

Georgia Association of Historians Newsletter



VOLUME XXVI

Summer/Fall 2005

Planning Progresses for Spring Meeting; Arnita Jones to Speak

“Perspectives on the Past” will be the theme of the spring meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, to be held on April 6-8, 2006, at Clayton State University in Morrow, which is adjacent to both the National Archives and Records Service southeast branch and the State of Georgia Archives. This theme is intended to encourage presentations that relate to research using archival resources, program Committee Chair and President Elect **Susan McGrath** said.

Planning for the meeting, including the selection of an opening speaker, is in progress, and will include events at the archives as well as on the Clayton State campus. **Arnita Jones**, executive director of the American Historical Association, will address the members of the GAH at the luncheon to be held on Saturday.

A formal call for papers will be issued in November. ❖

Going places & doing things

William Risch, GC&SU, will spend the spring semester at Harvard University as a post-doctoral fellow. His field is Soviet Union and Modern Russia and Ukrainian history.

Michelle Reid, Georgia State University, and **Kathryn W. Kemp**, Clayton State University, participated in a faculty enrichment program in Xalapa, Mexico

Robert Welborn directed the European Council Study Abroad Program in Montepulciano, Italy, Session II, during summer 2005, and in his ninth year of teaching summers abroad, will be directing the same program in summer 2006.

Robert Wilson, GC&SU, was a visiting professor at the Palacky University of Olomouc, Czech Republic, in the spring of 2005.

Clayton State University has begun a faculty exchange program with Chandibai Himathmal Mansukhani College in Ulhasnagar, India, **Robert Welborn** taught at CHM in Dec. 2004 and in Nov. 2005, CHM College will be sending a professor to CSU. ❖

Historical Marker Honors “Poet of the Pines”

Paul Hamilton Hayne (1830-1886), known as the "Poet of the Pines," is recognized on a new historical marker dedicated on September 10, 2005, by the City of Grovetown, the Grovetown Museum and the Georgia Historical Society. Hayne lived and worked in the Grovetown area from 1866 to his death in 1886. Speakers at the dedication included **Christy Crisp**, Georgia Historical Society; **Charles Lord**, Grovetown historian; and **Rayburn S. Moore**, Hayne's biographer. The marker stands in front of the museum on Robinson Avenue in Grovetown. ❖

SHA Panel on Georgia Topic

The Southern Historical Association meeting Saturday, November 5, 2005 will include a panel: “New Perspectives on the Atlanta Race Riot of 1906” at the Auburn Avenue Research Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Participants will include **Mark Bauerline**, **Leroy Davis**, **Alison Dorsey**, **David Godshalk**, **Kenneth R. Janken**, and **Gregory Mixon**; **David Levering Lewis** will chair. ❖

GAH Historians

Up the ladder!

Stephen Auerbach has come from the University of Nevada, Reno, to join the GC & SU faculty. His field is early modern Europe with his research interests focusing on the French Revolution. Dr. Auerbach completed his Ph.D. at Louisiana State University in 2001.

Valdosta State has hired **Dixie Ray Haggard** as an Assistant Professor, specializing in Native American, Colonial, and Early U.S. history.

Martha Keber retired in August from Georgia College and State University, where she has taught since 1979, specializing in Modern European history.

Gregory Mixon has been promoted to Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte History Department. He is on leave this fall, researching black southern state militias in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, 1865-1910; and Henry A. Rucker, Collector of Internal Revenue Georgia, 1852-1924.

Georgia College & State University has hired **William Risch**, who formerly taught at Omsk State University in Omsk, Russia, L'viv National University in the Ukraine, and the University of Toledo. He completed his Ph.D. at Ohio State University in 2001.

S. Fred Roach, a founding member and past secretary and president of the GAH, retired from Kennesaw State University in August 2004 after 36 years of service.

Fort Valley State University has added **Mark Smith**, a University of Alabama Ph.D., to its history staff. Mark's focus is the first half of U.S. history.

Fred Van Hartesvelt has been appointed Interim Chair of the Department of History, Geography, Political Science, and Criminal Justice at Fort Valley State University.

Robert Welborn is now Director of the Office of International Education at Clayton State University. ❖

And the winner is...

Anne Bailey of Georgia College & State University won the 2005 Grady McWhiney Award for scholarship in Civil War history.



