

Organization of American Historians

2010 Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address

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Saturday, April 10 • 4:00 PM



Washington, D.C.

2010 OAH Business Meeting, Awards Ceremony, and Presidential Address

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Hilton Washington

Washington, D.C.

Schedule of Events

3:30PM **2010 OAH Business Meeting**

4:00PM **Presentation of OAH Awards**

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5:30PM **Presidential and Distinguished Members Reception**

The final conference reception will honor outgoing OAH President Elaine Tyler May, and all OAH Patron, Life, 25- and 50-year members. The reception will be held in the Georgetown Room.

The 2010 OAH Presidential and Distinguished Members Reception is co-sponsored by Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Group, and Pearson.

Agenda, 2010 OAH Business Meeting

Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Report of OAH President, Elaine Tyler May

III. Report of Treasurer, Robert Griffith

IV. Report of Interim OAH Executive Director, Katha Kissman

V. Report of Nominating Board Chair, Spencer Crew

VI. Report of the Editor, Journal of American History, Ed Linenthal

VII. New Business

No new business was brought forth.

VIII. Adjournment

Minutes, 2009 OAH Business Meeting

Saturday, March 28, 2009
Seattle, Washington

OAH President Pete Daniel called the meeting to order and welcomed OAH members and others in attendance. The minutes of the 2008 OAH Business Meeting in New York City, were unanimously approved.

I. Report of President, Pete Daniel

- A new strategic plan is being drafted for the OAH
- Executive Director Lee Formwalt is retiring from the OAH, and a search committee has been formed to find a new executive director

II. Report of Treasurer, Robert Griffith

- Please see full treasurer's report in the February 2009 *OAH Newsletter*.
- Financial situation at the OAH effected by the following problems
 - History of financial problems still affecting the current situation
 - Current economic downturn
 - Membership challenges

III. Report of Executive Director, Lee Formwalt

- A draft of the new strategic plan was unveiled at the Open Forum and feedback is encouraged.
- Working to enhance our digital presence.
- The fall Executive Board meeting will decide the final strategic plan.
- Currently our membership and subscriptions are down.
- The Seattle meeting has been a success with over 1800 attendees.
- Reported that the *OAH 2010 Best Essays in American History* book on Lincoln is doing well.
- Extended thanks OAH staff, committees, Executive Board, and Pete Daniel for their work at the meeting.

IV. Report of Nominating Board Chair, Amy Kinsel

• Results of 2009 OAH Elections:

President: Elaine Tyler-May, University of Minnesota

President-Elect: David Hollinger, University of California, Berkeley

Vice President: Alice Kessler-Harris, Columbia University

Executive Board: Ramon Gutierrez, University of Chicago; Doris Dwyer, Western Nevada College; and Mary Kelly, University of Michigan

Nominating Board: George Chauncey, Yale University; Rosemary Kolks Ennis, Sycamore High School (OH); and Kathleen Smith Kutolowski, The College at Brockport, State University of New York

V. Report of the Editor, *Journal of American History*, Ed Linenthal

- Looking forward to expanding the Big Tent idea with concern to the *JAH*
- Will continue to advocate for increased and sustained digital presence
- *JAH* rolled out the new web site in June of 2008
- *JAH* Podcasts are a great success

VI. New Business

No new business was brought forth.

VII. Adjournment

OAH President Elaine Tyler May adjourned the meeting.

OAH Awards and Prizes

The Organization of American Historians sponsors annual awards and prizes given in recognition of scholarly and professional achievements in the field of American history. Please join us in congratulating the following 2010 OAH award and prize winners.



Chafe

Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award

for an individual or individuals whose contributions have significantly enriched our understanding and appreciation of American history

Award committee: Richard White, Stanford University, Chair; Philip Deloria, University of Michigan; Kim Ibach, Natrona County School District #1 (WY); and Martha A. Sandweiss, Princeton University.

This year the Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians gives its Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award to **William H. Chafe**. William Chafe is the Alice Mary Baldwin Professor at Duke University.

To list his distinguished publications is to follow a path that leads through the changing contours of twentieth-century American history. He has been a path breaking scholar, one of the few who can write both brilliant monographs and critical and influential syntheses. His *The American Woman: Her Changing Social, Economic, and Political Roles, 1920-1970* and his *Civilities and Civil Rights: Greensboro, North Carolina, and the Black Struggle for Freedom* marked both his debut as a scholar of incredible range and established one of the great and timely themes of his scholarship: race and gender equality. He extended his first synthesis of women's history with his 1992 volume, *The Paradox of Change: American Women in the 20th Century*. He has also never lost his touch as an influential monographic scholar. *Never Stop Running: Allard Lowenstein and the Struggle to Save American Liberalism* underlined his talent for writing close and careful studies that made much larger interpretive points. He has mastered the full range of the modern scholarly repertoire. *Private Lives/Public Consequences: Personality and Politics in Modern America* is a collection of close analytical essays around a central theme. And he has written some of the most impressive narrative texts available in the classroom, first in the numerous editions of *The Unfinished Journey: America Since World War Two* and most recently in his *The Rise and Fall of the American Century: The United States from 1890-2009*. He has also coauthored a popular reader, *A History of Our Time: Readings on Postwar America*, and coedited a powerful set of reminiscences: *Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Segregated South*. All of this has established him as one of the country's foremost historians of the twentieth century, one particularly attuned to the changing patterns of race and gender

discrimination in America. For all of this he has already been honored with the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, the Sidney Hillman Book Award, and the Lillian Smith Book Award.

