

# The History NEWSLETTER

For Alumni and Friends, Department of History, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

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## Finlay Finished

Robert “Cuddles” Finlay always did this level best to keep his name out of *History Newsletter*. Honoring that spirit, we will keep this brief. Professor Finlay—after boxing up the teddy bears and Mylar balloons that had long greeted visitors to his office—retired as of December 31, 2012. He has deeded his favorite *My Little Pony* tie to a junior faculty badly in need of neckwear.



Dr. Finlay

Robert Finlay earned his BA and MA in history at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and his PhD at the University of Chicago, where he studied with William McNeill. After tours at Hartwick College, the University of Illinois, Northwestern University, and Reed College, he signed on as an assistant professor at the U of A in 1987. Quickly

establishing himself as one of the most erudite of a generally brainy faculty, he was promoted to associate professor in 1989 and full professor in 2007. Finlay taught the Renaissance and Reformation, Early Modern Europe, world history, and historiography, as well as conducting a seminar on the Aztecs so intent on accuracy that students would routinely have their hearts cut out. His expertise on

Venetian history yielded *Politics in Renaissance Venice* (Rutgers, 1980) and a collection of essays, *Venice Besieged: Politics and Diplomacy in the Italian Wars, 1494-1534* (Ashgate, 2008), and he hasn't stopped educating the public in the subject—witness his letter to the editor in the October 22, 2012 *New York Times*. But never content to be exclusively a creature of the Venetian lagoon, Finlay has also published learned work concerning the international porcelain trade, Chinese maritime history, and color in world history. His 1988 riposte to Natalie Zemon Davis, “The Refashioning of Martin Guerre,” has been ranked by the *American Historical Review* as one of the profession's most widely read essays. Finlay's next book, “Weaving the Rainbow: Visions of Color in World History,” is under contract with the University of California Press.

In retirement, Finlay will dedicate himself to learning all the words to “Sunshine, Lollipops, and Rainbows” and perfecting the attendant dance routine. He urges alumni to “keep smiling!!!” ■

## The Fall of the Hagiocracy

The public was startled to learn this spring that one of the world's great spiritual leaders would be stepping down, rather than serving—as typical—until death. Many wondered if the departed eminence, as the object of continuing veneration, might undermine the authority of the successor to the position, who also happened to be the first such leader from Latin America. For all these concerns, the Department had to face up to the fact that Lynda L. Coon would no longer be its chair as of July 1, 2013.

Abbess Coon has ministered to her flock since 2008—healing the sick, preaching the good word, smiting the wicked, and changing many a faculty diaper. It turns out that you *can* herd cats. Coon has been a fierce advocate for the brethren and cisterns, overseeing the tenure or promotion of nine of the department's faculty and the hiring of a whole corps of smarty-pants youngsters who have extended the Department's range considerably—all while earning herself the rank of full professor and publishing *Dark Age Bodies: Gender and Monastic Practice in the Early Medieval West* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010). She has seen to it that faculty, students, and our extraordinary staff have been recognized and rewarded for their achievement. Our Department has become decidedly user-friendly during her tenure. Yet its foes have had no worse enemy than Lynda Coon.

The Abbess will repair to that cloister she had occupied since 1990 and resume

full time with the good works that her colleagues and students know she performs just as miraculously as she does administration—teaching, research, and writing.

Let us join, then, in three cheers for chair Coon. Please note, though, that in accordance with Fulbright College's carefully calibrated hospitality policy, the third cheer will be BYOB. ■

## La Maximata Begins

Kathryn A. Sloan rose to power in a most curious way. In a departmental plebiscite in early 2012, the citizenry chose her to be their chair by a near unanimous vote. But, almost immediately, Sloan found herself driven into exile by a junta of high-ranking officers in Fulbright

College, evidently concerned that her hold on the masses might erode their authority in Old Main. So Sloan played at civilian life for a year—"researching," "writing," biding her time. When departmental colleagues briefly distracted the junta by winning just about every decoration Fulbright College awards for research, teaching, and service—plus grants and fellowships galore—Sloan was able to slip back into Old Main and occupy the office from which Abbess Coon had just been helicoptered. With the junta in disarray, Sloan would be proclaimed by her people not merely their chair but *la jefa maxima*. In contrast to her Mexican role models, however, she also has the strong backing of the Church.

Kathy Sloan first slipped across our border in 2004, having earned her doctorate at the University of Kansas (an earlier MBA from Kansas allowed her, for a time, to do the books and direct covert operations for Greenpeace). Since then, she has had charge of this side of the planet south of the Rio Bravo, offering courses in colonial and modern Latin America, modern Mexico, violence and social conflict in Latin America, women's and gender history, and historiography and historical method. In 2009—almost as soon as she was promoted to associate professor—Sloan became the Department's director of graduate studies and associate chair, and served until her flight into exile, at which point those duties were assumed by Tricia Starks (called "Trixie" by colleagues, with that same blend of affection and profound fear that Russians evinced in referring to "Uncle Joe"). Sloan has published two books since joining the Department, *Runaway Daughters: Seduction, Elopement, and Honor in Nineteenth-Century Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press, 2008) and *Women's Roles in Latin America and the Caribbean* (Greenwood, 2011), and she is deep into a third, "A Cultural and Social History of Suicide in Modern Mexico." Among the medals and ribbons that *la jefa maxima* wears on her ceremonial sash are the Fulbright College Outstanding Advisor Award (2012) and the John E. King Award for Outstanding Service (2011). ■

## We Must Be Dreaming

In these straitened times, faculty dreams often don't come true. That MacArthur grant, that generously funded research library, that volleyball game with Joan Holloway: wake up and where did they go? But the Department has been pining for faculty who could teach Latino and borderlands history, oral history, and Afro-Caribbean history, and hoping it might restore ancient history to its proper status, and, lo, those things actually *have* come to pass.

With a newly minted PhD from Vanderbilt, Caree Banton will join the Department in August. Her dissertation, "More Auspicious Shores: Post-Emancipation Barbadian Emigrants in Pursuit of Freedom, Citizenship, and Nationhood in Liberia, 1834-1912," calls on many ports—Caribbean history, the Atlantic World, and Africa and the African diaspora. Banton is something of a wayfarer herself, having earned her BA at Grambling State, a master's in history from the University of New Orleans, and a second master's in development studies from the University of Ghana.

Steven Rosales will be joining us from Grand Valley State University in Michigan, where he has been serving as assistant professor of history. He earned his doctorate at the University of California, Irvine, with a dissertation, "Soldados Razos: Chicano Politics, Identity, and Masculinity in the U.S. Military, 1940-1975," based, in part, in extensive oral history work. His publications include "Fighting the Peace at Home: Mexican American Veterans and the 1944 GI Bill of Rights," which appeared in *Pacific Historical Review* in 2011.

The Department is also delighted to be able to make Charles Muntz a tenure-track citizen of our republic. Charlie has been our man in the classical world since 2008, but on a visiting basis. He has offered courses in Greece and the ancient Near East, Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic world, the Roman republic and empire, Byzantium, and epic poetry, as well as intermediate and advanced language instruction in Greek and Latin. A Duke PhD, Muntz has, since his arrival, published articles in some of the most distinguished journals in his field, including *Classical Quarterly* and *Classical Philology*. Visit Old Main on a weekend and you'll find out he's a scholar of opera, too. Lynda Coon declared, upon his appointment as assistant professor of history, "Muntz's impressive command of Greek, Latin, and a variety of modern languages coupled with his imaginative approach to the ancient Greek and Roman worlds will be a boon to the department's strong program in pre-modern world history." But we knew that all along.

Banton, Rosales, Muntz—that's three wishes. But we won't shut up until we're granted a fourth. A new hire in Early Modern Europe. ■

# 43rd Annual Awards Program

With its recent string of expensive flops, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has contracted with assistant professor of history J. Laurence Hare to host next year's Oscar telecast. The signing came on the strength of Hare's performance as master of ceremonies at the Department's 43<sup>rd</sup> annual awards program and Phi Alpha Theta initiation, which occurred on May 2, 2013 at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House. With the ideal mix of schmaltz, schmooze, snark, and self-deprecating asides—all precisely timed to the offerings of the pit orchestra—Hare kept the ceremony moving and in a cheerful mood, in striking contrast to the shoving, self-promotion, and drunken tears that have marred some years' presentations.

Things started off with the initiation of students into Phi Alpha Theta, history's most distinguished honors society, with august ritual and the standard hazing. This year, though, no animals were harmed—goat's blood, it turns out, being pretty easy to fake with corn starch and food coloring. Alpha Chapter president Mary Katherine Henderson administered the oath to the following: **Max Brinson, Rachel Carpino, William Harris, Emma Hernon, Kerby Keller, Nathaniel King, Joshua Lee, William Loder, Andrew McBride, Alexander Marino, Brent Perkins, Sarah Plavcan, Janet Shields, Christopher Sims, Chase Stoudenmire, Lorie Thomas, John Treat, Jamey Voorhees, Haley Wallace, Tyrel Weston, Joshua Windsor, Breanne Witherspoon.**

Hare then began peeling bills off the biggest bankroll anybody had ever seen, as the Department proceeded to distribute almost \$50,000 in awards and scholarships. First came the undergraduate honors: *David W. Edwards Scholarship for an outstanding undergraduate in the study of history*: **Zoe Gastineau, Kevin McClenny;** *George W. Ray Memorial Award for*

*History major interested in the study of western civilization*: **Mary Casteel, Emma Hernon;** *Georgia V. G. Saunders Award for an outstanding student who is a veteran or child of a veteran*: **Daniel Ince;** *Gordon McNeil Award in European History for the best paper on European history*: **Greyson Teague;** *J. Margaret Roberts Endowed Award to provide financial assistance to a History student on the basis of academic excellence*: **William Loder;** *J. William Fulbright Award for a senior History major with the highest GPA*: **Lydia Thompson;** *James J. Hudson Award for Military History*: **Andy Brooks;**

*Phi Alpha Theta Undergraduate Paper Award for an outstanding paper*: **James Brown;** *Robert E. Reeser Classical Studies Award for an outstanding paper*: **Sharon Fox;** *Sidney Moncrief Scholarship for African American history*: **Chris Warren;** *Stokely-McAdoo Family International Study Scholarship to pursue research and study opportunities internationally*: **Mark Dillard.**

Managing to draw Officer Hare away from the podium by dangling donuts offstage, Tricia Starks lavished the loot on our graduate students: *George Billingsley Award for the best paper on a Middle*

## Here's Trouble

The Department's honors graduates are going to drive their moms and dads nuts when they move back home. They'll scream out the questions to all the *Jeopardy* answers before anyone else. They'll put off mowing the lawn by reeling off learned disquisitions on Carolingian sexuality, the recluse in early East Asia, or the Teamsters' scheme to build a second Las Vegas in Hot Springs. Sorry, parents, but you can't say we didn't do our job.

These History majors graduated with honors in 2013 after completing the following theses: Stuart Bailey, "The Road to Fahrvergnügen: Volkswagen and Car Culture in Postwar Germany" (director: Laurence Hare); Stephen Bentel, "Visiting the Past: How Empire is Remembered in London and Istanbul" (director: Laurence Hare); Cassie Dishman, "Equality before God: The Effect of the Great Awakening on Native American Christians" (director: Elliott West); Charles Stuart Kinley, "The Friend of My Enemy: Unionists in Johnson County, 1862-1896" (director: Jeannie Whayne); Matthew Owens, "Taming the Dead: Ghost Stories and Church Identity in the Tenth through Twelfth Centuries" (director: Lynda Coon); Rachel Reagan, "Food for Fascists: Diet Regulations in Italy and Germany" (director: Laurence Hare); Forrest Walker Roth, "Moonlit Trails" (director: Elliott West); Michael Wendel, "The Sanitary Commission and the Civil War: Changing Medicine through the War" (director: Daniel Sutherland); and Thomas Witty, "The Question of Pelayo and the Story of Asturias" (director: Lynda Coon). Stuart Bailey won a highly competitive SURF award to support his thesis research, while Bentel, Owens, and Reagan received Honors College research grants.

On May 10, 2013, Chapter president Tricia Starks swore five senior History majors into Phi Beta Kappa, the honors society that is so old, distinguished, and surreptitiously powerful that it is certain to figure prominently in the next Dan Brown novel: Tyler Johnson, Matthew Owens, Brent Perkins, Megan Voss, and Michael Wendel. Sarah Plavcan was elected to PBK as a junior.

