Hammond’s Got a Revolution

Our new East Asian historian, Assistant Professor Kelly Hammond, was lucky to secure a spot in the Department before they build that wall—you know, the one that will stretch from the Bay of Fundy to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. But as much as the young Canadian yearns to breathe free, she hasn’t melted in our pot quite yet. Last fall, after her Toronto Blue Jays bit the dust in the ALCS, the fifth-floor boys paraded her around in a Kansas City Royals cap. Photos might suggest that she took it all in good humor. But we suspect that, privately, she’s looking forward to the Department’s next Cultural Revolution, when those same boys will be forced to don dunce caps and confess their “errors.” This humiliation will be carried out Canada-style, of course. “Aboot time for some self-criticism, eh?”

Hammond was educated in the old country, earning her BA in history and political science from Bishop’s University in Quebec and an MA in East Asian history from Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. She then crossed the line to secure a doctorate from Georgetown University. She specializes in the history of Islam in East Asia, particularly the political, social and cultural history of Chinese Muslims from the Qing Dynasty through the People’s Republic. Her current project concerns Muslims during Japan’s occupation of China, and their role in prompting “an on-going dialogue between the Japanese Empire and the Chinese Nationalists about strategies for managing minority populations.” Broader interests include imperialism and nationalism in Asia, minority populations in China’s borderlands, World War Two, espionage history, and the relations between nomads and settled peoples in East Asia. Hammond has worked as a writer for the National Geographic Society and Cengage Learning and has been a guest on the Ottoman History Podcast. She has held fellowships at Georgetown and Beijing Normal University, and from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council. Most recently, she won a research grant from the Center for Chinese Studies in Taiwan and spent this summer affiliated with the Academia Sinica in Taipei, where she conducted research in Nationalist archives.

Kelly Hammond spent her first year in Fayetteville teaching Chinese history, world civilization, and the Second World War in the Pacific. This past spring, she also led an undergraduate seminar on (what else?) the Cultural Revolution. Periodically, her students would spill out of the classroom to jeer at and even jostle senior members of our faculty. The young pioneers aren’t big on deference, it seems.

International Man of Mystery

Shawn Austin. Does that name ring a bell, boomers? Wasn’t he in her majesty’s secret service? Or was he the dude from UNCLE with the equally dreamy Russian sidekick? No, it seems our old-timers’ memories are playing tricks. Assistant Professor Austin insists he crosses so many borders (those of Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, and Uruguay this summer alone) not to foil Mao-jacketed bad guys with missiles and piranhas but instead in the interests of researching and teaching the history of colonial Latin America.

We are inclined to believe this isn’t just a cover story (though, just in case, we would warn young Austin that Professor Starks has poison-tipped knives in her shoes). Any decent intelligence service...
of New Mexico in 2014. His work on colonial Latin America focuses especially on the social lives of indigenous peoples, African slaves, and women in South America. He is currently completing an ethnohistory of the Guarani in the colonial Río de la Plata, provisionally titled Beyond the Missions: The Guarani and the Encomienda Community in Colonial Paraguay. It shows that Spanish and English colonists were competing for land by becoming the Guarani’s kin and that kinship and reciprocity shaped interethic relations throughout the colonial period. His study also analyzes groups typically excluded from the colonial histories of the Río de la Plata: African slaves and indigenous women. What he has gathered from his work, he says, is that “history empowers us to grant people in the past (and the present) the benefit of the doubt by casting doubt on our ability to understand them.” As the U of A, Shawn Connery teaches courses on a variety of topics in Latin American history, including indigenous cultures, African slavery, women and gender, frontiers and borderlands, and the Cold War.

Shawn Austin came to us in autumn 2013 with family in tow. He and his wife, Camille, have four children—Annie, Ethan, Richard, and Lucas. Mike Pierce tells us that Austin played the Pirate King in a college production of Pirates of Penzance, which again raises that perennial question, “If Dr. Pierce knows so much, why doesn’t he edit the newsletter?” Oh, behave!

Cleveland’s Rocks

It didn’t take Assistant Professor Todd Cleveland long to persuade us that diamonds are a scholar’s best friend. (Just pour him a martini, and he’ll sing “Pirates of Penzance”.) Diamonds in the Rough: Corporate Paternalism and Africa Professionalism on the Mines of Colonial Angola, 1917–1975 (Ohio University Press), a successor to Stones of Contention: A History of Africa’s Diamonds, published by the same press in 2014.