But we are not honoring him for his scholarship alone. We are rewarding him for his service to the profession and to the OAH. It has extended over thirty years beginning with his service as a Program Committee chair in 1980. He has since then performed virtually every kind of duty this organization requires. He has been on the Nominating Board, award committees, and the Committee on Educational Policy. He has been our representative on the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. He has chaired search committees. He has been our President and twice served on the Executive Board. He has a range of service matched by few other members, but beyond that, and most notably, he has invented new kinds of service. He has been a critical figure in the development of the Leadership Advisory Council, of which he is currently the cochair, and has given lavishly of his time and influence in seeking to raise money for the OAH. He incarnates the combination of public service and scholarship that this organization at its best represents. He is the kind of academic citizen at large that this organization needs in order to thrive. ■

Friend of History Award

The OAH Friend of History Award recognizes an individual, who is not a professional historian, or an institution or organization for outstanding support for the pursuit of historical research, for the public presentation of history, or for the work of the OAH. This year the OAH Executive Board recognizes an institution, The Newberry Library.

Founded 123 years ago as a special collections and reference resource for the people of Chicago and the Midwest, The Newberry has built its global reputation by offering the general public, free of charge, access to hard-to-find books, maps, manuscripts, and other printed materials. The Newberry's collections, spanning many centuries, feature a wide range of humanities-related materials, from illuminated medieval manuscripts to maps and printed materials relating to encounters between Europe and the western hemisphere beginning in the early modern period, American Indians, a broad swath of American history and literature of the 17th-20th centuries and deep resources in Midwestern literary and performance culture. The Newberry also offers highly acclaimed programs for readers: fellowships for scholars, seminars for undergraduates, professional development activities for high school teachers, and a variety of adult education seminars, public lectures, and workshops. The OAH salutes The Newberry Library for its work in making scholarly work in U.S. history significantly more accessible to the American public, and for supporting the research and teaching of scholars of American history. We



are pleased to name this outstanding institution the OAH 2010 Friend of History. ■

Frederick Jackson Turner Award

for an author's first book dealing with some significant phase of American history

Award committee: Pete Daniel, National Museum of American History (Retired), Chair; Ned Blackhawk, Yale University; and Jonathan M. Bryant, Georgia Southern University.



Moreton

Bethany Moreton, University of Georgia. *To Serve God and Wal-Mart: The Making of Christian Free Enterprise* (Harvard University Press) makes a series of pressing interventions into the study of modern America. Analyzing the intersections of economic, cultural, and political history in the rise of America's largest corporation, Moreton skillfully contextualizes the political and economic culture of Wal-Mart within a series of post-World War II structural transformations. From the rise of the Sun Belt to the growth of country music, Moreton finds a consistent and interlinked Christian service ideology within the region's and ultimately nation's shifts away from urban-based, multi-ethnic union cultures to corporate and labor systems organized around shared religious and cultural ethics. The history of American capitalism has found a convincing and modern analysis of how the once fertile soils of agrarian populism gave rise to new forms of American corporatism.

Honorable Mention

The Turner Award Committee identified three studies for honorable mention, each of which reflects innovative as well as rigorous methodological inquiry. Each of these studies merits honorable recognition.

Charlotte Brooks, Baruch College, CUNY. *Alien Neighbors, Foreign Friends: Asian Americans, Housing, and the Transformation of Urban California* (The University of Chicago Press) broadens the history of U.S. Cold War foreign policy to consider the rapidly changing place of Asian Americans within American society. Its focus on housing patterns highlights how California's most persecuted minority communities before and especially during World War II became representatives of new but nonetheless limited forms of American liberalism after the war.

Christine Keiner, Rochester Institute of Technology. *The Oyster Question: Scientists, Watermen, and the Maryland Chesapeake Bay since 1880* (The University of Georgia Press) is an imaginative environmental history that combines politics, science, and the work of watermen. By considering the limits of social science research in relationship to one state's unique legislative practices, Keiner makes a compelling argument for viewing natural resource struggles from multiple, locally situated perspectives.

Lisa Levenstein, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. *A Movement without Marches: African American Women and the Politics of Poverty in Postwar Philadelphia* (The University of North Carolina Press) compels a rethinking of the history of African American urban politics. Through its meticulous analysis of Philadelphia municipal records, Levenstein reveals how black women imaginatively and consistently used public resources for their and their children's betterment and in the process highlights the varied strands of political mobilization in contemporary America. ■

Merle Curti Award

for the best book published in American social, intellectual, or cultural history

Award committee: Glenda Gilmore, Yale University, Chair; Raymond Arsenault, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg; Annette Atkins, St. John's University/College of St. Benedict; Mark K. Bauman, Editor, Southern Jewish History/Atlanta Metropolitan College (Retired); and Howard Brick, University of Michigan.