Some History majors will not be going home. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awarded Matthew Owens an English teaching assistantship in Spain and Lydia Thompson an English teaching assistantship in Mexico. Lara Hinojosa won a scholarship for study in Taiwan, while Nathan Falls has received a State Department scholarship to study Azerbaijani. Rachel Carpino holds Fulbright College's Presidential Scholarship for 2013. ■

Eastern or Asian topic: **Matt Parnell**; Gordon McNeil Graduate Paper Award for an outstanding paper by a graduate student: **Louise Hancox**; Helen & Hugo Goecke and Adlyn & Harry Kennedy Memorial Travel Fund for support of research travel abroad: **Jared Phillips**; James J. Hudson Research Fellowship for a graduate student researching a military history topic: **Ron Gordon**; Jesse Taylor, Jr. Endowed Scholarship: **Max Brinson**, **Thomas Crosby**, **Amanda Ford**, **Mary Henderson**, **Alexander Marino**, **Jared Pack**, **Emily Rodriguez**; Mary Hudgins Endowed Scholarship for support of students in the field of Arkansas history: **Anne Marie Martin**, **Joshua Trimble**; Mary Hudgins Arkansas History Research Fund to support students in the field of Arkansas history: **Edward Andrus**, **Daniel Elkin**, **Misti Harper**, **Rodney Harris**, **Chelsea Hodge**, **Becky Howard**, **David Schieffler**, **John Treat**; Matthew B. Kirkpatrick Prize for Excellence in Graduate Teaching: **Jared Phillips**; Oscar Fendler Award for the best paper on Arkansas or Southern history: **Kelly Jones**; Ralph V. Turner Travel Award for the support of travel, study, and research in England and/or Scotland: **Sanket Desai**; Walter Lee Brown Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Scholarship for outstanding research in Arkansas or American history: **Liz Kiszonas**; Willard B. Gatewood Graduate Fellowship Fund for the research and writing of a dissertation on any topic of American history: **Madeleine Forrest**, **Justin Gage**, **Bianca Rowlett**; Willard B. Gatewood History Graduate Fellowship for research and writing a dissertation on any history topic: **Scott Lloyd**, **Aaron Moulton**.

Recovering himself and—after a struggle—the microphone from Starks, Hare proceeded to recognize the History majors who had earned Certificates of Academic Excellence for grade point averages so high they ain't comin' back 'til the Fourth of July: **Stuart Bailey**, **Mark Baker**, **James Baxter**, **Stephen Bentel**, **Hannah Breshears**, **James Brown**, **Heather Burroughs**, **Rachel Carpino**, **Mary Casteel**, **Kaylee Christie**, **Mark Dillard**, **Cassie Dishman**, **Lindsey**

**Emerson**, **Sharon Fox**, **Daniel Gadeke**, **Christopher Gage**, **William Harris**, **Emma Herson**, **Curry Kennedy**, **Charles Kinley**, **Ryan Knapp**, **Daniel Lightsey**, **Isaac Morgan**, **Matthew O'Shaughnessy**, **Matthew Owens**, **Nicholas Payne**, **Brent Perkins**, **Cathryn Perreira**, **Sarah Plavcan**, **Angel Portillo**, **Rachael Reagan**, **Nathan Roberts**, **Heath Robinson**, **Gregory Rogers**, **Forrest Roth**, **Mason Sams**, **Jared Sherwood**, **Lydia Thompson**, **Megan Voss**, **Beverly Wade**, **Haley Wallace**, **Margaret Watermann**, **Michael Wendel**, **Lyndsey Willis**, **Amy Witherspoon**, **Thomas Witty**, **Zachary Zajicek**.

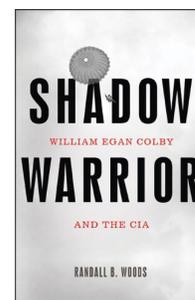
All this sheer brilliance concentrated in a single place knocked the earth so far off its axis that it snowed that night. In May. In Arkansas. No fooling.

Alpha Chapter's officers for 2013-2014 are: **Mary Katherine Henderson** (president); **Sanket Desai** (vice president); **Adam Carson** (secretary); and **Elizabeth Kiszonas** (treasurer). ■

## Woods's Spooky Story

Randall B. Woods's tenure as dean of Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences is probably best remembered for the Phoenix Fellowships—an initiative that some termed an “assassination program” but that everyone agreed was amazingly successful in pacifying the Fayetteenamense and undermining the College's enemies. Who, then, could be better suited than Woods to write an authoritative biography of William Colby, that defining figure of America's intelligence community from the 1940s through the 1970s? In contrast to many academic presses, which treat history professors' books as if they were official secrets, Basic Books released Woods's *Shadow Warrior: William Egan Colby and the CIA* to considerable fanfare this spring—ballyhoo that might have disconcerted Colby but doesn't appear to trouble Woods.

Woods is well known for Brobdingnagian biographies. Through J. William Fulbright or Lyndon Johnson, he has explored the United States and world at mid-century in a manner that engages both scholars and educated general readers. In Colby, Woods finds a figure whose life traces the twilight side of that history. Colby fought fascism as a commando with the Office of Strategic Services during World War Two. He orchestrated sapping operations against the communist party in postwar Italy. He plunged neck-deep into covert operations in Vietnam during the 1960s. He led the Central Intelligence Agency during the Watergate Era, when putting out the dirty laundry was all the rage, and felt compelled to display some of the nation's smelliest. Then, once America's Cold War foes had been vanquished, William Colby died a melodramatically mysterious death. By all appearances more Walter Mitty than James Bond, Colby preferred unconventional warfare to the more



traditional kind and never seemed to worry much about the personal danger that could place him in. Woods reminds readers, though, that as brutal as things got and as

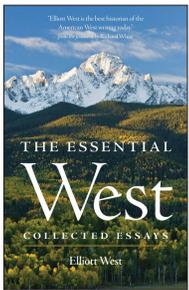
many enemies as he made—both in country and in the Agency—Colby remained a liberal internationalist and even an idealist, certain he was serving the cause of freedom and democracy in a dizzyingly complicated world.

*Shadow Warrior* has attracted interest well beyond the standard circles of scholarly scalphunters, even garnering headline reviews in the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times*, where Evan Thomas praised it as a “well written, thoroughly researched, and disarming biography.”

Randall Woods will be recruiting agents at Oxford University next fall. Or maybe that's Rhoda's job. ■

# Essential Reading

Every edition of *History Newsletter* brings word of Elliott West being freshly spattered with honors. Elsewhere in this one, you'll read about West receiving the Center of the American West's 2013 Wallace Stegner Award and being elected to the American Antiquarian Society. But few things say more about the esteem in which a historian is held than when a prestigious publisher brings out a



collection of his or her shorter writings—on the assumption that folks just can't get enough. The University of Oklahoma Press had published just such a volume,

*The Essential West: Collected Essays*, containing fourteen pieces grouped into three categories: "Conquest," "Families," and "Myth." Some have been previously published, and others see the light of day for the first time. You can imbibe these intellectual cocktails one at a time or down the entire volume in a session of binge thinking.

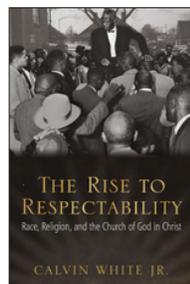
West brings lithe intellect and limpid prose to his work as a historian of the American frontier, the American environment, the American family, the American polity, and the American imagination. In one essay, West places the West at the center of nineteenth-century Americans' reconstruction of their union as well as their thinking about race. Others show the conquest of the West as "part of a much wider story of global empire-making," a story that includes a Scotsman's unhappy expedition up the Niger River and Indian chiefs' exploration of an eighteenth-century Paris opera house. West reminds us that boys and girls outnumbered women and men in the western population, shows mosquitoes shaping the flows of population across the globe, and scouts out the peculiar

range of the bison in the American mind.

But West doesn't need some Grub Street Joe touting his virtues. Instead, listen to those few who have joined West at the snow-capped summit of western history. Richard White, in a foreword, declares: "Elliott West is the best historian of the American West writing today. If there were any argument about the issue, this collection pretty much lays it to rest. Any reader can appreciate the range and grace of these essays, as well as their imagination, humor, and insight. It might, however, take other historians to recognize the deep learning and familiarity with the archives evident in each chapter, because Elliott West wears his learning lightly. . . . He writes like an angel, but he is far funnier than any angel that I have ever seen in print." Patricia Nelson Limerick adds, "Calling this book a collection of essays makes as much sense as calling the Rocky Mountains a collection of rocks." ■

## White Finally Respectable

With a book published, tenure secured, and a new baby daughter, Calvin White Jr. might be counted among the saved—yea, the elect.



Though White was appropriately circumspect about his prospects for salvation, the rest of us have been confirmed Calvinists since he first arrived in the Department in 2007, certain that he trod the true path.

The University of Arkansas Press published White's *The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ* this past autumn. White first became curious about the place of this African-American denomination in the larger world when, in his younger days, he heard a friend's

mother make a dismissive comment about "those sanctified folks"—among whom he counted himself and many of his loved ones. The final product of that curiosity, however, is neither apologia nor institutional history. With roots (like White himself) in Arkansas, COGIC would become the largest black Pentecostal church in the nation and one of the largest Pentecostal denominations period. Not surprisingly, then, White shows its history to have been intimately intertwined with the larger experience of African Americans since the late nineteenth century—from the advent of Jim Crow through World War One, the Great Migration, and, finally, the civil rights movement. As White likes to point out, COGIC churches hosted both Emmett Till's funeral and Dr. King's "mountaintop" valedictory. And COGIC's development would be shaped by class divisions within the black population. Many urbanized and middle-class African Americans criticized COGIC's demonstrative worship and inward focus as undermining their quest for respectability and racial uplift—even though, as White finds, these Pentecostals in fact "offered relief to the poor and subscribed to respectable standards of behavior in much the same manner as their Baptist and Methodist counterparts."

The wise men of American religious history have welcomed *The Rise to Respectability* into the world. John Boles, the editor of the *Journal of Southern History* and himself the object of worship in some quarters, praises "this prudently revisionist account" as "a valuable addition to the historiography of COGIC." Reginald Hildebrand calls the book "a complex, important, and amazing story" and "required reading for all serious students of the black church."

Some people compare publishing a book to giving birth, but we wonder if Calvin's wife, Shatara, would agree. Several months after *The Rise to Respectability* appeared, the couple's daughter, Monroe Adeline Catherine White, did likewise. She was born December 1, 2012. ■

# Worldly PhDs

This year's crop of doctorates illustrates the Department's international reach—both in attracting top-flight students from around the world and in offering graduate-level training in the history of most every continent except Antarctica (and that's just because no one's ever asked).

**Ahmet Akturk** has been Turkey's ambassador of good will since arriving in 2004. He hails from Istanbul, earned his undergraduate degree at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, and has been taking the world by storm ever since. A distillation of his master's thesis, "Kemalism, Turkish Historiography of the 1930s, and the Depiction of Arabs," completed in 2006 under the direction of Joel Gordon, was published in a high-impact journal, *Middle East Studies*, in 2011 under the title "Arabs in Kemalist Turkish Historiography." He has also presented papers at MESA, the top meeting in his field. And even before defending his dissertation, "Imagining Kurdish Identity in Mandatory Syria: Finding a Nation in the Diaspora" (also directed by Professor Gordon), this past May, Ahmet had landed a coveted tenure-track position at Georgia Southern University, where he will teach courses in world civilizations, the modern Middle East, and Islamic civilization.

Though not from the other side of the world, **Scott Cashion** does come from the other side of the state—Chicot County, where the tamales are hot and the cotton is high. Cashion did his undergraduate work at Hendrix College in Conway, then continued his northwesterly journey, settling in Fayetteville in 2002. Jeannie Whayne directed his master's thesis, "Actions Speak Louder than Words. . . Sometimes: Reactions to the Wartime Evacuation and Internment of Japanese-Americans at Rohwer and Jerome," completed in 2006, while Charles Robinson directed his dissertation, a study of desegregation at Southern Methodist University, one of the first private institutions in the South to admit African-American

students. Dr. Cashion currently teaches history at Northwest Arkansas Community College and the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

**Niels Eichhorn** is transatlantic in his interests and his person as well, listing home addresses in both Fayetteville and Ahrensböök, Germany. The Gulf of Mexico, A. J. Liebling once suggested, is merely a western extension of the Mediterranean, and, in Eichhorn's case, the German urge for warm-water ports expressed itself in a youthful wish to study in Louisiana. He earned a BA and MA in history at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Finally wearying of the age, he came to the U of A in 2008 to study international relations during the era of the Civil War. He has been on the hustings ever since, presenting his research at annual meetings of the most august associations in his field, including the Southern Historical Association, the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and the German Studies Association. Dan Sutherland directed his dissertation, "Revolution and Civil War, 1848-1865: Rudolph Matthias Schleiden's Experiences during the First Schleswig-Holstein War and the Civil War." Dr. Eichhorn has been appointed to a tenure-track position at Middle Georgia State College, continuing our PhDs' conquest of the Cracker State region by region.