John Fair won the 2005 Georgia College & State University Faculty Research Award.

Alan LeBaron, current President of the GAH and past president of the Southeastern World History Association, received the Kennesaw State University Distinguished Service Award for 2004-2005. The award recognized his work to improve the teaching of world history in the public schools as well as his work with Mayan immigrant communities in Georgia. ❖

Battle of Augusta Commemoration Planned

A two-day celebration of the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Augusta, May-June 1781 is planned for June 2-3, 2006, at the Augusta Museum of History, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and the adjacent city pension property. Events include a symposium at the museum on Friday, June 2, and a ceremony and battle reenactment at the pension property on Saturday, June 3. Sponsoring agencies include the Augusta Richmond County Historical Society and the Center for the Study of Georgia History, Augusta State University. ❖

Taylor-Colbert to Arkansas; Honored by GHRAB

Alice Taylor-Colbert, former GAH President and long-time supporter of this organization has accepted a department chair position at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. Taylor-Colbert was Dean of the School of Education & Social Sciences at Shorter College and Director of the College Museum & Archives. Her husband also has accepted a department chair position at Fort Smith. Before she relocated in October, Colbert said, "I never thought I'd leave Georgia." The Georgia Historic Records Advisory Board recently honored her long service in the preservation of Georgia's documentary past. ❖

Georgia's Political Heritage Interviews Will Be Available State-wide

CARROLLTON, GA -- **Mel Steely**, a University of West Georgia professor emeritus of history and director and founder of the Georgia's Political Heritage Program, recently announced that Georgia Public Television has agreed to join with the GPHP to digitize one of the largest historical archives in the southeast. The collection, which includes interviews of 59 prominent leaders in Georgia politics, is stored on VHS tapes in the Ingram Library Special Collections /Archives Department at UWG. Tapes of former governors Zell Miller, Joe Frank Harris and Lester Maddox, as well as the late Senator Herman Talmadge are just a few of the interviews that will be digitized and broadcast through Georgia Public Television's education service, which reaches 1.5 million students and 90,000 teachers. The historical archives also will be accessible by state universities, public schools and libraries through Georgia's online learning library, GALILEO.

To carry out the project, Georgia Public Broadcasting will lend recording equipment worth \$15,000 to the university, which will train student workers to carry out the digitizing process. The project is estimated to be completed in 10 months.

"We're very excited," said Seeley. "This collection is one of the best kept secrets in Georgia. The project will make the archives accessible to everyone throughout the state." ♦



From l to r: **Lorene Flanders**, executive director of Ingram Library; **Mike Nixon**, PBS director of education and technology services, and **Nancy Hall**, executive director of PBS, view an tape of former President Jimmy Carter. The tape is part of a special collections project at the University of West Georgia that will be digitized through a partnership with Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Bookshelf

"Miscegenation and Competing Definitions of Race in Twentieth-Century Louisiana" by **Michelle Brattain** of Georgia State University appears in the August 2005 issue of the *Journal of Southern History*.

Mercer University Press has released *Our Connection With Savannah, History of the 1st Battalion Georgia Sharpshooters*, by member **Russell K. Brown** of Grovetown. His previous work, *To the Manner Born, Life of General William H.T. Walker*, was released by Mercer in paperback this spring. Russell has recent publications in the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, and the *Augusta Richmond County History*.

The Human Tradition in the New South, James Klotter, ed., includes a chapter by **Kathryn W. Kemp** of Clayton State University.

This University of Georgia Press will issue a paperback edition of *Eugene Bullard: Black Expatriate in Jazz-Age Paris*, by **Craig Lloyd**, Emer. Prof. History and Archives, Columbus State University next spring. A new preface will include recently discovered information that American military authorities pressured the French to remove Bullard from the French Air Service.

A book, *The Atlanta Riot: Race, Class, and Violence* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, Jan. 2005) and an article: "The Making of a Black Political Boss: Henry A. Rucker, 1897-1904," *Georgia Historical Quarterly* (Winter 2005) are the work of **Gregory Mixon**, UNC Charlotte.

Craig Pascoe, along with **Karen Trahan Leathem**, and **Andy Ambrose**, edited *The American South in the Twentieth Century*, published by University of Georgia Press.