Cleveland describes how his interests in Africa developed during his graduate work at the University of New Hampshire: “While an M.A. student, my focus was on the European colonial experience in Africa. During this time, I had the chance to visit my sister, who was serving in the Peace Corps in Guinea Bissau. My visit to West Africa and the people I met on my travels throughout the region convinced me that I wanted to go on to a Ph.D. program in history, but with a shift in focus to the African side of the colonial encounters. I caught the ‘Africa bug,’ as those who become enchanted by this continent like to say.”

He settled on the subject of the Africans who worked in the continent’s diamond industry, a subject, it turned out, that could be studied from the North carrel somewhere. Cleveland offered the following account to the U of A’s Chris Branam for his “Scarcest Research Stories Ever” blog:

From 2004 to 2006, I periodically traveled, under the aegis of private mining corporations, government or church organizations, to the diamond-yielding area of Angola, an area difficult to access because the Angolan government wasn’t keen on outsiders touring around. It was very much like a ‘wild west’ scenario. You had artisanal miners, ranging from one man or a group of kids who go out with rudimentary equipment to small groups of evil-minded individuals who traveled and worked together. They didn’t have a legal stake to mine any of these areas. Layered on top of that were all the private security firms running what was called a ‘diamond mine.’ This area is awash in guns. There would be gunfire and fighting every night. The legal mining companies hire private security—all of them are ex-special forces for Portugal and South Africa, among other places. These were rough individuals. One guy had killed black protesters in South Africa. Another asked me what my favorite bomb was. That was alarming, but often amusing to talk to.

My project was to find and interview individuals who had worked in the mines during the colonial period. At times, I was required to carry an AK-47, which is only the gun I’ve ever fired and may well be the only gun I’ll ever get to use, but I first thought, ‘What in God’s name am I doing here?’

The scariest moment came when I was invited to go for a drive by a mine manager who was convinced his head of security was permitting illegal operations to come in at night and he would then sell the diamonds. He took the other five of us (the four from the mine and one who was my guide) to our car and left us. We got the hang of things and I learned an important lesson about people in Africa: Trust no one, because you can never trust anyone. But that’s another story.

After a few days at the mine, Cleveland continued, he found out that the drills were not always working, and he added, “I thought it wise to shore up our standing with the Department last summer to take our newsletter?” Oh, behave!

Three More

Whether it’s the Holy Trinity, the Ronettes, or the red, white, and blue, we like things in threes. The Department added three tenure-track faculty in 2015–2016, and it brought in another power trio for 2016–2017.

Sarah Rodríguez has staked her claim on the patch of antebellum territory abandoned by Beth Schweiger. She’ll be yet another member of our faculty who chooses to study Texas—but from the safe distance of Fayetteville. Dr. Rodríguez earned her doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania. Her dissertation, “Children of the Great Mexican Family: Anglo-American Immigration to Mexican Texas and the Making of the American Empire, 1820-1861,” directed by Stephen McCurry, portrays an American destiny that was less than manifest, but instead ambivalent, contingent, and contested.

Her article, “The Greatest Nation on Earth: The Politics and Patriotism of the First Anglo-American Immigrants to Mexican Texas,” is forthcoming in the Pacific Historical Review. Rodríguez has held fellowships at Penn, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Smithsonian. She has also been managing editor at Early American Studies, the McNeil Center’s journal, making her more than qualified to take over History Newsletter.

Department members of a certain advanced standing were quick to congratulate our new colleagues when they found out we’d secured a new member of the British Empire named Joe Pepitone. It turns out, though, that Lauren Pepitone is no relation to the Yankee first baseman of the 1960s—and is also quite a lot smarter (after one of his drug busts, some might recall, Joe Pepitone claimed not to have known that cocaine was illegal). Our Pepitone holds a doctorate from Johns Hopkins, where she has been teaching in both the history department and the Program for Women, Gender, and Sexuality.

Her dissertation, directed by Dr. Carole Walkowitz, is titled “Legal London: Gender, Space, and the Culture of the Bar, 1850-1940”—which by her means the Inns of Court, rather than the sort of City豪饮和姐妹的她。如今，她已经成为国际上的知名离家姐妹。Pepitone has presented papers before the American Historical Association and the North American Conference on British Studies and at the Folger Library, and has just published an article in the journal of Women’s History titled “Gender, Space, and Ritual: Women Barristers, the Inns of Court, and the Interwar Press.”