**Yulia Uryadova** first arrived at the U of A in 2001 as an Fulbright Institute international exchange student from Uzbekistan, where she had earned an undergraduate diploma at the Andijon State Pedagogical Institute of Languages. She enrolled in graduate study in history the following year. Vincent Cornell (remember him?) directed her master's thesis, "Muhammad Musa b. Khoja Isa-I Dahbidi: A Post Sirhindi Dahbidi Shaykh of the Naqshbandiyya Order" [no, the newsletter editor did not just spill his Scrabble tiles]. But it required two strong scholars—Joel Gordon and Tricia Starks—to steer her rip-snorting dissertation, "Bandits, Terrorists, and Revolutionaries: The Breakdown of Civil Authority in the Imperial

Ferghana Valley, 1905-1914." Assorted grants and fellowships supported the far-flung research for this study of Russian rule in Uzbekistan, which, the Department's ministry of information tells us, "dispels the image of a Ferghana Valley devoid of activity" and instead reveals it to have been a "boozing, anarchic, bandit-riddled hotbed of terrorist activity and violence" not so different from the fourth and fifth floors of Old Main. The Department will be privileged to continue to employ Dr. Uryadova as an instructor in the coming academic year. ■

## We're the Top

The world has gone all Cole Porter over the Department of History. We're Mahatma Gandhi, we're Napoleon brandy, we're cellophane—not to mention an O'Neill drama, Whistler's mama, and camembert. It's not just a few of us, and not just for some single field of endeavor—Graeco-Roman wrestling, say, or scrimshaw. No, Department faculty and staff were clobbered with honors of all sorts in 2012-2013. Every one of them deserves an article all its own—but, in that case, *History Newsletter* would go on forever.

## Faculty

As usual, the Department did its duty to tax- and tuition-payers, and was recognized for offering some of the finest teaching around. Most every year sees a historian inducted or impressed into the university's elite Teaching Academy, but 2012 saw two—**Beth Barton Schweiger** and **Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon**. Grob-Fitzgibbon also scored the Arkansas Alumni Association's Rising Teacher Award, which comes with a prize of \$5000, delivered via one of those overgrown checks like Ed McMahon used to hand out. Similarly dressed for success, **Michael Pierce** won Fulbright College's 2013 Master Teacher Award. Students like him better than any of the bell-and-whistle boys, it seems. Lest you think Distinguished Professor

**Dan Sutherland** has gone about as far as he can go, know that he won this year's Nolan Faculty Award "to support the career advancement of faculty who provide the highest quality teaching, research, and service to the College." **Jim Gigantino**, who has lots of career left ahead of him, won the college's Robert C. and Sandra Connor Award, which similarly supports career advancement of top performing faculty.

Fulbright College knows we are titans of research, too. **Jeannie Whyne** won its 2013 Master Researcher Award. **Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon** will be replacing **Liang Cai** as the College's Wolfson fellow at Cambridge University.

But the acclaim doesn't stop this side of the state line. Historians also won national honors in their fields. **Jeannie Whyne** has just returned from the Blue Canadian Rockies, where she got sworn in as president of the venerable Agricultural History Society, founded in 1919 and active around the world. She accordingly possesses authority to trace your international phone calls and call in drone strikes. Whyne also travels in the ruling circles of another of the most distinguished professional organizations in her field, having been elected to the executive council of the Southern Historical Association. **Elliott West** rounded out the Department's destiny to overspread the continent by winning the Center of the American West's Wallace Stegner Award, given annually to "individuals who have demonstrated achievement, creativity and dedication to the perception of the American West and who have faithfully depicted its importance and unique spirit to others." He has also been elected to the American Antiquarian Society, which might sound like a bunch of old guys playing dominos but, in fact, is the nation's longest lived historical organization. Perhaps mistaking him for a Sicilian, the European Section of the Southern Historical Association (very Cold War sounding, huh?) honored **Alessandro Brogi** with its 2012 Smith Book Award, naming *Confronting America: The Cold War between the United States and Communists in France and Italy*

(University of North Carolina Press, 2011) as the best book published in European history by a southern press, a member of the European Section, or a faculty member at a southern college or university. The National Endowment for the Humanities is also smitten with the Department. **Beth Barton Schweiger** has been off on an NEH fellowship this year, while **Nikolay Antov** has won the NEH Advanced Fellowship for Research in Turkey (this is something different than the Tyson Advanced Fellowship for Research on Turkeys). **Jim Gigantino** garnered another highly competitive national prize, the American Historical Association's Albert J. Beveridge Research Grant. And the old leopard, **Randall B. Woods**, will serve as John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government at Oxford University next fall, a position reserved for those "intellectually eminent" in the field. He will deliver twenty-four lectures on U.S. history and politics, participate in the intellectual life of Rothmere American Institute, and manage Balliol College's proxy wars.

We're the top in the service sector, too. **Calvin White, Jr.**, took Fulbright College's Outstanding Advisor Award for his work at the helm of African and African American Studies. The Honors College honored **Laurence Hare** with its Outstanding Mentor Award. **Patrick Williams** won this year's John E. King Award for Outstanding Service, but probably only because his superiors know that if they don't throw something his way every now and then, he'll take it out on someone in *History Newsletter*.

## Staff

If faculty members are the top, they are also smart enough to know that without an excellent staff they'd be a worthless check, a total wreck, a flop. **Jeanne Short**, History's Queen Bee (officially, its "Administrative Support Specialist"), was recognized this past autumn as the University of Arkansas Employee of the Year, the most prestigious honor granted by the Staff Senate. In announcing the award, the Ministry of Information

celebrated Jeanne's "steady hand at the helm of MAIN 416 and its 65 unruly inhabitants, her stellar work with the African and African American Studies program, and her success in building a first-rate cohort"—i.e. that dazzling administrative troika of Jeanne, Brenda Foster, and Melinda Adams, itself the winner of the 2011 Outstanding Team Award.

Oh, and our **graduate students** are eating the other departments' lunches, too. For a list of their awards and fellowships, see the report of the commissar of graduate studies below. ■

## Hot Off the Press

The latest volume of the *Ozark Historical Review* is now available online at the Department's website. Published in the Spring semester by the Department of History, the *Ozark Historical Review* offers the University of Arkansas's top history students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels a chance to showcase their original research and historiographic investigations. Here are its latest offerings:

"Assertions of Monastic Identity and Power in the Cloister and Nave of St. Gall," by John D. Treat.

"English King and German Commoner: An Exploration of Sixteenth Century Clothing and Identity," by Bradley Moore.

"Images of Sacrifice: Religion, Power, and Colonial Ambition in the Americas," by Louise Hancox.

"Britain and the Mediterranean: Empire and Culture in the Georgian-Victorian Era," by James Brown.

"Humanitarian Intervention and Just War Theory," by Nathaniel R. King.

"A Town Divided: Leadership at Hoxie," by Rodney W. Harris.

Read these and the past five seasons' worth at: [history.uark.edu/5628.php](http://history.uark.edu/5628.php). Any queries or submissions should be directed to the editor, Prof. Rembrandt Wolpert at: [wolpert@uark.edu](mailto:wolpert@uark.edu). ■

# Epistle of the Abbess 2013: “My Seven Miracles as Chair”

As I contemplate the last five years during which I have had the honor of ministering to the flock of Fulbright historians, I am mindful of the looming transition in departmental leadership from Old World to New World, from pre-modern Europe to modern Latin America, from abbess to *jefa*. Here, I would like to focus on this shift in managerial style. I then conclude my 2013 epistle with a reminiscence of the seven miracles I performed in Old Main, from 2008 up until the present day, as recounted to Brother Williams, humble scribe of the annual HIST *Newsletter*.

## OLD MAIN 416: A Shift in Managerial Style

From Abbess to *La Jefa Maxima* (“the big boss-lady”)

From red slippers to austere sandals

From an elevated foot-stool to feet-on-the-ground humility

From chauffeur and bullet-proof glass to a bus ticket and well-worn shoes

From a gold-encrusted throne sporting opulent cherubim to the bare seat of St. Peter

From multiple, jeweled crucifixes to a spare cross marking the suffering of Our Savior

From Benedictine indulgence to the stripped down, ascetic rigor of the Society of Jesus

From a “culture of waste” to one of “cultivation and care”

I wish *La Jefa Maxima* the very best in taking charge over the finest department at the University of Arkansas, a group of scholars setting out for “the loftier summits of the teaching and virtues” (*Rule of St. Benedict*, 73.9).



Left: Abbess Emerita Coon; Right: *La Jefa Maxima*

## Seven Miracles Enacted by Abbess Coon (2008-2013)

I picked up Professor Whayne’s mantle after she had been taken up “in a whirlwind into heaven” (2 Kings 2.11-13)

I did cast out demons from Old Main...and their name was Legion (Luke 8.30)

I obeyed the stringent alcohol policy of the University of Arkansas through miraculous means: I changed water into wine at the annual History Christmas party (John 2.7-9)

I hired new colleagues, who were then seen by their seniors to be “walking on the water” (Matthew 14.29)

I laid hands on my Apostle Jeanne Short, so that she might summon surplus from her shadow as she strolled down the corridors of Old Main (Acts 5.15)

I “brought the shadow back ten intervals, by which the sun had declined on the dial of Ahaz,” so that Professor Brogi could make a departmental meeting on-time (2 Kings 20.11)

I resurrected colleagues—long thought dead—who now haunt the halls of Old Main: “The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised” (Matthew 27.52)

THIS IS THE DISCIPLE, BROTHER WILLIAMS, WHO IS TESTIFYING TO THESE THINGS AND HAS WRITTEN THEM, AND WE KNOW THAT HIS TESTIMONY IS TRUE (JOHN 21.24)...

# Bulletin from the Commissar of Graduate Studies

Progress and productivity continue to animate the Graduate Program of the Department of History at the University of Arkansas. Faced with the incoming hordes of undergraduates hungry for instruction in the fine skills of reading, writing, and researching, our graduate teaching assistants defended the historic frontiers with classes that served nearly five thousand undergraduates through the long, cold winter days and into the deep muds of spring. Battling ISIS outages and Blackboard freeze-ups, they continued in their appointed tasks, undaunted by flurries of emails and barrages of flu germs. Not for nothing have they earned the Order of the Red Star in the guise of their students' and peers' praise.

Beyond their time in the teaching trenches, these students have presented papers, authored essays, and labored in classes and seminars. They have travelled to conferences from coast to coast and across the seven seas. The Commissariat of Enlightenment sends out notices of these accomplishments over the loudspeakers as well as through Facebook and Website news feeds. They are too numerous to mention here.

For fall of 2013, fifteen new doctoral students and nearly a dozen masters students will bolster the graduate student ranks. All of these new recruits come to the program desirous of proving their mettle on the page and in the stacks.

[*applause*]

Commendations should be showered upon the following members of our brigade who have completed the arduous work necessary to earn the commendation of Master of Arts in History and the honorary recognition of the Order of Labour Glory, second class.

**Emily Bullington**, "New Mexico Tourism: Conflict and Cooperation in the Land of Enchantment" (Advisor: Elliott West)

**Ali Capar**, "The Nusayris in Ottoman Syria, 1831-1876" (Advisor: Nikolai Antov)

**Adam Carson**, "Feet in the South, Eyes to the West: Fort Smith Enters the Sunbelt" (Advisor: Michael Pierce)

**Manuel Salvador Rivera Espinoza**, "The Sacrality of the Mountain" (Advisor: Rembrandt Wolpert)

**Nathaniel Clark**, "Philosophical Influences in the Art of War Found in the Romance of the Three Kingdoms" (Advisor: Liang Cai)

**Alexandria Gough**, "A Way Out': The History of the Outing Program from the Haskell Institute to the Phoenix Indian School" (Advisor: Elliott West)

**Bradley Moore**, "English King and German Commoner: An Exploration of 16th Century Clothing and Identity." (Advisor: Rembrandt Wolpert)

**Joshua Morgan**, By Examination

**Mitchell Smith**, "'Woes of the Arkansas Internationalist': J. William Fulbright, the Middle East, and the Death of American Liberalism" (Advisor: Alessandro Brogi)

**Souleyman Saleh Souleyman**, "Cold War Battleground in Africa: American Foreign Policy and the Congo Crisis, January 1959-January 1961" (Advisor: Alessandro Brogi)

[*thunderous applause*]

A number of students braved the dreaded comprehensive exam system and emerged triumphant on the other side of this treacherous and exhausting process. Congratulations go out to Blake Duffield, Scott Lloyd, Darren Swagerty, and Blaine Walker for achieving candidacy and being awarded the Medal of Heroes of the People.