Georgia State's **Jared Poley** wrote *Decolonization in Germany: Weimar Narratives of Colonial Loss and Foreign Occupation*, Volume 99, published in New York by Peter Lang Publishing, 2005.

Professor Adam Tate, Assistant Professor of History, Clayton State University has written *Conservatism and Southern Intellectuals, 1789-1861: Liberty, Tradition, and the Good Society*, published this spring by the University of Missouri Press.

Fred Van Hartesvelt's book, *The Battles of the British Expeditionary Force, 1914-15: Historiography and Annotated Bibliography* (New York: Praeger, 2005) is now available. ♦

Teaching American History Grant to Valdosta State

The Valdosta State University History Department, in connection with a Teaching American History grant of almost \$1 million recently awarded by the U.S Department of Education to the Coastal Plains Regional Education Service Agency in Lenox, Georgia, will provide university faculty who will work with selected elementary, middle and high school history teachers in the districts of the Coastal Plains RESA area.

"The program will help improve teachers' knowledge, understanding and appreciation for American history and, therefore, improve the quality of the history education received by their students," according to **Paul Riggs**, assistant professor and head of the History Department who was instrumental in structuring the program's budget and directives.



Paul Riggs

The program will provide about 50 teachers with development opportunities pertaining to their subject matter. For example, since an integral part of education is analyzing historical events and observing the locations where they happened, teachers will take summer trips to places such as Savannah, Charleston, Augusta--even Philadelphia, Pa.--to enhance their teaching abilities.

"The department has received grants from private foundations before, but this grant is by far the largest," Riggs said. "We are honored to have been chosen - and excited to get underway."

Recruitment for the program, scheduled to begin in fall 2006, has already begun. ❖

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIANS – APRIL 9, 2005

Meeting Convened: 2:00pm

Members Present: Officers and Members in Attendance at Annual Meeting

I. Reports:

- a. Treasurer: S. McGrath reported there was currently about \$11,000 in the various accounts of the held by the GAH. She explained that could not report more specifically because the April statement had not yet arrived.
- b. Newsletter/Website: K. Kemp reported the website was now ADA compliant. She requested members to please send news to the webmaster for inclusion in upcoming e-versions of the Newsletter, noting that the Newsletter would now be online. She also noted that the website was building a state of Georgia Pictorial Vault and requested submissions.
- c. Archives: R. Grimsley reported that the Proceedings through 1996 were now at the archives and were being scanned in to be available online.
- d. Journal: F. van Hartesveldt noted that the Journal should be in the mail to members within six weeks.

- e. Nominating Committee: L. Caldwell placed the following names in nomination:
President Elect – Susan McGrath
Treasurer – Wendy Turner
Members-at-Large: Sandra Peacock, Michael Hill.
The President called for nominations from the floor. None being offered, the nominees were elected by the membership by acclamation.

- f. Awards: J. Inscoe announced that plans were being made to reinstate the GAH Student Research Paper awards.
He also announced that the Linda Piper Service Award would be presented next year to Hutch Johnson and Marvin Thomas.

- g. Promotion of History: G. Hatfield passed out flyers to provide the membership with information on the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board awards for student papers and asked them to encourage their students to use the Georgia Archives for research and to submit papers.

He also asked members to consider joining the Friends of the Georgia Archives Association, and announced that the new National Archives Regional building is now open.

- h. President's Report: M. Price reported the following:
 - 1. The State Department of Education had taken heed of the concerns about proposed state standards in history. He was pleased to announce that the revised standards, 25 for each year with a set of in-depth topics, were much improved from the original version.

 - 2. Over the previous year the executive council had discussed the following, and were bringing these topics to the attention of the membership:
 - a. The desire to build a stronger partnership with the public schools and school teachers.
 - b. How to use the new website as a “clearinghouse” for information on all sorts of history related events and issues.
 - c. The role of the GAH in “advocacy” work for history related organizations, issues.

The membership responded favorably, so the President called for, and the membership approved of the creation of a Strategic Planning Committee for the GAH composed of the following: Mike Price; LeeAnn Caldwell; Susan McGrath; Alan Lebaron; Gene Hatfield; Jamil Zainaldin

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay A. Reeve, Secretary ❖