Intellectual History

Laura Dassow Walls, University of South Carolina, *The Passage to Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America* (University of Chicago Press). An eloquent, consummate work in literary and historical scholarship, *The Passage to Cosmos* reconstructs the life and career of Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), German explorer, mapmaker, naturalist, artist, and prolific writer vastly admired by Americans through the nineteenth century and largely forgotten since then as a cultural figure of enormous stature. As Walls relates the narrative of Humboldt's early excursions through the Americas and details the composition of his widely-read records of exploration and naturalist, political, and ethnographic observation—most of all the vast, polymathic multi-volume *Cosmos* of the 1850s—Humboldt's standing in nineteenth-century cosmopolitan culture and U.S. consciousness becomes clear. His republicanism and abolitionism, central to his own admiration and hopes for all the Americas, led to his embrace by elite and popular groups throughout the United States, though they also discomfited some admirers of his science who settled in the proslavery camp. As Walls enters debates in the fields of environmental and postcolonial thought, she makes the case that Humboldt served as a source for an anti-racist cultural pluralism; a holistic but nonreductive, antipositivist vision of science both physical and social; and a conception of civilizations distant from the invidious, stage-evolutionary and racially hierarchical schemes of development too simply identified with the totality of the European culture of Enlightenment.



Walls

Honorable Mention

Nathaniel Deutsch, The University of California, Santa Cruz, *Inventing America's "Worst" Family: Eugenics, Islam, and the Fall and Rise of the Tribe of Ishmael* (University of California Press) innovatively and precisely traces how eugenicists and other social reformers manipulated, misread, and misinterpreted the lives of the Ishmaels to create a defining image of a "Degenerate Family." It is both exceptional intellectual and social history. This highly original study weaves together multiple strands to fashion an analysis of American poverty, based on the changing representations of a family named Ishmael, who first came to public attention through church work with the poor around Indianapolis in the 1870s. Deutsch draws together the history of American eugenics and racial classifications, imagined as well as rigorously researched of the Wales-derived Ishmael family, varied interpretations of the sources of modern African-American Islam, and most of all a study of propertylessness, destitution, and the migration of working families from the East to the Midwest from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. Beyond an intellectual history of Christian reform and eugenics viewed through studies of the Ishmaels and other sensationalized "feeble-minded" or "cacogenic" families, Deutsch's book charts the modes of consciousness that helped construct the social exclusion of the most poor—and offers an alternative history to debunk those surprisingly resilient portraits of poverty and failed families that rest in American culture. Deutsch's meticulous research spans the Atlantic and historical periods. He employs vibrant writing and deft organizational strategies to make this a consuming read.



Rockman

Social History

Seth Rockman, Brown University, *Scraping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore* (Johns Hopkins University Press). Through deep and innovative research scouring newspapers, law books, city records, and almshouse admissions, Rockman studies early national Baltimore to emphasize the role in the genesis of American market society of the most subordinated groups of day laborers. Constituted of slaves, free blacks, immigrant, and other white working men and women, this fluctuating work force "scraped by" in dirty, exhausting, ever insecure, less-than-subsistence, and degraded jobs where the line between coerced and "free" labor was hardly ever clear and low-paid wage earners in general lacked citizenship rights. Contrary to free labor ideology and even labor historians who suggest a clear shift in time from the priority of artisanal to wage work, Rockman's view depicts a permanent laboring class in the early republic, hopeless of advancement, where dependence and acute deprivation made a way of life across the color line—despite appeals of some to the presumed privilege of whiteness. "Hirelings and slaves," classed together in a neglected line of Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner," underlay the social and civic order of Baltimore, and Rock-

man sees the reappearance in neoliberal economies of acute labor-market insecurity and vulnerable workers with few rights to redress or self-organization as an echo of this preindustrial standard. *Scraping By* requires readers to rethink definitions and timetables about the development of capitalism in Early America and its consequences.

Honorable Mention

Martha A. Sandweiss, Princeton University, *Passing Strange: A Gilded Age Tale of Love and Deception Across the Color Line* (Penguin Press). This remarkable story of the renowned scientist and surveyor of the Great West, Clarence King, a white man, and his secret marriage to African American Ada Copeland depicts in strikingly new ways the barriers as well as the mysteries of race in U.S. culture of the nineteenth-century and since. Despite his position in upper-class white society, in his life with Copeland, King assumed the identity of James Todd, Pullman porter. As Todd, he lived with her and their children in Brooklyn's black community—not only eluding his literary and scientific colleagues in Manhattan and throughout the U.S. but also avoiding any questions about his racial identity in his Brooklyn family and neighborhood. Sandweiss's revelatory research through letters and public documents discloses the social structures of the color and class lines that kept two parts of King's life apart yet also the profound cultural ambiguities about race that allowed King to pass through the lines. Sandweiss sensitively shows the inflections of masculinity and femininity along class and color lines as well, helping to make the King and Copeland stories into a powerful analytical lens focused on the diverse forms and experience of social life in the late 19th century. Sandweiss depicts the New York life of a black Georgia woman, white gentlemen's residential hotels, the economies of porters and cooks, the financial woes of the upper crust, alternative definitions of marriage, and how race worked to divide and blind people. She demonstrates the social construction of race, even as she writes social history as detective story. ■

Richard W. Leopold Prize

awarded every two years for the best book written by a historian connected with federal, state, or municipal government

Prize committee: Roger D. Launius, Smithsonian Institution, Chair; Andy Ambrose, Tubman African American Museum; and Lu Ann Jones, National Park Service.