The Commissar wishes to bestow the coveted Order of Victory upon the following brave warriors, who have seen the horror of the blank page, yet faced it and triumphed, going on to earn the coveted title of Doctor of Philosophy in History.

**Dr. Ahmet Akturk**, "Imagining Kurdish Identity in Mandatory Syria: Finding a Nation in Exile." (Advisor: Joel Gordon)

**Dr. Scott Cashion**, "'And So We Moved Quietly': Southern Methodist University and Desegregation, 1950-1970" (Advisor: Charles Robinson)

**Dr. Niels Eichhorn**, "'Revolution and Civil War, 1848-1865: Rudolph Matthias Schleiden's Experiences during the First Schleswig-Holstein War and the Civil War" (Advisor: Daniel Sutherland)

**Dr. Yulia Uryadova**, "Bandits, Terrorists, and Revolutionaries: The Breakdown of Civil Authority in the Imperial Fergana Valley, 1905-1914" (Advisors: Joel Gordon and Trish Starks)

[*thunderous applause*]

Still, some of our heroic number will be departing for service on other fronts in the great battle for historical glory. Our recent doctoral graduates have found their valorous service rewarded with promotions, commendations, and steady paychecks as well as the Order of Friendship of Peoples. Ahmet Akturk has accepted a tenure-track position at Georgia Southern University; Neils Eichhorn has been appointed to a tenure-track position at Middle Georgia State College; Scott Cashion and David Kirsch will be on the faculty at Northwest Arkansas Community College; and Jeremy Taylor has taken on a tenure-track position at Defiance College.

[*shouts of "Oo-rah! Oo-rah!"*]

The steadfast service and steely scholarly acumen of our graduate students has been noticed by those above our ranks as well. Doctoral candidates **Rebecca Howard** and **Matthew Parnell** were both recognized with the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences Hudson Doctoral Prize in Humanities. Doctoral candidate **Aaron Moulton** received the Fulbright College Dissertation Research Award. Not content to sit upon their laurels, these brave scholars earned further honors and commendations from outside our noble brigade. Howard

garnered both the National Society of Colonial Dames of America Scholarship and the American History Education Award presented by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America of Arkansas. Moulton earned the Samuel Flagg Bemis Dissertation Research Grant, awarded through the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and the 2012 Harry S. Truman Library Institute Research Grant. Matthew Parnell was awarded a fellowship from the American Research Center in Egypt, and recent graduate **Yulia Uryadova** has been named the inaugural Fisher Fellow for the University of Illinois Summer Research Lab.

[standing ovation]

The Commissar must note the trepidation some may feel at the coming change in leadership. Our great and benevolent *vozhd* has decided to retreat from the public life to the battle for scholarly supremacy on the frontiers. We are all thankful to the Abbess for the tireless work she has done on our behalf and the fervor she brought to the battle. She has been honored with The Order of Alexander Nevsky in recognition of her resolute leadership and courage. Her selfless service to the collective and dogged defense against imperialists, oppressors, and stooges of the parasitic class will be missed.

[spontaneous singing of the  
*Internationale*]

We march on, however, under the banner of a new leader, who brings with her the revolutionary fervor of the Latin Americas – from heroes of memory dear to the Commissar – from Zapata, Castro, and Chavez! Our destination remains the same! Our duty to history continues on! Our call for revolution remains strong!

Graduate studies lived! Graduate studies lives! Graduate studies will live on!

[cheers and shouts of “Viva la revolucion!”  
and “Da zdrastvuet revoliutsiia!”] ■

## The Talk of the Gown

**Nikolay Antov**, assistant professor, keeps running into Edward Snowden in airport lounges around the world. He spent three months last summer working in Ottoman archives in Istanbul, where he mined Sufi hagiography for his research into imperial expansion and Islamic conversion in the Ottoman Empire's Balkan borderlands (his forthcoming book will be quickly adapted into Sergio Leone's next spaghetti eastern). Antov traveled to Indiana University this spring to deliver an invited lecture, “The Ottoman Danubian Serhad in the Early 16<sup>th</sup> Century: Challenges and Policies,” and spent June at Saint Louis University as a participant in a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, “Empires and Interactions across the Early Modern World, 1400-1800.” Having won a prestigious NEH Advanced Fellowship for Research in Turkey, Antov will spend next academic year working in the collections of the American Research Institute in Turkey.

**Andrea Arrington**, assistant professor, continues to clam up when the newsletter comes around. Thank heavens there's a NSA, so that we can tell you that she presented a paper, “Searching for Home: Race, Displacement, and Nostalgia Among Zimbabwean Women,” at the University of Zadar in Croatia last September, and a second, “Of more value to South Africa than all the diamonds ever found or dreamed of: Victoria Falls and the Hydroelectric Power Scheme,” at the North Eastern Workshop on Southern Africa, in Burlington, VT in April. Arrington has won a grant from the Honors College to develop a team-taught course, “Health and Gender in Sub-Saharan Africa.”

**Alessandro Brogi**, professor, reports as follows: “First year as full professor wasn't bad. I don't know if

I owe this to Andy Warhol (in which my *Confronting America* is clad), or the grand size of the book, or the fact that the Commies are back in fashion, but in 2012 I was invited to speak about my latest tome in several venues, from the University of Roma Tre to Occidental College in California. While I have never fancied myself as a historian of the Deep South, I was honored by the Southern Historical Association with their biennial book award in European History, the Charles Smith Prize. The Smith committee provided the nicest, most generous blurb to date about *Confronting America*. ‘In house,’ I received the 2012 Master Researcher award from the Fulbright College. Trying to honor that recognition, I started research for my new project entitled ‘The United States and Italy in the Cold War: An Interpretive History,’ traveling to such ‘undesirable’ places as Rome and Florence. In Rome, my greatest mark of distinction and shame consisted of showing up at the Italian Senate archives dressed in a fine linen suit designed by Enrico Coveri, but... with no tie. They almost rejected me, but then were kind enough (“for this first time”) to lend me a tie, so I could match their strict codes of attire [*even stricter than the History Department's? ed.*]. Spending my mornings there and then moving on to the non-air conditioned Luigi Sturzo archives, I soon realized I needed a change of clothes every day, dressing up and down for the occasion. But doing this [*i.e., changing clothes?!? ed.*] while walking along the Pantheon and the Spanish Steps was not such a big deal. Dressed up for the occasion when I received the Smith prize in Mobile Alabama, I noticed that bowties, not skinny ties, are the main fashion statement at the Southern Historical Association. I appreciated the gallant look of others, but I did not adapt. In May, the prime British journal *Cold War History* published my article on another ‘out of place’ person, Clare Boothe Luce, U.S. ambassador to Italy in the 1950s.

A book chapter (in Italian) also saw the light of day in 2012. It's about Italy's Mediterranean 'strategies' (as if there were some) in the 1950s and 60s and was published in a collection about... well... the Mediterranean in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Two more book chapters are now in the pipeline—one, with Palgrave, is on U.S. labor strategies in early Cold War Italy. Getting into some labor history for a change was a fun and challenging experience. Having perhaps my most entertaining and engaged graduate group ever in a seminar on U.S. foreign relations was the main teaching highlight, although I should not overlook making a Dr. out of Mr. David

Kirsch, and getting three more students through the hurdles of a master's degree. My SURF scholarship award winner, Mr. James Brown, confirmed my impression that our best students are of Ivy League quality. Like some of the most famous (or notorious) U.S. governors, I found myself elected to an executive (or judicial) position (the Provost's Appointment, Tenure, and Promotion Committee) as the classic 'outsider,' with no Senate or campus-wide committee experience. This new task is challenging, requiring some hard decisions. But this campus 'Supreme Court' dispenses its rulings in fairness and only after well-pondered deliberations (one of which,

last year, took a three week-long trial to reach)." And that's the *short* version.

**Robert Brubaker**, visiting assistant professor, continues to teach world civilization and South Asian history.

**Evan B. Bukey**, professor *emeritus*, and his wife, Anita, invaded Italy last June and occupied Rome for five days with colleagues Alessandro Brogi, David Chappell, and Thomas Grischan. After returning from a Mediterranean cruise ending in Istanbul, Bukey wrote reviews for the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, the *Journal of Austrian Studies*, and the *Journal of Modern History*. In October, he participated in two roundtable sessions at the annual meeting of the German Studies Association in Milwaukee. And *get this*: "Throughout the summer and fall I also served as a historical consultant for an upcoming BBC TV documentary on the life of Marianne Faithful. Really!" We always figured Evan was better company than either Mick Jagger or Keith Richards.

**Liang Cai**, assistant professor, was fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge University, this past academic year. She gave several invited talks at Cambridge: "The Muted Bureaucrats and the Combative *Ru* (Confucian) Scholars: A Comparative Reading of an Archaeologically Discovered Text 'Wei li zhi dao' 為吏之道 and Wang Chong's 'Cheng cai' 程材 in *Lun Heng* 論衡"; "Witchcraft and the Rebirth of a Ruling Elite in Western Han China, 206 BCE -8CE"; and "Witchcraft and the Rise of the First Confucian Empire." She also spoke about witchcraft and the rise of the Confucian empire at Beijing University in June and presented "The Bloody Struggle Disguised underneath the Correlative Cosmology: The Bankruptcy of Omen Politics in the West Han China," at Minzu University of China, last December. She delivered other papers, too: "Do Paratextual Features Speak? A Case Study of 'The Way of Being a Clerk' 為吏之道" at a workshop, "Paleography, Manuscripts, and Thought," at Beijing University;

## U of A Dedicates Gatewood Hall

The Department of History and the U of A more generally are monuments to Willard B. Gatewood, Jr. But Gatewood clearly merited the sort of monument you can stub your toe on. So on October 1, 2012, the university dedicated a new Willard B. Gatewood, Jr., Residence Hall.

Family, friends, colleagues, former students, former students who became friends and colleagues (such as Tom DeBlack and Bobby Roberts) —all gathered on that beautiful autumn morning. Also in attendance were Department faculty who arrived after Gatewood's retirement in 1998 but who, nevertheless, find themselves frequently asked "Why can't you be more like Willard?"



Chancellor Gearhart Speaks at Dedication

Chancellor David Gearhart reminded the crowd of Gatewood's contributions to the university community as a whole. Lynda Coon spoke for the Department in praising Gatewood's work in southern and African-American history, his leadership of the Southern Historical Association, and his wizardry in the classroom. Gatewood's daughter, Ellis Elliott, noted how appropriate it was that her father be honored by a building serving students. Those in attendance generally scratched or shook their heads when informed that Gatewood Hall was a non-smoking facility.

Gatewood Hall is in the Northwest Quad residential complex on Garland Avenue, and houses two, three, and four-bedroom suites. The U of A's burgeoning undergraduate population made its construction necessary. Some wish the university was finding it equally difficult to house new tenure-track faculty hires or books in its library. ■

and “When the Founder is Not a Creator: Confucius and Confucianism Reconsidered” at the 2012 annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Chicago.

**Jay Casey**, visiting assistant professor, does more than his fair share in teaching Arkansas history and world civilization.

**Lynda L. Coon**, professor and abess *emerita*, took her new book project, “Dark Age Jesus,” on the road, presenting bits of the sacred story at the International Medieval Congress in Michigan (May 2012), the American Historical Association meeting in New Orleans (January 2013), and the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan (February 2013). Having announced her intention to relinquish her earthly duties for the life of cloistered virtue, Coon was relieved, late in the spring, to hear “Habemus papam!” chanted jubilantly through the halls of Old Main.

