-5428. F: 562-985-5431. Email: kbriegel@csulb.edu
Visit the website at <http://www.csulb.edu/voaha>

History students from **American University** have collaborated to create something which they hope will be useful as a tool in the future for those studying history. As a group of dedicated students at American University, they have taken on the task of compiling a database of memoirs they hope will provide first hand accounts of important people, places, and events for public consumption and use. If you have an interesting story, please take the time and visit their site, **www.memorywiki.org**, and share your stories. We are willing to accept all sorts of memoirs in all sorts of languages, and we hope you will help us achieve our goal of building a wealth of first hand knowledge. Why are we doing this? As our slogan says: "Everyone has a Story, Make Yours History".

MISCELLANEOUS

Material Culture, the Journal of the Pioneer America Society, a peer-reviewed publication, announces a call for book reviewers. Currently, nearly 300 books are available for review; a list of those books is available at: <http://www.castleton.edu/~scr10240/books.html>.

Book review guidelines can be found at: <http://www.castleton.edu/~scr10240/m-c.html>.

Book reviews should be between approximately 800 and 1400 words and are contracted through the Book Review Editor. Submissions need not be from Pioneer America Society members, though membership in the society is encouraged. If you are interested in reviewing a book for Material Culture, please contact Dr. Scott Roper, the Book Review Editor. The Pioneer America Society is a national, not-for-profit organization that encourages the study and preservation of buildings, sites, structures and objects representing North American history, cultural landscapes and material culture. Organized in 1967, the Society carries out its mission by identifying, documenting, analyzing and interpreting significant cultural landscapes, architecture and artifacts and by encouraging educational programs, scholarly research and preservation. For more information about the Pioneer America Society, visit our web site at: <http://www.pioneeramerica.org>.

Scott C. Roper, Book Review Editor, Dept. of History, Geography, Economics, & Politics, Leavenworth Hall, Castleton State College, 6 Alumni Drive, Castleton, VT 05735. Phone: 802/468-1270. Email: scott.roper@castleton.edu. Visit the website at <http://www.castleton.edu/~scr10240/books.html>.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The history department at **CSU-San Bernardino** seeks applications for a tenure-track **assistant professorship in Public and Oral history, beginning in September 2006. Teaching/research expertise in California** strongly preferred. The successful candidate will teach upper-division courses in Public/Oral and California history, lower-division survey courses in U.S. and California history, and required topical curriculum according to department needs. S/he also will help direct student internships, produce scholarly research, and provide service to the university and the community. Salary will be commensurate with background and experience. PhD required by September 2006. Submit letter of application, current c.v., three letters of recommendation, and official transcript to Dr. Pedro Santoni, Chair, History Department, CSU-San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407. CSU-San Bernardino is an EO/AAA. **Application deadline: 23**

December 2005, or until filled. Contact Info: Dr. Pedro Santoni, Chair. History Department, CSU San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407. (909) 537-5524. Email: psantoni@csusb.edu.
Website: <http://csbs.csusb.edu/history/>

Historic New England is seeking a Museum Historian for Regular/Full-Time (40 hours/wk) position available: ASAP. **Location:** Otis House Museum - Boston, MA.

Primary Function: This research historian position is responsible for managing and coordinating the social history research needs for Historic New England museums and programs, and for providing results of the research to staff and the public. **Primary Responsibilities:** Develops and maintains a multi-year social history research plan for the organization. Generates research products to support property interpretation including contextual research reports and thematic essays in conjunction with the Proactive Preservation and Interpretation Planning (PIIP) committee. Conducts research for exhibitions and may review exhibition material including label copy, panel copy, and any publications for consistency with research findings. Works with Library and Archives staff on discrete research projects as assigned and assists with research inquiries as needed. Coordinates Historic New England's internship and fellowship program. Recruits and supervises social history research interns. Coordinates intern projects with other staff, and disseminates results. Works with Historic New England magazine editor to prepare intern/fellow research products as stimulating magazine articles. Presents research findings at internal and public meetings, lectures, symposia, and other presentations. Works with site staff and headquarters staff to evaluate research needs at the properties. Advises, directs and mentors site staff in research projects undertaken outside of the social history research plan. Maintains research files and assists staff with file access/utilization. Contributes articles to Historic New England magazine and Old Time New England. Collects and manages oral history information. Conducts oral history training for staff. May be assigned to additional institution-wide interdisciplinary projects. **Qualifications:** Requires a minimum of a Master's degree in American Studies and/or History with at least 5 years of job-related experience. Experience working with material culture, preferably in a museum setting, is required. Requires advanced word processing and database skills as well as strong verbal and written communication skills. Requires proven track record for conducting product oriented research within specific schedules. Requires valid driver's license. **Applications:** Please send resume/cover letter to: Ryan Thibodeau – HR Manager, Historic New England, 141 Cambridge Street; Boston, MA 02114 fax: 617-227-9204 or rthibodeau@HistoricNewEngland.org

The History Department at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is seeking an accomplished Curator of California and American History. The curator will provide leadership to staff, volunteers, scholars, and the general public, according to professional standards and procedures. The curator is expected to make significant contributions to exhibitions and special projects; to enhance and promote the collection; and to seek and administer support through grants and other funding opportunities. Major responsibilities include: Active oversight of all functions involving California and American History three-dimensional artifact collections such as direction of the H-Cat (electronic catalogue of History Department collections); direct supervision of two collections managers, grant project staff, and varying numbers of volunteers, student workers, and interns; coordination of acquisitions; support of the collections through fund-raising, initiating and writing grant proposals, and managing grants; collaborating with the Institute for California and the West at the University of Southern California and other institutions in history programming initiatives. Prominent participation in History Department and museum-wide activities such as strategic planning; content development for exhibitions and special projects in collaboration with the Public Programs Branch; committee and other institutional service activities and initiatives. Production of research-based publications in peer-reviewed and popular journals, magazines, and books based on original research, using the collections wherever possible; presentation of research and programming results at scholarly conferences; submission of proposals and obtaining funding to support research; publicizing the collections and staff

accomplishments and expertise; promotion of the California and American History artifact collections and programs through seminars, exhibitions, and response to inquiries from outside researchers, staff, docents, and volunteers. **Qualifications:** PhD in American History with specialization in California and the West, plus significant direct experience with historical materials in a museum, research library, historical society, or archives setting, preferably with supervisory or team leadership experience; proven record with fundraising and connections to the scholarly community; familiarity with electronic cataloguing and collections management tools; understanding of conservation standards and treatments.

The successful candidate for this position will be hired at the Curator or Associate Curator level, depending on qualifications. Annual salary will be based on qualifications and experience. Review of applications begins as soon as they are received. The position will be filled when the ideal candidate has been identified; the start date is 1 July 2006. Letters of application, including a complete resume or C.V., and the names and contact information for three references, should be sent via U.S. mail to: Janet Fireman, Curator of History, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007 **Website:** <http://www.nhm.org>