J. Samuel Walker, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, *The Road to Yucca Mountain: The Development of Radioactive Waste Policy in the United States* (University of California Press). This is a very fine book by the longstanding historian of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It investigates in a comprehensive manner the efforts of the United States to deal with radioactive



Walker

waste, a key bugaboo in the debate over nuclear energy. Walker explores the evolution of how the government has tried to deal with this issue from the time of the Manhattan Project in World War II through the designation in 1987 of Yucca Mountain in Nevada as a high-level waste repository. His focus is on the approach overseen by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), but goes beyond that to include perspectives beyond the government, especially interest groups and protest movements. The growing criticism of these waste programs provides a major engine for moving the story forward, and this is far from a pro-government whitewash. For instance, Walker writes about several embarrassing episodes in this arena. Solidly researched and effectively written, he makes an original and insightful contribution to understanding this important story. Nuclear energy will certainly reemerge in the 21st century to help offset energy needs in the United States, and this work provides an important record of what has gone before as well as a public policy primer for future leaders. ■

Avery O. Craven Award

for the most original book on the coming of the Civil War, the Civil War years, or the era of Reconstruction, with the exception of works of purely military history

Award committee: Diane C. Vecchio, Furman University, Chair; Carl Moneyhon, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; and LeeAnn Whites, University of Missouri.



Rosen

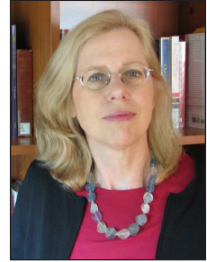
Hannah Rosen, University of Michigan. *Terror in the Heart of Freedom: Citizenship, Sexual Violence, and the Meaning of Race in the Postemancipation South* (The University of North Carolina Press) provides a provocative story of violence and sexual assault suffered by African Americans in the post-Civil War South. Rosen provides compelling evidence of how African Americans, particularly black women who were sexually assaulted by white men, pushed for equality without regard to race based upon their understanding of “citizenship” and their claims upon the state for protection from sexual coercion and assault. Gleaning evidence from victims’ testimonies, as well as Congressional hearings and records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedom, and Abandoned Lands, Rosen offers a careful interpretation of the race riots that took place in Memphis, Tennessee, of debates over “miscegenation” and suffrage in Arkansas, and of Ku Klux Klan violence throughout the south during the era of Reconstruction. Rosen’s analysis furthers our understanding of Reconstruction politics in a path breaking and unique way making gender the keystone of postbellum racist arguments. Her work represents the very best tradition in scholarly research, and her conclusions make a fundamentally new and important addition to our knowledge of race relations in the immediate post-Civil War era. ■

James A. Rawley Prize

for a book dealing with the history of race relations in the United States

Award committee: Karin A. Shapiro, Duke University, Chair; Nelson Lichtenstein, University of California, Santa Barbara; and Clare A. Lyons, University of Maryland, College Park.

Julie Greene, University of Maryland, College Park, *The Canal Builders: Making America's Empire at the Panama Canal* (The Penguin Press). Americans tend to remember the Panama Canal for its exploits in technology, industry and medicine, which made its construction possible, as well as for its role in the United States' emergence as a world power. Digging beneath these triumphal images, Greene excavates the experiences of the roughly 60,000 workers who moved dirt, laid tracks, typed notes, and sold goods in the Canal Zone between 1904 and 1914. Recruited from roughly 90 countries, though primarily from the Caribbean and the United States, these workers presented the American Government with its greatest challenge in the Canal Zone – how to manage a racially-divided labor force. Drawing on segregationist ideology, the U.S. created a complicated world of workers paid in either gold or silver. The U.S. overlaid this payment system with variable rewards based on skill, race, ethnicity, nationality, and citizenship. The effort to rule by division enabled the Americans to impose control over the Canal Zone, but only by creating numerous anomalies that defied rigid enforcement. Using archival evidence gathered from several countries, Greene has created a sophisticated, analytically compelling, and beautifully written analysis of the gargantuan labors that made the Panama Canal a gateway of world trade. ■



Greene

Ellis W. Hawley Prize

for the best book-length historical study of the political economy, politics, or institutions of the United States, in its domestic or international affairs, from the Civil War to the present

Prize committee: Patrick G. Williams, University of Arkansas, Chair; Steven Hahn, University of Philadelphia; and Charles L. Lumpkins, Pennsylvania State University.