Dr. Rocio Gomez has been pitching around in here since before Kathy Sloan disappeared into the maw of an authoritarian state. And, with prospects dimming for the quick return of our dean without a name whose office is without a number, the Department thought it wise to shore up its standing in modern Latin America by making Gomez’s position more permanent. She teaches courses in Mexican history, colonial and modern Latin America, the Latin American city, and Brazil, and has also allowed the Department to expand its offerings in environmental history and the history of medicine and public health. A graduate of Hendrix College, Gomez did master’s studies here at the U of A before moving to the University of Arizona, where she completed her Ph.D. in 2014. She already has a contract with the University of Nebraska Press for publication of her book, Silver Veins and Dusty Wells: Water, Public Health, and the Environmental Legacies of Industry in Modern Mexico, 1835–1945.

Awards Ceremony/PAT Initiation: More Gore

Most in the Department anticipated a more placid Annual Awards Program and Phi Alpha Theta Initiation this year—what with Laurence Hare now heading the International (Second or Third)
had enough

we knew they'd get sick of us someday: the "attagirls," the chuks under the chin, the rigged faro tournaments, the last-minute directives to deliver an end-of-term lecture on "merrie england". this year saw an unusually large number of students finally putting themselves beyond the reach of their teachers by finding new doctors and finding employ as free men and women.

blake duffield is one of three who had the added incentive of having to defend his dissertation while his advisor, dr. benjamin grob-fitzgibbon, could still be reached. bgf, you'll recall, has just been named a member of the modernization crew. he needs those sandstorms that begin in the sahara to support doctoral research in the history of the u.s. south: nathaniel conley, madeleine forrest, and michael meaders, george billingsley, gordon mcneill and jason phillips, for being the best paper on a middle eastern or asian topic: james brown, gordon mcneill graduate paper award for an outstanding paper by a graduate student: elizabeth withey, helen hugh gooche and adyln & harry kennedy memorial prize for research fund for graduate students: rebekah mcmillan, james j. hudson research fellowship for a graduate student researching a military history topic: anne marie martin, jesse taylor, jf endowed scholarship: sara baylor, michael bohlen, jama grove, scott johnson, alex marino, amanda mcgee, jared pack, jason phillips, eric toten, colin walker, and arley ward, mary hudgins endowed scholarship for support of students of arkansas history: ed andrus, michael anthony, sarah riva, and laura smith, mary hudgins arkansas history research fund to support students of arkansas history: rodney harris, chelsea hodge, and david schaeffer, matthew b. kirkpatrick prize for excellence in graduate teaching: schaeffer, oscar fenderick award for the best paper on arizona or southern history: scott johnson, ralph v. turner travel award for the support of travel, study, and research in england and/or scotland: rebekah mcmillan, william lee brown scottish rite of freemasonry graduate fellowship:(camille goldmon, william h. gatewood graduate fellowship: daniel elkin, willard b. gatewood history graduate fellowship: sanket desai and john treat.

bachelor godfather alessandro brogi had his own loaves and fishes to distribute as director of undergraduate studies. the following awards were presented—and, in some cases, received: david w. edwards scholarship for an outstanding undergraduate in the study of history: stephen cook, jared devoe, gregson teague, madison wieters, and hayden wyatt. george w. ray memorial prize for excellence in graduate teaching: john grant addison, gordon mcneill in european history for the best paper on european history: caroline potts, grant addison, sarah riva, andrew dixon, and margaret watermann, James j. hudson award for military history: Andrew dixon, phi alpha theta undergraduate paper award for an outstanding paper: margaret watermann, Robert e. reece classical studies award for an outstanding paper: megan price, sidney moncrief scholarship for african american history: tabitha orr, stokely-mccado family international study scholarship to pursue research and study opportunities abroad: christina march, the no-shows, jaded by the whole business of being given money, arranged for the direct deposit of their prizes in their bank accounts.

certificates of academic excellence are issued to those whose gpas are up in the stratosphere, up where the air is clear. these are our statute ones for 2016: john grant addison, michael anthony, sally averitt-hubbard, caitlin beasley, emily beshears, samantha conner, stephen cook, michael crafton, andrew dixon, conner donley, tyler dun, william finkelstein, jake golden, heather hansberger, emma hernon, maurie humphrey, joshua jenkins, andrew mcbride, mason mcneill, nathaniel mickelson, tabitha orr, john parker, jimerson pock, jordan penen, jenna poe, caroline potts, diego quinones, jesica ramirez, jay reynolds, christopher robes, amy rogers, jillinna seykor, peregrin shattuck, meghan shrewsbury, brandon stienke, gregson teague, colin walker, margaret watermann, james watson, amanda hite, and trenton yeakley.