**Robert G. Finlay**, professor, has retired [*see related story*].

**James Gigantino**, assistant professor, is busier than you are. This is what he says: “Gigantino started off the year by spending a week researching in Ann Arbor, MI, as a Jacob Price Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Michigan’s Clements Library. He then flew to Louisville, Kentucky, where, as he has done for the previous two summers, he graded 1200 AP U.S. History exams of high school students seeking college credit. He then returned to Arkansas to continue his own efforts on his current book project, ‘Freedom and Slavery in the Garden of America: African Americans and Abolition in New Jersey, 1775-1861.’ He took a quick three-week research trip to the East Coast in July, funded by a Fulbright College Summer Stipend and a research grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, and spent time at Princeton University, Rutgers University, and the New York Historical Society. He also made his way down I-95 to Baltimore to eat

freshly caught crab and deliver a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. He then returned to Arkansas in order to attend the Teaching and Faculty Support Center’s annual Teaching Camp, where he spent three days at Petit Jean learning the ins and outs of online education. In August, Gigantino began his pre-tenure research leave, anticipating four uninterrupted months working to complete his book manuscript. However, the call of duty interrupted in the voice of Provost Sharon Gaber who asked him, as chair of the University Calendar Committee, to investigate and sponsor a new calendar proposal. Renamed ‘Calendar Czar’ by many on campus, Gigantino supported a proposal to begin intersessions, or shortened semesters, where students can take a three credit course in eleven class days. Gigantino shepherded the proposal through three faculty senate meetings before its final approval. He has put his money where his mouth is and has volunteered to teach an intersession American History to 1877 course in August. However, his efforts at improving the University’s calendar did not prevent him from continuing his research efforts. In September, he presented at the Mid-America Conference on History in Springfield, Missouri and in October at the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers conference in Hot Springs, where he also chaired and commented on a panel that included UA alumna Sonia Toudji and his own PhD student, Nate Conley. That same month, he flew to Atlanta to present at the Southeast World History Association Annual Meeting and gave an invited presentation on the academic job market to graduate students at the University of Georgia. In November, he also spent a weekend in Washington, DC, interviewing candidates as a member of a joint African and African American Studies and Social Work search committee. Back in Arkansas, Gigantino completed his manuscript

and sent it off to the University of Pennsylvania Press. In April he received word that the Press’ Faculty Editorial Board had voted to issue him a book contract. His book will be part of the Early American Studies series published in partnership with the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at Penn. He also found time to write a peer-reviewed article on slavery and abolition for the *Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia* and six book reviews for various journals. Also in the fall, Gigantino won a Teaching Improvement Grant from the Teaching and Faculty Support Center to help integrate online components into his face to face classes in preparation to teach online courses in the future. The Center also awarded him a New Faculty Commendation for Teaching Commitment in September. By March, he had contracted with the University’s Global Campus to develop two new online self-paced U.S. history courses, which will allow students from across the country learn American history at the University of Arkansas. In January, he travelled to the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in New Orleans to both deliver a paper and serve as a member of the search committee for the Department’s joint Afro-Caribbean hire with African and African American Studies. He began the spring semester by tackling three courses, two of them new preparations: the first, an Early Atlantic World undergraduate course, the second, a graduate readings seminar on Revolutionary America. In addition, he assumed the role of Chair of the University’s Traffic Appeals Court, the committee that hears appeals from faculty, staff, and students regarding everything from speeding to parking tickets. He is therefore doing his part to protect the innocent and punish the guilty. Also in the spring semester, he traveled to Baton Rouge to present a paper at the National Association of African American Studies Annual Meeting, was named a Robert and Sandra Connor Endowed Faculty Fellow

by Fulbright College, and continued to work with the African and African American Studies Program by serving as chair of its scholarship committee.” [For the rushed, we have distilled these highlights from the preceding: *BOOK CONTRACT; PARKING TICKETS FIXED; NEW SCHEDULE OF CLASS TIMES RESEMBLES TIMETABLE FOR RARITAN VALLEY LINE.* ed.]

**Thomas W. Goldstein**, instructor, has been ushering students through the world wars. He has the wounds to prove it.

**Joel S. Gordon**, professor, lectured on the U.S. and the Arab Spring at Qaid-e Azim University in Islamabad, Pakistan, last December and shortly afterward attended a meeting at King Saud University in Riyadh to discuss Saudi higher education. The latter ended in his joining a new advisory board for Saudi scientific chairs. In the spring, he lectured on Arab cinema and cinema studies at Tel-Aviv and then traveled to Egypt, where he joined filmmaker Michal Goldman as consultant on an NEH-funded documentary about Gamel Abdel Nasser. All of this has left the children in Old Main to sing, “Where in the world is Joel Samuel Gordon?” Gordon pushed two PhD students—Yulia Uryadova and Ahmet Akturk—into their next circle of existence and has also, as of late, completed two articles that are now in the hands of “the publishing gods,” a pantheon from which some of us editors have clearly been eighty-sixed.

**Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon**, associate professor, has, in his cheerleading for Queen Elizabeth II and the British monarchy in general, violated his naturalization oath, in which he swore to “absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty.” Accordingly, his U.S. citizenship has been revoked. He will be deported in the fall to Wolfson College, Cambridge, where if he continues his war on republicanism, he

will be asking for a drone strike. It really is a shame since he has been piloting the U of A’s International Relations program with aplomb and has lately been plied by the cousins with honors, including induction into the Teaching Academy and the Alumni Association’s Rising Star Award. He has a book project underway: “Imperial Europeans, Post-Imperial Skeptics: Britain and the European Continent at the End of Empire.”

**Laurence Hare**, assistant professor, has recently signed a book contract with the University of Toronto Press. When doddering colleagues point out that this makes him a stablemate of Marshall McLuhan, he smiles wanly and changes the subject. *Excavating Nations: Archaeology, Museums, and the German-Danish Borderlands* should appear in the next year or so as part of Toronto’s German and European Studies Series. On the teaching front, the Honors College awarded Hare a grant to develop an interdisciplinary colloquium, “Opera, Nation, and Empires,” with Drs. Martin Nedball and Jennifer Hoyer of the Music and World Languages departments, respectively. He has also been busy riding herd on students, supervising four undergraduate honors theses, one master’s thesis, and advising local chapters of Phi Alpha Theta and Pi Gamma Mu International Social Science Honors Society, and U of A’s Society of European Historians. Hare recently completed his first year as book review editor for the *International Social Science Review*.

**Elizabeth Markham**, professor, does many wonderful, fascinating things. Reporting to *History Newsletter* isn’t one of them. We hear from the Lambeth lounge lizards, however, that she has recently published “Habitable Surface, Habitable Space: Graphic Content and Melodic Constraint for Buddhist Chant in Early Japan” in Robert Klugseder, ed., *Cantus Plantus: Study Group of the International Musicological Society*. In July 2012, Markham read a paper, “Delighting in an Art of a Sino-Japanese

Musical ‘Doubleness’ in Heian Japan (784-1192)” at the Nineteenth Congress of the International Musicological Society in Rome (Italy, not New York).

**Robert McMath**, professor, is still dean of the Honors College, although for how long is anybody’s guess. In the fall of 2012, having completed a three-year stint teaching in Fulbright College’s Honors Humanities Program (H2P, for those in the know), McMath offered a graduate reading seminar, “Social Movements, Political Parties, and Public Policy in the United States, 1820s-1960s.” In October he presented an invited paper entitled “The Sustainable Agriculture Movement and Land-Grant Institutions: A Contentious History” to a conference at Mississippi State University marking the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Morrill Act. Thankfully, he was not run out of Starkville for speaking ill of Big Ag. Next fall, McMath and his Honors College buddies will move into palatial quarters in the new wing of Ozark Hall, located between Old Main and Bell Engineering. The move will elevate the intellectual level of the neighborhood and lower that of their current abode.

**Charles Muntz**, assistant professor, is happy to have snagged a tenure-track appointment at the U of A. “It’s great to be able to stay,” he writes, “and I’m having a wonderful time.” He’s working on his Diodorus Siculus book but also gave a paper, “Sophocles and *Der Ring des Nibelungen*” at the 109<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest this past April in Iowa City. His essay, “Diodorus Siculus and Megasthenes: A Reappraisal,” has recently appeared in *Classical Philology*. Lately, Muntz has spent two weeks in Rome and took so many pictures that he was mistaken for *paparazzi*.

**Michael Pierce**, associate professor, has finally achieved one of the profession’s most cherished honors. No, he hasn’t received an endowed professorship, a large grant from a prestigious institution, or a publication prize. It is something much more significant—a

windowed office. As Pierce explained, “In history departments around the country, struggles for coveted offices are particularly nasty, with only the best and the brightest able to win the prize. Professors have been known to sabotage colleagues’ careers in pursuit of natural light—which contrary to rumor does not turn historians to stone—but I have been able to secure one with only the bare minimum of thuggishness. It is an achievement of which I am rightfully proud.” Pierce noted that his acquisition of a windowed office would have been easier if the legislature had guaranteed concealed carry on campus, but is gratified that he acquired one “the old fashioned way.” In lesser news, Pierce secured Fulbright College’s master teacher prize and one of the college’s summer research grants to continue his work on organized labor and the civil rights movement in postwar Arkansas. He delivered papers at the Southern Labor Studies Association meeting in New Orleans and at a conference devoted to German writer and traveler Friedrich Gerstaecker.

**Charles F. Robinson**, professor, has been promoted from vice provost for diversity to vice *chancellor* for diversity and community. He oversees the U of A’s efforts to recruit and retain students, faculty, and staff from underrepresented groups and to enhance the institution’s multicultural climate. Robinson is one of six vice-chancellors reporting to David Gearhart, who, in appointing him, declared “Dr. Robinson has a well-deserved reputation as a scholar, mentor, and higher education advocate in Arkansas and beyond. This promotion reflects Dr. Robinson’s leadership . . . on campus as well as the centrality of his office’s work to the university’s goals and objectives.”

**Beth Barton Schweiger**, associate professor, is off on a NEH fellowship and, thus, has spent a heap of quality time with her word processor. The results have been promising. She was allowed out of her office briefly last

summer to read four separate papers at three meetings—the Christian Scholars’ Conference, an annual gathering of academics in the Church of Christ, at Lipscomb University in Nashville in June; the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting in Baltimore in early July; and the St. George Tucker Society in Augusta, Georgia, later that month. She was gratified to be elected a member of the University of Arkansas Teaching Academy last fall. As far as she knows, her students have been behaving while she has been (ahem) sequestered, but it is difficult to say for certain.

**Kathryn A. Sloan**, associate professor and *jefa maxima*, spent the 2012-13 academic year in Dean-imposed research/writing exile, but she is not complaining. She took up residence for two months in Mexico City last summer and worked in several archives. Daily subway trips to the national archive were especially exciting. Housed in a 19<sup>th</sup>-century prison, Mexico’s national archive—the Archivo General de la Nación—is located in Mexico City’s notorious Barrio Tepito, known for its drug trafficking and worship of Santa Muerte. It seemed a fitting place to study death and self-annihilation, and the irony was not lost on Sloan as she debarked the subway and climbed the stairs to daylight to be assaulted by the odors of urban life in a megalopolis. On weekends she made a point of visiting museums, ruins, and a series of taco and torta stands. Certainly, there were mescal tastings here and there. The highlight of her foray into Mexican popular culture was attending a lucha libre exhibition with her older brother. They both donned masks but refused the capes and rooted for the fat, old wrestlers! Back in the states on the scholarly front, Sloan published a chapter in an edited collection with the University of New Mexico Press in 2012, presented two conference papers, and submitted an article that is currently under review at her field’s highest impact journal. She

continues to work at home on her book project on the cultural and social history of suicide in Mexico and gaze out on the verdant pastures of Kelly Mountain.

**Richard D. Sonn**, professor, took part in organizing and promoting a series of lectures and presentations, “Beyond the Holocaust,” on campus this past spring. He gave a talk, “Jewish Modernism: Immigrant Artists in Montparnasse, 1905-1930,” in February as part of “An Evening of Jewish Art and Music,” which also saw him accompanying Dr. David Hurewitz on some klezmer tunes (Hurewitz playing clarinet and Sonn, violin). His book *Sex, Violence and the Avant Garde: Anarchism in Interwar France* (Penn State, 2010) appeared in a paperback edition this spring, and Sonn has been putting the final touches on an essay, “Jewish Modernism: Immigrant Artists in Montparnasse, 1905-1914,” to be included in an anthology called *Strangers in Paradise: Foreign Artists and Designers in Paris, 1870-1914*, published by Ashgate. He is spending several months in Paris this summer, further researching his project on the Jewish artists. Sonn has also been involved in the development of a Jewish Studies minor at the U of A and is helping to develop an interdisciplinary honors course on Charles Darwin and evolution.

**Tricia Starks**, associate professor, took on administrative duties as director of graduate studies and associate chair in the autumn of the fifth year of the Abbess’s glorious reign. She has not yet brought the blast furnaces on line, but she feels she more than did her duty in helping Dr. Julia Uryadova in the completion of her dissertation, shining testimony to her shock worker ethics and drive.