Margot Canaday, Princeton University. *The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in Twentieth-Century America* (Princeton University Press) fully meets its goal of placing “the history of sexuality in closer dialogue with political and legal history.” In chronicling the growth of more comprehensive and targeted discrimination against sex and gender nonconformists by federal immigration, military, and welfare authorities, Margot Canaday makes the provocative argument that the state only gradually came to “discover” and define homosexuality and, in doing so, itself shaped gay identity. These processes, she says, were inextricably bound up with the growth of Ameri-



Canaday

can government in the twentieth century. Federal officials had occasion during two world wars, the New Deal, and the Cold War to scrutinize and sort increasing numbers of immigrants, soldiers, and recipients of public aid. Citizenship was redefined as people identified as homosexuals were excluded from its benefits. Though well-grounded in the theoretical literature of state-building and American political development, *The Straight State's* peculiar strength lies in its thorough mining of federal records, some of which Canaday gained access to only after going to court. Scholars and citizens of every sort will need to come to terms with this timely and challenging work, which one committee member suggests "should take a prominent place as part of a new political history of modern America." ■

Liberty Legacy Foundation Award

for the best book on any aspect of the struggle for civil rights in the United States, from the nation's founding to the present

Award committee: Joseph Crespino, Emory University, Chair; Kenneth R. Janken, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and Susan E. O'Donovan, University of Memphis.



Satter

Beryl Satter, Rutgers University at Newark. *Family Properties: Race, Real Estate, and the Exploitation of Black Urban America* (Metropolitan Books) examines the history of housing discrimination in the Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago. It is at once a moving history of the author's own family (her father, an attorney and local landlord, fought discriminatory contract selling and neighborhood decline before his untimely death) as well as a lucid account of economic exploitation in the post-World War II urban North. Lawndale became a national focal point when Martin Luther King moved into a dilapidated tenement there as part of his open housing campaign of 1966. Yet the author draws attention to the little known community organizing movement that succeeded King's efforts, when local residents mobilized to confront slumlords and their wealthy creditors. Imaginatively conceived, *Family Properties* negotiates a range of thorny issues—family memory, racial and ethnic tensions, the legal and financial intricacies of the real estate market—with exceptional skill and grace. ■

Lawrence W. Levine Award

for the best book in American cultural history

Award committee: Robert Korstad, Duke University, Chair; Leslie Butler, Dartmouth College; Lewis A. Erenberg, Loyola University Chicago; Benjamin Filene, The University of North Carolina, Greensboro; and Geri Hastings, Catonsville High School (MD).



Brown

Kathleen M. Brown, University of Pennsylvania. *Foul Bodies: Cleanliness in Early America* (Yale University Press) is a fascinating history of the human body as both a physical entity and a

cultural construct. Brown traces the transformation of the care of the body from the world of the early modern Atlantic to the U.S. in the middle of the nineteenth century. Cleanliness, she shows, is not simply a matter of health but a marker of identity—a way of signaling individual aspiration and of demarcating “self” from “other,” “civilized” from “dissolute.” The clean body, Brown argues, was a product of cultural encounter and, importantly, the labor of women. Imaginatively told and exhaustively researched, *Foul Bodies* shows how private life is threaded through with the public worlds of politics and economics. *Foul Bodies* asks new kinds of questions, pursues them with new kinds of evidence, and ultimately offers a lens for seeing the familiar in a new light. The committee found this a most innovative work that is likely to have a field-shaping impact. ■

Darlene Clark Hine Award

for the best book in African American women's and gender history

Award committee: Wanda A. Hendricks, University of South Carolina, Chair; Randall K. Burkett, Emory University; and Barbara Ransby, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Margaret Washington, Cornell University. *Sojourner Truth's America* (University of Illinois Press) is a richly textured and careful analysis that presents Truth in the full context of both her religious heritage and her upbringing in the brutal world of American slavery. Washington highlights the significant importance of religion by exploring Truth's personal development and maturation as she immersed herself into Dutch pietism, African spiritual traditions, Methodist evangelicalism and perfectionism, and the congeries of religious ideas that permeated mid-nineteenth century America. Washington places the book within a womanist framework, which she defines through female authority, religious self-understanding, and a womanhood that was a complex mixture of political, economic, and social actions. Ultimately, Washington successfully and masterfully places black women, through the figure of Sojourner Truth, in the center of nineteenth century religious revivalism, and allows us to see this “African Dutch mystic” as quintessentially American.



Washington

Honorable Mention

Leslie Brown, Williams College. *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class, and Black Community Development in the Jim Crow South* (The University of North Carolina Press) examines the internal social, political, and economic development of Durham, North Carolina's black community. Gender plays a prominent role in the text as Brown demonstrates the distinct ways in which women and men differentially contributed to upbuilding, and how women confronted and struggled against racism and sexism. Class, defined here in gendered terms, also shaped the struggle for racial progress, its definitions shifting with

increased urbanization. Brown argues that because friction generated energy, conflict expanded the forms of resistance and protest African Americans engaged.