in the by now long-toothed tradition of golden fleece awards, senator lankford charmed the state university and the history department by naming it "federal fumbles: 100 ways the government dropped the ball". the book's second edition sold out, and it remains a particularly prominent instance of outlandish and extravagant federal spending. lankford's report quotes from the grant to prove just how absurd it is. the report further promises to "produce the first solo-authored monograph in russian or english to explore the history of tobacco use and government initiated cessation programs in russia in the context of the country's complex social, cultural, and political changes of the past 130 years." the report (and others) have also raised concerns about the culture of tobacco using newspapers, journals, industry publications, etiquette manuals, propaganda posters, popular literature, films, cartoons, and advertising images. sure, that says sounds crazy alright. the carrot-topped solon concludes his report with the federal government's continued funding of the niche history books, congress should push nhii to continue to concentrate its resources on more transformative research to provide public health breakthroughs for the american people. leave the study of russian cigarettes to the russians. lankford declined to comment for this story, as she was hurrying off with a clutch of food stamps to buy some smokes.

lankford's report notes that the grant cost the federal government an astonishing $48,500. this is much, much more, of course, than what the rests spend subsidizing agribusiness and the american tobacco industry (as much as bret bielema makes in a day!). for his part, the senator is a far more careful steward of taxpayers' dollars than his colleagues. he has promoted the public clock co-sponsoring legislation that is certain to be vetoed and promoting initiatives "in defense of marriage."
Every May make future contact iffy in the extreme. Duffield earned his BA at the University of Virginia. She taught "Early American Republic, 1800-1828" and "Antebellum America 1828-1850" (she was famous for taking Andrew Jackson off the inflamed frontier before he had been taken off the Twenty dollar bill), as well as the U.S. history survey. More frequently, she offered courses in American religion, reading, and the history of the book. Schweiger's teaching particularly distinguished herself in graduate education, annually recruiting an impressive number of top-dollar graduate students. Between 2000 and 2015, she directed six dissertations through to completion (those of Susan Dollar, Tammy Byron, Matt Byron, Sonia Toudji, Ron Gordon, and Justin Gage). Several other of her students are set to finish up their doctorates just as soon as she can be located. Colleagues honored Schweiger's skills in the classroom and as a mentor: with Fulbright College's Master Teacher Award (2011), its Outstanding Advisor Award (2014), the Nolan Faculty Award (2015), and by induction into the U of A Teaching Academy (2012).

Tom Duffield also has a force to be reckoned with in the fields of southern, religious, and American intellectual and cultural history. She arrived with a book already out from Oxford University Press, The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia. She has become widely known for her work in the nineteenth-century South, several distillations of which have appeared in the Proceedings of the American Anti-Slavery Association, the Journal of the Early Republic, and the Journal of the Civil War Era. We trust Schweiger's captivity won't delay completion of her next book, Chalk up another casualty. Last year's Aggie jokes were all too true, she hurried back to Northwest Arkansas as quickly as she could—first to work for U of A Housing and then for doctoral study with Dr. Jeanne Whybark. She also served as assistant director of the history. Schweiger’s Quarterly in 2013-2014. Dr. Howard will be teaching at Lone Star College in Texas this fall.

Brian Hurley had his committee walking the floors, walking after midnight, walking the plank, walking it off, and walking a mile for a Camel. What a ride! But tell the Arab he won’t be able to do that anymore. He was walked off in a broom closet at the American embassy in Tehran, hiding there for several days. Dr. Andrea Arrington joined on walkie-talkies from the bush. That left only Richard Sonn to stand up for the good old days. Brian Hurley, Matt Byron, Sonia Toudji, Ron Gordon, and Justin Gage. Several other of her students are set to finish up their doctorates just as soon as she can be located. Colleagues honored Schweiger’s skills in the classroom and as a mentor: with Fulbright College’s Master Teacher Award (2011), its Outstanding Advisor Award (2014), the Nolan Faculty Award (2015), and by induction into the U of A Teaching Academy (2012).