**Daniel E. Sutherland**, distinguished professor, continues to do double-duty as the resident expert (so it is believed) on the American Civil War and the life of James McNeill Whistler. Since last spring, he has spoken on the former

topic in Minneapolis, St. Louis, Fayetteville, Little Rock, and Columbus, Georgia. More meaningfully, he has completed a new book about the war, *American Civil War Guerrillas: Changing the Rules of Warfare*, to be published this summer by Praeger. Even more astonishingly, he has finally polished off (after a dozen years) his biography of Whistler, to be published early next year by Yale University Press (London).

**Elliott West**, Alumni Distinguished Professor, was the first recipient of the Southeastern Conference Academic Consortium (SECAC) Faculty Achievement Award, which is given to one faculty member on each SEC campus. He was one of three finalists for SECAC Distinguished Professor of the Year. In addition to *The Essential West: Collected Essays [see related story]*, West has recently published "Grain Kings, Rubber Dreams, and Stock Exchanges: How Transportation and Communication Changed Frontier Cities," in Jay Gitlin, Barbara Berglund, and Adam Arenson, eds., *Frontier Cities: Encounters at the Crossroads of Empire* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013) and "Tecumseh's Last Stand" in *American History* 47:5 (December 2012). West keynoted at several venues: the annual meeting of the Montana Historical Society; a conference on the making of the Great Plains at the University of Nebraska; and a conference on Theodore Roosevelt and water in the West at the Colorado State Historical Society in Denver. He delivered the annual Benson Fund lecture at Iowa State University, as well as invited talks at the University of Washington and at a conference on material culture and memory in the West at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa. West served as lead historian in Teaching American History seminars with public schoolteachers in Austin, TX, Lansing, MI, and Helena, MT. He also conducted a seminar for the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, "American Indians and the American Southwest," at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe.

**Jeannie Whayne**, professor, coedited *The Ongoing Burden of Southern History: Politics and Identity in the Twenty-First*

*Century South* (Louisiana State University Press, 2012) with Angie Maxwell and Todd Shields. She also completed final revisions for the second edition of *Arkansas: A Narrative History* with co-authors Tom DeBlack, George Sabo, and Morris S. Arnold. It appears this summer. Whayne began a two-year term as president of the University of Arkansas's Teaching Academy and a three-year term as co-director of the university's Teaching and Faculty Support Center. She was also inaugurated president of the Agricultural History Society this June at the group's annual meeting in Banff. She was in Canada last summer as well, presenting a paper at the Rural Women's Studies Conference in Fredericton (New Brunswick) and is now co-editing a volume of essays drawn from the conference. Whayne gave a paper at the South Carolina Civil War Roundtable in October 2012, "Between the River and the Ridge: The Civil War in Arkansas's No-Man's Land." She also gave papers on her new project, Memphis as "Cotton's Metropolis," at the University of Sussex on March 18, 2013, at Delta State (the Cranford lecture) in Mississippi on April 5, 2013, and at the Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History at Converse College on April 27, 2013. She will give another paper on that topic at the European Rural Studies Organization in Bern, Switzerland this August. To top all that off, she has been elected to the executive council of the Southern Historical Association. Last July, the *Arkansas Times* touted Whayne's *Delta Empire* as recommended summer reading.

**Calvin White, Jr.**, associate professor, writes: "My arrival in the department seems like only yesterday, but the calendar tells me that six years have now passed. In that time my wife and I have added to our family Monroe Adeline Catherine, our daughter; my manuscript has been published; and my department, dean, provost, and board of trustees (yes, all have to agree) conferred my tenure and promotion in the University of Arkansas Department of History. With the steady arrival of new faculty to our department, I now feel like a seasoned veteran who is about to undertake the next

book project. I am still amazed by how quickly Fayetteville and Old Main have become my home."

**Patrick G. Williams**, associate professor, *did not say he was a millionaire. He said he spent more money than a millionaire. 'Cause if he had kept all the money he done spent, he would have been a millionaire a long time ago.* Editing the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* has been particularly lucrative, offering nearly daily opportunities for kickbacks and shakedowns. But his place on the Department's Executive and Graduate Studies committees also makes for a nice return from grateful colleagues. Mistaking this work for philanthropy, Fulbright College awarded Williams its 2013 John E. King Award for Outstanding Service.

**Rembrandt Wolpert**, professor, does many wonderful, fascinating things. Reporting to *History Newsletter* isn't one of them. We hear from the Lambeth lounge lizards, however, that in addition to all the cool stuff he's been doing for years, Wolpert has recently added a new course, "Song China," to his teaching rotation.

**Randall B. Woods**, distinguished professor, saw *Shadow Warrior: William Egan Colby and the CIA* released by Basic Books this past spring and reviewed in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Dallas Morning News*, and *Wilson Quarterly* [see related story]. Basic will publish another of his, *Lyndon Johnson and the Great Society*, in 2015, while Oxford University Press has contracted a book on John Quincy Adams for the following year. Colby has gotten Woods onto American radio and French TV, and he's recently given presentations on the book at the National Archives, the Spy Museum in Washington, DC, and Fayetteville Public Library. We hope to see him reviewed, too, by *Texas Monthly's* barbecue editor before long. Woods is currently picking his way out of our wilderness of mirrors, so that he might serve as John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government at Oxford University next fall. ■

# Alumni Round-Up

**Barry Allen** (BA 1969; MD 1973 [UAMS]) is a physician at Community Clinic in Rogers. He enjoys fishing and camping.

**Michael Thomas Anders** (BA 1972) is an insurance agent in Little Rock who enjoys reading, playing guitar, and gardening. In September 2011, he married Bette K. Shepard (BA 1973, Art), and last May he earned an MA in gerontology from UALR.

**Lindsay Amos** (BA 2012) is a nanny/substitute teacher who lives in Bentonville. She has been accepted into the U of A's MAT program.

**William Atto** (MA 1993, PhD 2000) is associate professor of history at the University of Dallas.

**Aneilya Barnes** (PhD 2007) has earned tenure and been promoted to associate professor of history at Coastal Carolina University. She has an essay, "Female Patronage and Episcopal Authority in Late Antiquity," forthcoming in a collection titled *Envisioning the Medieval Bishop*, as well as a textbook, *Comparative Cultures: World Civilizations to 1500*, scheduled for publication.

**Brittany Capes Baucom** (BA 2007) works as an attorney for Chesapeake Energy Corporation in Oklahoma City. She attends St. Luke's Methodist Church, mentors at local schools, and volunteers for various charities, such as Rebuilding OKC and the Oklahoma Food Bank. She and her husband Caleb (BSBA 2007), both active members in the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the Arkansas Alumni Association, had a baby girl (Vivian Ruth—5 lbs., 10.5 oz. and 17 ¼ in long) on January 25, 2013.

**Lisa Beckenbaugh** (PhD 2002), a military analyst, is an oral history interviewer for the Operational Leadership Experiences Project, which is under the aegis of the Combat Studies Institute at Fort Leavenworth, KS. She has interviewed U.S. and international soldiers about their experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan. She enjoys gardening,

## Can You Help?

Our alumni and friends have been very generous, but we continue to need your support to maintain our tradition of excellence. Your unrestricted gift (**University of Arkansas Foundation-History Department, account 2780**) will allow the Department the greatest flexibility in allocating money where need is greatest, whether to support teaching, public programs, graduate assistantships, or student and faculty research, or to recognize and aid outstanding students. Of course, we would be most grateful, too, for larger gifts to endow scholarships, fellowships, chairs, and lectureships.

There are a number of other funds that may be of particular interest to our alumni: 1) **The David W. Edwards Scholarship Fund**, 2) **The Timothy Donovan Lectureship**, 3) **The James J. Hudson Graduate Fellowship**, 4) **The Robert E. Reeser Award**, 5) **The Willard B. Gatewood Graduate Fellowship**, 6) **The Walter L. Brown Scholarship in Arkansas History**, 7) **The George V. Ray Memorial Award**, 8) **The Gordon McNeil Scholarship Fund**, 9) **The Ralph V. Turner Fund**, 10) **The J. Margaret Roberts Endowed Award Fund**, 11) **The Oscar Fendler Award Fund**, 12) **The George Billingsley Award Fund**, 13) **The Jesse Taylor Jr. Scholarship Fund**, 14) **The Stokely-McAdoo Family International Study Scholarship**, 15) **The Walter L. Brown Endowment in History**.

**The Mary Hudgins Award** funds research and internships for students working in Arkansas history.

Gifts to the Department should be sent to: Dr. Kathryn Sloan, Chair, History Department, Old Main 416, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701, with checks made out to: **University of Arkansas Foundation History Department, account 2780**.

Gifts to the **Gatewood Fellowship** may be sent to: 325 Administration Building, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701, while checks to the **James J. Hudson Fellowship** should be forwarded to: Dean of the Graduate School, 50 Stone House North, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701. Gifts to the **Walter L. Brown Endowment** should be directed to the Fulbright College Development Office, 525 Old Main, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. ■

especially growing and canning prize pickles, and she and her husband, **Terry** (PhD 2001), work with Kitty Cat Connection every summer, fostering kittens until adoption.

**Tom Bercher** (BA 1972) is retired and moving from Albuquerque, NM to Racine, WI. He says, "I'm tired of brown and want to see green and four seasons." He drives a 1966 MGB, which is probably why he likes to travel.

**Bob Besom** (MA 1972; PhA 1975) may be History's most unpersuasive retiree. He continues to process the Union Saw Mill papers for U of A's Special Collections and, indeed, has acquired a whole new cache of materials, including

the personal files of Frank Scott, the mill's manager and also president of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce through most of the 1930s.

**Lori Bogle** (PhD 1997), associate professor of history at the United States Naval Academy, is completing a book on Theodore Roosevelt's use of public relations. She is also director of the 2013 McMullen Naval History Symposium, an international conference on naval and maritime history.

**Chris W. Branam** (MA 2011), after returning to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, where he spent one and a half years covering the U of A, was hired by University Relations in September

2012 to promote research and economic development at the state's oldest and largest public university.

**Matthew A. Byron** (PhD 2008), assistant professor of history at Young Harris College in Georgia, is a busy man. When he's not jetsetting to conferences in Savannah, Cleveland, Cape Girardeau, St. Louis, Eufaula (AL), St. Simons Island (GA), Nassau Bahamas, and San Juan, Puerto Rico, or taking students to Rome in May for a week-long adventure with Aneilya Barnes, he's writing and publishing. His article, "Thou Shalt Not Duel: The Impotency of Dueling Laws in South Carolina," was published in the 2012 *Proceedings* of the South Carolina Historical Association. "Making a Career out of Dueling: Duels, Politicians, and the Mississippi Valley," will appear this year in *Gateway* magazine, published by the Missouri History Museum. A book chapter, "The Impotency of Dueling Laws in the United States," will be included in an anthology, *A Matter of Honor: Essays on Southern Character and American Identity*, to be published by University of South Carolina Press in 2014.

**Jay Carney** (BA 1999) is assistant professor of theology at Creighton University in Omaha. Oxford University Press will publish a revised version of his dissertation titled *Rwanda before the Genocide: Catholic Politics and Ethnic Discourse in the Late Colonial Era*. Also, a version of the paper he gave at the University of Arkansas in November 2010 was published last year in the *Journal of Religion in Africa*. "Thanks to Lynda Coon and everyone else for all their support!" In family news, he and his wife were expecting a fourth child, a girl, in May 2013.

**Rita S. Caver** (MA 1993) teaches AP U.S. history at Fayetteville High School. She re-certified her National Boards last year and is AP department chair. She likes to hike, bike, and travel, as much as time allows, and this summer she is going on a bike trip to Puglia for her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Col. Michael R. Considine** (MA 1986) retired from the U.S. Army on May 15, 2013. He was most recently Senior Officer—2nd Stryker Basic Combat

Training Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division and served with International Security Forces in Afghanistan as the senior advisor to the Provincial Governor of Kandahar from May 2012 to January 2013. He's received the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, NATO Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Achievement Medal. The younger generation is carrying on the family's military tradition. His sons Captain Patrick Considine and 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Daniel Considine, US Army, served in Afghanistan in 2012-13, while another, Christian Considine, completed his first year at West Point Military Academy in May. His daughter, Katlin Considine, graduated from the U of A with a degree in Communications/Spanish in 2012 and is currently working in Madrid, Spain. Colonel Considine says he's "looking forward to visiting Fayetteville and West Point to attend Razorback and Black Knight sporting events and work on historical research."