Honorable Mention

Crystal N. Feimster, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. *Southern Horrors: Women and the Politics of Rape and Lynching* (Harvard University Press) provides a well crafted analysis of the topics of rape and lynching in the late nineteenth and early part of the twentieth centuries. Through the writings and voices of two southern women, one black and one white, the racial and sexual politics of the Jim Crow south provide a gendered context to the horror of rape and lynching. This richly detailed text demonstrates that Ida B. Wells and Rebecca Latimer played central roles in the transformation of women's politicization. ■

Lerner-Scott Prize

for the best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women's history

Prize committee: Linda Reed, University of Houston, Chair; Heidi Ardizzone, University of Notre Dame; and Alecia P. Long, Louisiana State University.



Ramey

Jessie B. Ramey, University of Pittsburgh, "A Childcare Crisis: Poor Black and White Families in Orphanages in Pittsburgh, 1878-1929." Written under the codirection of Professors Tera Hunter and Steven Schlossman at Carnegie Mellon University, Ramey's dissertation reconceptualizes orphanages as a form of childcare. She does an exemplary job of extracting data from the newly opened records of two Pittsburgh institutions, one that served white children, and the other, African-American children. Ramey focuses on working-class parents who confronted an urban, industrial childcare crisis—struggling to combine wage labor and household responsibilities—and managed to preserve their families by negotiating a new system of child welfare organizations. Her project breaks methodological ground: using the records of 1,597 children at the two orphanages, she developed a relational database permitting rigorous quantitative analysis. From this, Ramey identifies patterns and trends that help to explain how and why impoverished people used the orphanages, most often on a temporary basis and because of a family crisis. She also uses rare letters and exchanges between orphanage directors and family members to paint a picture that shows as well as tells the reader about the underlying emotional landscape of her historical subjects. Finally, Ramey is able to use the records to help readers think about the history of women, race, class and gender in relational terms. This enables her to include chapters that focus specifically on questions of segregation and on the role of fathers in childcare. By investigating the intertwined logic of gender, class, and race hierarchies at the foundation of orphanage care, Ramey

suggests the consequences of these persistent inequalities on modern childcare. ■

Louis Pelzer Memorial Award

for the best essay in American history by a graduate student

Award committee: Edward T. Linenthal, Executive Editor, Organization of American Historians, Chair; John M. Belohlavek, University of South Florida; Margaret S. Creighton, Bates College; Stephen Kercher, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh; and John T. Schlotterbeck, DePaul University.

Nora Doyle, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. “The Highest Pleasure of Which Woman’s Nature is Capable’: Breastfeeding and the Sentimental Maternal Ideal in America 1750-1860.” This essay argues that medical professionals and moralists had addressed breastfeeding’s benefits to babies in the mid-eighteenth century. By the end of that century, however, those benefits were pitched differently, and came to the mother in the form of pleasure and the sweet maternal bond she enjoyed with her child. That change dovetailed with evolving ideas about the role of mothers, and women generally, in American society and helped reinforce the emerging sentimental maternal ideal. Citing numerous advice manuals, the author sheds light on the ways breastfeeding was scripted as a validation of a mother’s tender love—the antecedent to residual benefits such as marital happiness. Using women’s diaries and letters, the author also demonstrates that the reality of breastfeeding contradicted the idealized descriptions found in advice manuals. ■

Binkley-Stephenson Award

for the best scholarly article published in The Journal of American History during the preceding calendar year

Award committee: Claire Strom, Rollins College, Chair; Thavolia Glymph, Duke University; and Randal L. Hall, Rice University.

Volker Janssen, California State University Fullerton. “When the ‘Jungle’ Met the Forest: Public Work, Civil Defense, and Prison Camps in Postwar California” (December 2009) examines the rise and decline of forest prison camps in California. In these camps, especially during the 1950s and 1960s, state prisoners worked 48-hour weeks constructing fire defenses and fighting forest fires. The work, originating in the CCC camps of the depression, allowed prisoners to redefine themselves as “citizen soldiers” and receive acceptance and appreciation from the general populace. The camps declined after 1965. Growing racial tensions in urban areas led to increased fear of these inmates among the mainly white rural population. Wanting to retain the benefits and employment generated by correctional facilities in their midst, they preferred to see the centers turned



Janssen

into more conventional prisons, with little interaction possible the prisoners and the community that housed them and little possibility for rehabilitation. Janssen's work is the result of considerable archival research in relatively unexplored collections. It contributes fresh insights to the growing literature on the past, present, and future of incarceration. It also neatly ties changes in the state prison system to larger political, social, and economic changes in the state and nation, such as depression, war, and racial conflict. Janssen's argument is strong and well iterated. ■

Huggins-Quarles Award

for graduate students of color at the dissertation research stage of their Ph.D. program



Rosas

Award committee: Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, Indiana University, Chair; Lionel Kimble Jr., Chicago State University; Lydia R. Otero, University of Arizona; Adrienne Petty, The City College of New York, CUNY, and George J. Sánchez, University of Southern California.