Tom Duffield also has a force to be reckoned with in the fields of southern, religious, and American intellectual and cultural history. She arrived with a book already out from Oxford University Press, The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia. She has become widely known for her work in the nineteenth-century South, several distillations of which have appeared in the Proceedings of the American Anti-Slavery Association, the Journal of the Early Republic, and the Journal of the Civil War Era. We trust Schweiger’s captivity won’t delay completion of her next book, Chalk up another casualty. Last year’s Aggie jokes were all too true, she hurried back to Northwest Arkansas as quickly as she could—first to work for U of A Housing and then for doctoral study with Dr. Jeanne Whybark. She also served as assistant director of the history. Schweiger’s Quarterly in 2013-2014. Dr. Howard will be teaching at Lone Star College in Texas this fall.

Brian Hurley had his committee walking the floors, walking after midnight, walking the plank, walking it off, and walking a mile for a Camel. What a ride! But tell the Arab he won’t be able to do that anymore. He was walked off in a broom closet at the American embassy in Tehran, hiding there for several days. Dr. Andrea Arrington joined on walkie-talkies from the bush. That left only Richard Sonn to stand up for the good old days. Brian Hurley, Matt Byron, Sonia Toudji, Ron Gordon, and Justin Gage. Several other of her students are set to finish up their doctorates just as soon as she can be located. Colleagues honored Schweiger’s skills in the classroom and as a mentor: with Fulbright College’s Master Teacher Award (2011), its Outstanding Advisor Award (2014), the Nolan Faculty Award (2015), and by induction into the U of A Teaching Academy (2012).

Tom Duffield also has a force to be reckoned with in the fields of southern, religious, and American intellectual and cultural history. She arrived with a book already out from Oxford University Press, The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia. She has become widely known for her work in the nineteenth-century South, several distillations of which have appeared in the Proceedings of the American Anti-Slavery Association, the Journal of the Early Republic, and the Journal of the Civil War Era. We trust Schweiger’s captivity won’t delay completion of her next book, Chalk up another casualty. Last year’s Aggie jokes were all too true, she hurried back to Northwest Arkansas as quickly as she could—first to work for U of A Housing and then for doctoral study with Dr. Jeanne Whybark. She also served as assistant director of the history. Schweiger’s Quarterly in 2013-2014. Dr. Howard will be teaching at Lone Star College in Texas this fall.

Brian Hurley had his committee walking the floors, walking after midnight, walking the plank, walking it off, and walking a mile for a Camel. What a ride! But tell the Arab he won’t be able to do that anymore. He was walked off in a broom closet at the American embassy in Tehran, hiding there for several days. Dr. Andrea Arrington joined on walkie-talkies from the bush. That left only Richard Sonn to stand up for the good old days. Brian Hurley, Matt Byron, Sonia Toudji, Ron Gordon, and Justin Gage. Several other of her students are set to finish up their doctorates just as soon as she can be located. Colleagues honored Schweiger’s skills in the classroom and as a mentor: with Fulbright College’s Master Teacher Award (2011), its Outstanding Advisor Award (2014), the Nolan Faculty Award (2015), and by induction into the U of A Teaching Academy (2012).

Tom Duffield also has a force to be reckoned with in the fields of southern, religious, and American intellectual and cultural history. She arrived with a book already out from Oxford University Press, The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia. She has become widely known for her work in the nineteenth-century South, several distillations of which have appeared in the Proceedings of the American Anti-Slavery Association, the Journal of the Early Republic, and the Journal of the Civil War Era. We trust Schweiger’s captivity won’t delay completion of her next book, Chalk up another casualty. Last year’s Aggie jokes were all too true, she hurried back to Northwest Arkansas as quickly as she could—first to work for U of A Housing and then for doctoral study with Dr. Jeanne Whybark. She also served as assistant director of the history. Schweiger’s Quarterly in 2013-2014. Dr. Howard will be teaching at Lone Star College in Texas this fall.

Brian Hurley had his committee walking the floors, walking after midnight, walking the plank, walking it off, and walking a mile for a Camel. What a ride! But tell the Arab he won’t be able to do that anymore. He was walked off in a broom closet at the American embassy in Tehran, hiding there for several days. Dr. Andrea Arrington joined on walkie-talkies from the bush. That left only Richard Sonn to stand up for the good old days. Brian Hurley, Matt Byron, Sonia Toudji, Ron Gordon, and Justin Gage. Several other of her students are set to finish up their doctorates just as soon as she can be located. Colleagues honored Schweiger’s skills in the classroom and as a mentor: with Fulbright College’s Master Teacher Award (2011), its Outstanding Advisor Award (2014), the Nolan Faculty Award (2015), and by induction into the U of A Teaching Academy (2012).