**Harold Coogan** (BSE 1961; MA 1966), still an adjunct faculty member at Rich Mountain Community College in Mena, says he's "finishing up 52 years in the profession and getting filthy rich in the process." His son and grandson are also in the history racket, while his stepson is on the geoscience faculty at the University of Nebraska. Coogan writes that the obituary for Lois Morris in last year's *Newsletter*, triggered a memory: "She was my teaching supervisor when I did my practice teaching at University High [now Peabody Hall], located on the U of A campus. The student population was made up of children of professors and kids that had been kicked out of local high schools in Fayetteville, Springdale, Farmington, West Fork, etc. for disciplinary reasons. I walked in my first day, ready to get with the topic in my eleventh grade U.S. history class. They gave me hell. I didn't sleep that night. I didn't know if I wanted to be a history teacher or not. (I recall three or four of my friends who just quit school and left because of discipline problems they had.) I decided the next day it was them or me. I asked Mrs. Morris if she had a paddle.

She looked at me, handed me a paddle she retrieved out of a desk drawer, never saying a word. I walked into my class with the paddle, placed it on the desk, not saying a word, and never had another problem the rest of the semester. I always appreciated Mrs. Morris for her silent approval of my problem solution device."

**Aletha Cook** (BA 2005) lives in Fayetteville and just earned an MS in speech language pathology from the U of A. She has been offered a full-time job with a therapy company called Restore Therapy. She is married to **Josh Cook** (also a History alum), who loves teaching world history at West Fork High School.

**Holly Harrison Cooper** (BA 1995) has been working for the Memphis city schools for 15 years and currently teaches French and U.S. History at Memphis's Central High School. She is the mother of two very active elementary-school children. She says, "I love being part of the educational world and am grateful for the wonderful education I received those many years ago at the University of Arkansas!"

**Julie Courtwright** (PhD 2007), assistant professor of history at Iowa State University, continues to teach, research, and write on the history of the American West and U.S. environmental history. Her first book, *Prairie Fire: A Great Plains History*, was named an honor book selection for the Caroline Bancroft Prize (2013), given by the Western History Division of the Denver Public Library.

**Kaleb Cox** (BA 2012) is studying law at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

**John Kyle Day** (BA 1997; MA 1999; PhD 2006 [U. of Missouri]) teaches history at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. He was on sabbatical this past spring and has been working on a few long-term research projects, as well as helping with UAM's acquisition and restoration of Hollywood Plantation in Drew County, which will be used for research, historical interpretation, and tourism. He recently finished his term as president of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers (2010-2012) and has been elected vice chairman of

the board of directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council for 2013. He is also finishing his term on the advisory board of Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society. Kyle's daughter, Sabina, age 8, was named to the Principal's List for Drew Central Elementary School, having achieved straight A's. His son, John Ragib, was born in Pine Bluff on May 16, 2012, weighing nine pounds, six ounces. His wife, Rena, serves as a financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments, and his mother-in-law, Valentina Turdonova Orujova, has come from Azerbaijan to live with them in Monticello and help with the new addition to the Day Clan.

**Thomas DeBlack** (PhD 1995) is professor of history at Arkansas Tech. The University of Arkansas Press has just published a handsome second edition of *Arkansas: A Narrative History*, which he co-authored with Jeannie Whayne, George Sabo, and Judge Morris Arnold.

**Wade Derden** (MA 2000; PhD 2011 [public policy]) is social science division chair at National Park Community College in Hot Springs.

**Tom Dillard** (MA 1975) has left Farmington and moved back to central Arkansas but continues to write his weekly Arkansas history column for the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. His wife, Mary, has been appointed to the Arkansas History Commission.

**Basil Dmytryshyn** (BA 1950, MA 1951, PhD 1955 [UC Berkeley]), *emeritus* professor of history, Portland State University, enjoys retirement with his wife of sixty-four years. They live in Keizer, Oregon. Dr. Dmytryshyn continues to research and publish, and occasionally gives a public lecture. His achievements and awards are more fully documented in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*.

**Clark Donat** (BA 2007) practices law in Dallas, TX.

**G. Wayne Dowdy** (BA 1991) is History Department Manager at the Memphis Public Library and Information Center and hosts the WYPL-TV 18 program *The Memphis Room*. He is currently writing *The Memphis History Almanac* for the History Press. It's scheduled to appear in early 2014.

**Maxwell Duell** (BA 2012) is a teacher in AmeriCorps. In 2012-2013, he was in South Florida, while next year he'll be in Washington state. He says, "Dr. Whayne is awesome!"

**Derek Everett** (PhD 2008) teaches history at Metropolitan State University of Denver and works other rooms as well. The University of Oklahoma Press has contracted to publish his book on state boundaries, which began life as a dissertation here at the U of A.

**James Finck** (PhD 2008) published *Divided Loyalties: Kentucky's Struggle for Armed Neutrality* with Savas Beatie Publishing Company in October 2012. He teaches at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

**Paul Kevin Findley** (BA 1988), freelance commercial writer, reports that he is active in the California GOP.

**Dennis Michael Finnigan** (BA 1974) served as an officer in the Army between 1974 and 1976 and in the Army Reserve from 1976 to 1990. He has received the Army Achievement Medal and the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster. The 61 year old says he's "heading to age 62 at flank speed" and spends his time enjoying life, which includes surfing the net, raising a Chinese Pug puppy named Rocco, regularly playing a game of Aggravation, hunting, fishing, keeping up with the news, and supporting a group called Arkansas for Compassionate Care to legalize medical marijuana in the state. He writes, "History is a great subject! It gives one perspective of where we've been and how we got to where we are today. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at U of A Fayetteville and lived in Yocum Hall all my time there, except one semester."

**Alice Usdin Fleeman** (BA 1978) lives in Morrilton and manages a dental office. She enjoys golf, running, and travelling. Her daughter, Emily Fleeman Bell, who received her BS in 2007 in speech pathology/communication disorders, works for Memphis Oral School for the Deaf, and is the only person in Shelby County, TN, with the certification of Auditory Verbal Therapist. Alice's son, Patrick Fleeman, graduated from UAMS with an MD and MPH in May 2012 and is surgical resident at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas.

**Esther M. Gill** (MA 1972) has been teaching Spanish, AP Government, and dual-enrollment humanities at Lake Placid (FL) High School since 1972—but now only part time. She is actively involved in Memorial United Methodist Church and the American Association of University Women.

**Diane Gleason** (PhD 1997) has earned tenure and been promoted to associate professor of history at Arkansas Tech University. She recently published a co-authored book—*Warren G. Harding, Harbinger of Normalcy* (Nova Publishing Co., 2012).

**Charles E. Gray** (MA 1950; EdD 1968 [University of Illinois]), professor *emeritus* of history at Illinois State University, writes, "Although I've been retired from full-time University employment since 1986, I continue to thrive in the Missouri Ozarks and have hopes of a good fishing season in 2013. A friend who moved to Fayetteville tells me that my graduation brick still resides in the walk in front of Old Main. Even though chronologically challenged, I continue to read, write, and occasionally speak to groups interested in historical topics; however, I find it is easier to get older than it is to get wiser!"

**Brian W. Haggblom** (BA 1992) is in sales and relocated from Memphis to Tampa in 2010, where he is busy raising two teens (15 and 13), playing tennis, reading, and playing guitar. He's "looking forward to a better 2013 football season—nowhere to go but up. Go Hogs!"

**Michael Hammond** (PhD 2009) is associate professor of history and department chair at Southeastern University in Lakeland, FL. He has also been elected chair of the faculty council and serves on "many" faculty committees and task forces. Hammond was invited to participate in a seminar on "Teaching the Presidency" as part of "Does the Presidency Matter? The American Age of Political Disrepair," a conference at the Hannah Arendt Center at Bard College. He writes, "Jennifer and I are still enjoying Florida with our six kids. We have become accustomed to the alligators but often miss the mountains and beauty of the Natural State."

**Michael Harry** (BA 2001) is an attorney. He recently moved from Little

Rock to Greenwood, AR, to take a job with the law firm of Walters Gaston Allison & Parker. "It's been a great move, and we love being closer to Fayetteville." He continues, "I've got two incredibly active boys—not much time for anything else, but I still manage to hit the gym."

**Jill Hatley** (BA 1976; MA 1980) is an administrative assistant with the Fort Smith Housing Authority.

**Ryan Christopher Hill** (BA 2010) is completing his second year as a law student at Bowen School of Law in Little Rock. He married Sarah Elizabeth Wilkerson (BSBA 2011) on June 16, 2012.

**Bill Horton** (BA 1997; JD 2001), an attorney with Nolan Caddell & Reynolds in Rogers, has received many accolades. He was a 2013 Rising Star Super Lawyer (top 2.5% of attorneys in Mid-South under 40). The National Trial Lawyers Association included him in the Top 40 under 40 in Arkansas and Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Arkansas. In his spare time, he can be found hiking, mountain biking, and reading presidential biographies.

**Nathan Howard** (PhD 2005) is completing his seventh year at the University of Tennessee-Martin, where he is associate professor of ancient and medieval history. His article "Gifts Bearing Greekness: Cultural Capital in Fourth-Century Cappadocia" appeared in this spring's issue of the *Journal of Late Antiquity*. He co-led a travel study to Ireland from May 5 to May 16 and stayed another week to do research at the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin. He is looking forward to offering an ancient Greek language class over the summer, the first time it has been offered at UT-Martin in over a decade. The university awarded him a Reagan Research Leave for the academic year 2013-2014, to work on his book manuscript, which will address the social function of bishops and their families in late-Roman Cappadocia.

**Steven A. Hryniewicz** (BA 2010), project engineer with Pinnacle Foods in Fayetteville had a very busy May 2013. First he earned a BS in mechanical engineering from U of A, then he married Catherine Griswold a week later.

**Alvin "Bo" Huffman III** (BA 1961) has been rearranging his life. He recently

retired, moved, and married. He is the former CEO and chairman of Farmers Bank and Trust Co. in Blytheville and was also special projects officer for branch banks in Nashville and Franklin, TN. His new bride is Sally Work, who also grew up in Blytheville. He has a son and a daughter and six grandchildren. Huffman enjoys gardening, sports, and studying economics and history. He writes, "Studying history at the U of A made my life richer and more enjoyable. A liberal arts education is still very important and relevant today"

**Chris Huggard** (MA 1987; PhD 1994 [University of New Mexico]), professor of history at Northwest Arkansas Community College, is currently completing a manuscript on the history of Pea Ridge National Military Park and directing the Service Learning program at NWACC—special projects include the Native American Advocacy Project, the Marshallese Project, the Sustainability and Haiti Projects. His book *Santa Rita del Cobre: A Copper Mining Community in New Mexico* (University Press of Colorado, 2012) won the Howard Bryan Western History Book Award for 2012, the Clark C. Spence Award for best book in mining history for 2011-2012, and a Southwest Book Award. It's now available in paperback. His wife, Kay Pritchett, has been similarly honored. Her book, *In Pursuit of Poem Shadows: Pureza Canelo's Second Poetics* (Bucknell, 2011), won the 2012 Best Book (all languages) award from the South-Central Modern Language Association. Chris also reports, "Our beagle, Tuppie, and all-black cat, Luna, have officially entered into middle age and are seeking Social Security benefits."

**Scott Hyde** (BA 2012) is an AmeriCorps member and teaches social studies at San Antonio Can High School, where he is also athletic director and head basketball coach. He married Stacy McCurdy in July 2012. We'd wager Scott is still rooting for the Cardinals.

**Ben Johnson** (PhD 1991) has been appointed to the John G. Ragsdale and Dora J. Ragsdale chair in Arkansas studies at Southern Arkansas University. This is the first endowed chair in Arkansas studies that ever was.

**Jennifer Koenig Johnson** (BA 2006; MA 2008) is public services librarian

at Crowder College in Neosho, MO. She has recently published articles in the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture* and *Reference Reviews* and been inducted into Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information studies honor society.

**Kimberly Chenault Jones** (BA 2001) is a financial aid specialist and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC), as well as being karate mom extraordinaire. As for honors, she writes, "My talents are appreciated, but I have not been awarded with anything more than verbal praise. I was required to complete a distracted driving course recently, and they gave me a certificate!" She lives on the "beautiful Oregon coast" with her two children, Liam, 8, and Eli, 9, and her dog, Penny, and she still listens to KUAF.