Abigail Rosas, University of Southern California, "On the Move and in the Moment: Community Formation, Identity, Politics, and Opportunity in South Central Los Angeles, 1945-Present." The recipient of the 2010 Huggins-Quarles Award is committed to historicizing the current demographic growth of "majority minority" cities where contemporary race relations are largely defined by interaction between non-whites. Taking on the history of one of the most visible racialized communities in the second half of the twentieth century, Abigail Rosas documents and interprets the daily relationships between and amongst working class Latina/o and Black residents of South Central Los Angeles. For her dissertation, Rosas is crafting a major refashioning of Los Angeles racial history by combining and integrating the study of Mexican immigration with Black migration into communities south of downtown Los Angeles, telling a multiracial history of the region focused on the leadership of working class women. Her dissertation chapters are case studies into major arenas of interaction, including minority owned banks, Head Start centers, community organizations, and community and government operated health clinics, which showcase how daily acts of solidarity, resistance, and compromise occur across racial and ethnic difference. Rosas leads a new wave of scholarship that is not satisfied to only tell one part of this complicated history, but rather realizes that her generation of scholars must be able to engage local history across racial lines and from a global perspective. ■

Tachau Teacher of the Year Award

for contributions made by precollegiate teachers to improve history education

Award committee: Don Falls, Southeast High School (FL), Chair; Michael Flamm, Ohio Wesleyan University; and Frederick W. Jordan, Woodberry Forest School (VA).

Matthew A. Rozell, Hudson Falls High School (NY), has demonstrated a high level of commitment to the historical, intellectual, and pedagogical principles that underlay the Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Teacher of the Year Award. One of Mr. Rozell's students described him as "someone that is dedicated to his work and he won't settle for just satisfactory, whether it be for himself or his students." He has taught high school history in New York State since 1987 and during that time engaged countless students in historical investigations that go beyond the normal classroom setting. Recently named the Outstanding Teacher of American History by the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution, he has made several significant archaeological discoveries at Fort Edward New York, an important outpost during both the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. He has used this involvement in historical archaeology as an educational tool by taking students out of the classroom and putting them in the field assisting in excavations of historical sites. This type of hands-on engagement typifies Rozell's pedagogical approach to teaching history. Further he has been active in collecting the oral histories of "the men and women who lived through World War II" and using those stories to connect students to the historiography of the era. As former student Mary-Ellen Stockwell observed: "World War II was no longer a topic written down in a text... but a living piece of history in the lives of his students." The World War II Living History Project has been recognized by New York Congressman Scott Murphy and by New York Governor David Paterson who commended Rozell for bringing together a reunion of Holocaust survivors and American soldiers of the 30th Infantry Division that liberated them. For most, this was the first meeting since April 1945 when U.S. forces intercepted their train heading from the notorious Bergen-Belsen concentration camp to another death camp. Governor Paterson praises Rozell for his "extraordinary efforts" in keeping this important chapter of history alive and for efforts in "providing students extraordinary opportunities to appreciate firsthand the power of oral history and the crucial role that personal experience plays in the making of history;" and for his "tireless passion as an educator." By all accounts, Matthew Rozell exemplifies the highest professionalism and dedication to the improvement of history education. ■



Rozell

Erik Barnouw Award

for outstanding reporting or programming on network or cable television, or in documentary film, concerned with American history, the study of American history, and/or the promotion of history

Award committee: Elspeth H. Brown, University of Toronto, Chair; Lary May, University of Minnesota; and Gerald E. Shenk, California State University, Monterey Bay.



Walker

Passage, directed by John Walker, distributed by Bullfrog Films, Inc., a truly remarkable piece of historical filmmaking, is a lyrical model of how to construct a historical project while showcasing both the processes of making that history, as well as the changing political stakes of a specific historical narrative over time. The film's historical subject is Sir John Franklin's doomed expedition to discover the Northwest Passage; the shocking report of Hudson's Bay physician John Rae, who found evidence in 1851 that the starving crew had resorted to cannibalism in their last days; and the British counter-narrative which blamed the Inuit for the crew's death, rather than accept Rae's report of cannibalism. Formally, filmmaker John Walker constructs a documentary within a documentary: we see the film crew making the documentary, period costume and all, in the Arctic, in Rae's childhood home in Scotland's Orkney Islands, and in London, while also pursuing (in contemporary garb) the contested historical evidence. As the film unfolds, we learn the extent to which the Victorian narrative of Inuit treachery continues to shape some contemporary understandings of the Franklin expedition. The film's narrative tension builds to an explosive meeting in the boardroom of the British Royal Navy, as Tagak Curley, an honored Inuit statesman, confronts the ongoing, contemporary production of a narrative of British heroism and Inuit savagery. For its unparalleled brilliance in showcasing the historical consequences of making choices in the production of historical narrative, *Passage* is exemplary for the "promotion of history," a central criteria of the Erik Barnouw Award.

Honorable Mention

We Shall Remain, American Experience. Executive Producers: Sharon Grimberg and Mark Samels. Producers: Ric Burns, Sarah Colt, Dustinn Craig, Stanley Nelson, Cathleen O'Connell, Rob Rapley, and Mark Zwonitzer. This five part television series explores key historical moments in American history through "Native eyes," from seventeenth century New England through 1970s American Indian Movement activism. The series demonstrates exceptional research, superb editing, lively visual elements, and a masterful narrative that synthesizes recent contributions to the fields of Native and U.S. history. The series inverts the traditional perspectives of U.S. history to see the last 300 years through the lens of Native peoples, constructing a truly "national" history in more than one sense of the word.

Honorable Mention

Herskovits At the Heart of Blackness (California Newsreel). This documentary expertly explores the life and career of Melville J. Herskovits (1895-1963), American anthropologist and student of Franz Boas, who pioneered the field of African and African American Studies. Using interviews, historical footage, and creative animation, the film narrates Herskovits' controversial scholarly ideas, his increasing politicization, and the role of Herskovits' work in shaping post-WWII ideas of *negritude* and the Black Panther Party. The film interrogates the production of knowledge about peoples through its successful historicizing of Herskovits' ideas in the context of 20th century social movements. ■

OAH-JAAS Short-Term Residencies

The OAH and the Japanese Association of American Studies, with the generous support of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, select two U.S. historians to spend two weeks at Japanese universities giving lectures, seminars, advising students and researchers interested in the American past, and joining in the collegiality of the host institution. It is part of an exchange program that also brings Japanese graduate students to the OAH Annual Meeting.

Residencies committee: Juri Abe, Rikkyo University, Cochair; Andrea Geiger, Simon Fraser University, Cochair; Christopher Jespersen, North Georgia College & State University; Kohei Kawashima, Musashi University; Kim E. Nielsen, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay; Naoki Onishi, International Christian University; Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu, Michigan State University; and Thomas J. Sugrue, University of Pennsylvania.

Ariela J. Gross, University of Southern California, Kyoto University, history of race and racial ideologies in the United States.

Mark Dyreson, Pennsylvania State University, Musashi University, American sports history. ■



Gross



Dyreson

OAH-Immigration and Ethnic History Society John Higham Travel Grants

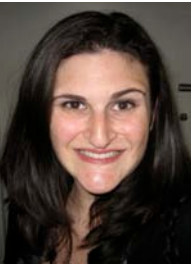
for graduate students to be used toward costs of attending the OAH/IEHS Annual Meeting



Cavin

Grants committee: Francille Rusan Wilson, University of Southern California, Chair; Elliott Barkan, California State University, San Bernardino (Emeritus); and Lon Kurashige, University of Southern California.

Aaron Cavin, University of Michigan. Aaron Cavin's comprehensive exploration of immigration, federal housing policies, and the development of Mexican American racial politics in Silicon Valley promises to deepen our understanding of the complex processes of suburbanization.



Kohn

Shira Miriam Kohn, New York University. Shira Kohn's dissertation skillfully explores how ethnicity and gender shaped the responses of Jewish sororities to the post war politics of the Cold War, feminism, and the civil rights movement. Her OAH paper provides an analysis of Jewish sorority debates concerning efforts to integrate Greek organizations in California's state universities and promises to complicate and enrich our understanding of Jewish involvement in the civil rights movement.



Lim

Julian S. Lim, Cornell University. Julian Lim's work powerfully examines multiracial intersections in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands from the 1880s to the early 1930s. Her focus on Chinese, African American, and Mexican men and women's border crossings in search of both freedom and economic opportunities avoids traditional binaries and expands our understanding of how these efforts to escape institutionalized racism led to transnational movements of labor. ■

2010 OAH Presidential Address

David A. Hollinger, University of California, Berkeley,
and OAH President-Elect, Presiding



ELAINE TYLER MAY
University of Minnesota

Elaine Tyler May, Regents Professor of History and American Studies at the University of Minnesota, has won the respect of the profession for her distinguished record as a scholar. Her research and writing has cut an intimidating swath through the field of the social and political history of the American family, addressing a multitude of issues in sexuality, gender, marriage, reproduction, and childhood. May is the author of four substantial, single-authored books, in addition to many edited and coauthored works. The best known of her four monographs is the classic, *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era* (New York, 1988), which reappeared in an expanded, twentieth anniversary edition in 2008. Earlier, May had written *Great Expectations: Marriage and Divorce in Post-Victorian America* (Chicago, 1980), and later she wrote *Barren in the Promised Land: Childless Americans and the Pursuit of Happiness* (New York, 1995). Most recently, just this spring, May has published the fourth of these books, *America and the Pill: A History of Promise, Peril, and Liberation* (New York, 2010). Patient, responsive, conscientious, and smart, May has been an exemplary President of the Organization of American Historians. She has led us effectively during a transitional year in which the OAH searched for, and found, a new Executive Director, and improved the efficiency of the Bloomington office. Having already served (in 1995-1996) as President of the American Studies Association, May brought to her responsibilities as OAH President a valuable reserve of experience and sound judgment. All who have been in a position to observe her OAH presidency have come to appreciate her combination of fair-mindedness and firm resolve. Deeply committed to the building and maintaining of effective communities of colleagues, "Lany," as she allows herself to be called, has shown exceptional sensitivity to the interests and needs of every individual with whom she has worked in the OAH. ■



Please join OAH in thanking Sage for its
generous support of the 2010 OAH Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address.