**Barbara Roberts Keene** (BA 1961) taught high school and junior high social studies and American literature in the 1960s and 1970s. "My English and literature students told me they often didn't know whether they were in literature or history class. I frequently connected the authors and their writings to the world in which they lived." Keene "re-careered" in her 40s, earning a masters in counseling at the University of Central Florida and a PhD in counseling and educational psychology at Mississippi State University. She is a Florida licensed clinical marriage and family therapist and, since 1997, has worked at the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida's Counseling Center. Certified in gerontology, she helped establish the successful "spirituality and aging bi-annual seminars" in Central Florida. She volunteers in the spiritual care department at the Orlando Regional Hospital, and she facilitates the monthly caregiver support meetings at her church in Winter Park. Keene is past president of the Florida Mental Health Counselors Association and the National Association for Adult Development and Aging of the American Association for Counselors. She received a Walt Disney World Award for innovative community service in counseling older adults and their families. Her husband of 51 years, R.

Bruce Keene, is a U of A alum and retired veterinarian. They have two children. She writes, "Today, in my mid-70s, I'm aware that I'm a 'walking history book.' It's always amazing to find the pleasure in reflecting where I've been, what I've seen, and hopefully learned over time. I love to share memories (another name for histories) with family, friends, and even clients."

**Joseph P. Key** (PhD 2001) is associate professor of history and associate department chair at Arkansas State University. He also serves as vice-president of the Arkansas Historical Association.

**Adam A. Kreuter** (BA 1936; LLB 1938) is a retired attorney and, at age 98, is still living in Sturgeon Bay, WI. He notes that "I have reached the age where I have become a problem to my wonderful son and daughter. My wife Jane (71 years together) left me for the Great Beyond in March of 2011." Kreuter recalls his Saturday morning Russian history course with Dr. Dorsey Jones. "He was an inspiration to make history live."

**Mark H. Lamberth** (BA 1971; MA 1974) is president of Atlas Asphalt, Inc., and currently a member of the Arkansas Racing Commission and of the board of directors of Racing Commissioners International. He chairs the Legislative Committee of Arkansas Associated General Contractors.

**Bethany Larson** (BA 2009) is assistant editor for Newmarket Press & It Books, a division of HarperCollins Publishers.

**Michael Lindsey** (MA 2003) has been appointed to the Arkansas History Commission. He is senior vice president of government affairs at the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

**W. Matt Malczycki** (BA 1997; PhD 2006 [University of Utah]), assistant professor of history at Auburn University, won Auburn's College of Liberal Arts Summer Competitive Research Grant for 2013. He has an article forthcoming: "P.UtahAr. inv. 205 Instructions for Islamic Prayer from the Second Century AH/Eighth Century CE," in *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* 49 (2013). In academic year 2012-13, he presented

two papers: "Caliphal Policy and the *Baldhiyyūn* of Ifriqiya 757-800 CE" (at the Third International Conference of the Research Network Imperium and Officium: Land and Power in the Ancient and Post-Ancient World, Vienna, Austria, February, 2013) and "Long Before the Aghlabids: Center-Periphery Relations 122/740-138/755" (at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, Denver, CO, November 2012). He also participated in two outreach presentations at Troy University: "An Arkansas Traveler's Perspective on Islam and the Middle East" (March 2013) and "Of Burkas and Honey Boo Boo: Questions about Women in Islamic and American Societies" (April 2013). When he's not doing all that writing and presenting, he can be found kayak fishing ("this year I'm all about crappie fishing"), captaining a Relay for Life Team, "The Rankean Paradigm," which raised over \$1500 to fight cancer, and adopting rescue Dachshunds.

**Sarah Brooke Malloy** (MA 2005) is director of development at the Old State House Museum in Little Rock.

**John Monroe** (BA 1990; JD 1993 [UALR]), senior vice president for business development at Metropolitan National Bank in Little Rock, was recently appointed by Gov. Mike Beebe to serve on the Arkansas Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts Foundation Board. He also sits on the board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Arkansas. He and his wife, the former Leslie Vaught (BA 1990 [Zoology]), have an 11-year-old son who is potentially a future history major.

**Waddy W. Moore** (BSE 1973; MA 1975), retired historian at UCA, lists his activities as "stayin' alive!"

**Ross Murphy** (BA 2012) is beginning law school at UALR's W. H. Bowen School in August. He will be attending the part-time program and continue to work as a courier for Gross, Gunter, Witherspoon, and Galchus, PC, of Little Rock. In his spare time, he enjoys music, running, and cycling.

**April Louise (Brown) Najjaj** (BA 1988; MA 1991) has accepted a position as an assistant professor of history at the Gulf University for Science & Technology

in Kuwait City, Kuwait. She will be moving there this August.

**Jordan Patty** (MA 2003) is an archivist at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, and is enrolled in the PhD program in history there. He and his wife, Julie, who is an archivist at the Holocaust Museum, have a two-year-old daughter.

**Ryan Poe** (BA 2008, MA 2010) has completed his qualifying examinations in Duke University's doctoral program in history. He is working on a dissertation about property law in post-emancipation Virginia.

**Jeff Poole** (BA 2003), writer, producer, and director at Second City Theater, Chicago, IL, is also the judge of the Chicago Dramatists' Ten-Minute Play competition, the head of Level One writing at the Second City Training Center, and a writer for *Talk Hard*, a live talk show every Friday at Comedy Sportz Theater. Jeff is married to U of A alum (2005), Nicole Moore Poole, a senior architectural designer at Aria Group Architects in Oak Park, IL. He is an avid cook who also enjoys tending his rooftop garden.

**Bobby Roberts** (PhD 1978) is director of the Central Arkansas Library System. The Arkansas Historical Association honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012.

**Jessica Rogers** (BA 2006) served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bokito, Cameroon from 2006 to 2008. She now works as a budget analyst at the Peace Corps' headquarters in Washington, DC.

**Noel Runyan** (BA 2010) is studying to become a nuclear propulsion electronics technician at the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Training Command in Goose Creek, SC.

**John R. Scott** (BA 1973) is circuit judge of the 19<sup>th</sup> West Judicial Circuit in Bentonville. The Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association selected him as Trial Judge of the Year in 2013. His wife, Sue Scott, was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives, District 95, and just finished her first session in the 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

**Kim Allen Scott** (MA 1986) is professor and university archivist at Montana State University Library in Bozeman. This past April, he lectured

on the battle of Fayetteville at the Washington County Historical Society's commemoration of the sesquicentennial of that event.

**Mari Serebrov** (MA 2002) is Washington Editor for *BioWorld*—a trade publication for the biopharma industry. Her latest book, *Mama Namibia*, is now available through amazon.com and the African Book Collective. Published by Wordweaver Publishing House, of Windhoek, Namibia, the book tells the story of the 1904 Herero genocide in German Southwest Africa—an episode that proved to be the training ground for the Holocaust. A historical novel, *Mama Namibia* is based on the true story of a 12-year-old Herero girl who survived, on her own, in the desert for two years after her family was killed in an ambush. Serebrov will be doing a book tour this summer in southern Africa, during which she will be speaking at universities in Namibia and South Africa and addressing top government officials in Botswana and Namibia.

**Lindley Shedd** (BA 2006) has earned tenure and promotion to associate professor on the library faculty at the University of Alabama.

**Kevin N. Shriner** (MA 1994; MEd 1997; EdD 2011 [Nova Southeastern University]) serves as the Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at Ave Maria University in Florida and is also an assistant professor in the College of Education at Argosy University. He has an article forthcoming in the *Community College Journal of Research and Practice* entitled "Late Registration: Continued Impact on Student Success."

**Betty J. Smith** (MA 1971), retired social studies teacher, lives in Fayetteville and enjoys her freedom from the working world in going to church, travelling, quilting, fishing, reading, taking pictures, trying to sing, and re-investigating the "computer world." She has been married to her college sweetheart for 46 years, and they have two sons with wives and one "fantastic grandson in Washington state." Mrs. Smith has won several

community service awards, including the Martin Luther King, Jr., Award and the Golden Rule Committee Service Award from J.C. Penney.

**Donna Smith** (BA 1976) is a director of marketing and communications in the oil and gas industry in Houston, TX. She is the single mom of a 15-year-old daughter adopted from China.

**Theodore Somach** (BA 2011) and his father, Denny Somach, have launched a new record company, Vinyl Legacy, devoted to limited edition vinyl and picture discs. Its debut release will be *Larry Kane's Ticket to Ride*, a collection of exclusive interviews with John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr.

**Jeremy Taylor** (PhD 2011) is assistant professor of history at Defiance College in Defiance, OH.

**Christopher T. Teter** (BA 1987) has retired and is travelling the world—he says he's "selling the house to finance the next adventure in [his] life—the sky's the limit." His adventures include spelunking the karst topography of the Natural State, playing guitar, and writing, writing, writing. On the familial front, his daughter, Carolanne, 20, attends the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith as a criminal justice major, and his parents, Jim and Genie, celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in April.

**Tommy R. Thompson** (MA 1965), professor *emeritus* of history at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, spends his time reading and travelling—mainly to Colorado and Florida to visit children and grandchildren. "I visited the U of A while driving from Florida to Omaha in January. The changes were amazing since our last visit in 1977. Old Main looked great—very different from 1963-64. We visited the department and met some administrators. Everyone was very nice to an *old grad*."

**Sonia Toudji** (PhD 2012) is assistant professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas.

**Scott Tucker** (BA 1984; JD 1987 [Washington & Lee]) is an attorney in Little Rock. He writes, "I got to cross off an item on my bucket list when I rode

a float in Mardi Gras this year in New Orleans. 'Hey, throw me something, mister.' For once, I was on the receiving end of that shout."

**Zach Wagner** (BA 2007) practices law in Denver, CO.

**Mary Floyd Ward** (BA 2005; MAT 2006) writes, "After teaching middle school and high school social studies for six years, I decided I didn't have enough stress in my life, so I quit teaching and started law school in the fall of 2012 at the UALR Bowen School of Law. So far, so good--with nearly one year under my belt."

**Erin Warden** (BA 2012) studies law at UALR's Bowen School of Law.

**Elizabeth Salisbury Warren** (BA 1994) practices health care law and is raising two boys and enjoying life with her husband in Nashville, TN. She says, "Thanks for the newsletters. I enjoy hearing what is going on at the University, even if it makes me feel old (as one by one my professors retire)."

**Barry Roland Weaver** (BA 1955), a retired social worker, lives in Jasper. He contributes a weekly newspaper column, "Air and Water Quality," to the *Newton County Times*. He is also co-chair of the Newton County Wildlife Association and president of the Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas.

**Andrew Wehrman** (BA 2003, PhD 2011 [Northwestern University]) is assistant professor of history at Marietta College in Ohio.

**Andrew James Williams** (BA 2010) was scheduled to graduate from Mississippi College School of Law in Jackson on May 10, 2013.

**Warren J. Wright** (BA 1964), retired as of 1994, is a founding member of the Harrison Task Force on Race Relations and the Boone County Resource Council. He has been clinical coordinator and senior clinician at Ozark Counseling Services, psychiatric social worker at Nevada Rural Mental Health Services, and senior rehabilitation counselor in Harrison, AR. He and his wife, Linda, live in Fayetteville.

**James Zimmermann** (MA 1971) is retired and lives in Flippin. He squeezes in some fly fishing among USCG Auxiliary duties, St. Vincent de Paul Society work, and family-related travel. He says he doesn't know how he "managed to find time for gainful employment in pre-retirement days." He is still married to the same lovely woman after forty-five years and enjoys the successes of three children and seven grandchildren, who remain scattered across the country from Washington, D.C. to Texas. He adds, "I enjoyed a week in a small village along the Ligurian Coast of Italy, wondered at the antiquity of churches and the beauties of the Gulf of Poets. I will supply the identity of the village only if one is willing to forgo using English (except with travelling companion[s]) while there."

## Deaths

**Richard B. Dixon** (MA 1954) died in Little Rock on October 29, 2012. He was born in the same city in 1925 and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After earning an A.B. in education from Southwestern College (now Rhodes College) in Memphis, he completing a master's degree in history at the U of A. Dixon taught at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and its predecessor institutions between 1957 and 1975. He became a stalwart of the Arkansas Historical Association, serving on its board of trustees between 1993 and 2000, winning its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004, and generously funding the J. H. Atkinson Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Arkansas History. He was also an honored member of the Pulaski County Historical Society. Dixon's essays on Little Rock and Arkansas history appeared regularly as letters to the editor in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. ■

# 2012-2013

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# The History NEWSLETTER



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*Editor*

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