Tom Duffield also has a force to be reckoned with in the fields of southern, religious, and American intellectual and cultural history. She arrived with a book already out from Oxford University Press, The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia. She has become widely known for her work in the nineteenth-century South, several distillations of which have appeared in the Proceedings of the American Anti-Slavery Association, the Journal of the Early Republic, and the Journal of the Civil War Era. We trust Schweiger’s captivity won’t delay completion of her next book, Chalk up another casualty. Last year’s Aggie jokes were all too true, she hurried back to Northwest Arkansas as quickly as she could—first to work for U of A Housing and then for doctoral study with Dr. Jeanne Whybark. She also served as assistant director of the history. Schweiger’s Quarterly in 2013-2014. Dr. Howard will be teaching at Lone Star College in Texas this fall.
Brought her a triple crown, with the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award for Service—that’s service to the college, the university, and the profession. Honoring his work with honors students, as History’s director of undergraduate studies, and, more recently, as director of International Studies at the U of A, Laurence Hare won Fulbright’s Outstanding Alumnus Award in five years to be so designated. Professor Charles Robinson perpetuated the Department’s similar dominance of the Omni Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology Award. You’ll find no blood on History’s hands.

History’s crack staff—Jeanne Short, Brenda Foster, and Melinda Adams—have already won all awards. So, we invented another: the Fred Rogers Award for Unreasonable Kindness To, and Patience With, Even the Humliest and Most Confused Residents Of Our Neighborhood. It is a bronze statuette of a bunch of bawling babies.

Letter from the Chair

Overall, I am happy to report that the department is currently growing and remains one of the most research productive in the college. Our Ph.D. programs are on track for the second largest in campus, and we continue to place our graduates in tenure track and post-doc positions. Just this past year, the department saw seven of its graduates receive tenure track positions at institutions across the country. Congratulations to you all, and best wishes as you embark on your careers.

Last year turned out to be a rather smooth transition into the department, and we wish them much success as they begin their careers at the University of Illinois. In addition, after a busy hiring season, the department will welcome three new colleagues for 2016-2017. Prof. Sarah Rodriguez will research, write, and teach in the field of antebellum history. Prof. Lauren (Ren) Pepitone will serve as our new historian, and Prof. Rocío Gonzalez will serve as the chair of the department.

What is an assessment and what to retention?" were the words that followed. However, now he is a pro and he knows more about departmental and issues of retention than I ever thought possible. If you want to find out more, and if you have an hour to spare, ask him about either as you pass him in the hallway. The second most read article of the Great Northwest where she now works in the nonprofit world of philanthropy.
Report of the Graduate Director

Since taking the job as director of graduate studies this past August, I have been impressed with the activities of our current graduate students and the literal outpouring of original research papers, articles, book reviews, and dissertations they produce each and every year. Many thanks to those graduate directors who have gone before me—Trish Starks, Kathy Sloan, Rick Sonn, and David Sloan—who helped start the journeys of the graduate students who finished this year.

And what a year it was for the history department—we saw the:hooding of eight PhD students who now are primed to exit the nest and take flight to the next chapter of their academic lives. The following successfully defended their dissertations in the past year:

American History: The Monopolization of Christianity in Colonial Kenya” (Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon)
Justin Gage, “Interracial Community and the Spread of the Ghost Dance” (Beth Schweiger and Elliott West)
Rebecca Howard, “Civil War Unionists and their Legacy in the Arkansas Ozarks” (Jeanne Whayne)
Blake Duffield, “The Grey Men of Empire: Framing Britain’s Official Mind, 1854-1914” (Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon)
Brian Hurley, “Walking in American History: How Long Distance Foot Travel Shaped Views of Nature and Society in Early Modern America” (Elissa West)
Aaron Moulton, “Guatemalan Exiles, Caribbean Basin Dictators, Operation PBFORTUNE, and the Transnational Counter-Rewal against the Guatemalan Revolution, 1944-1952” (Alessandro Brogi)
Jeffrey Grooms, “Brecht’s ‘The Threecornered Hat’ and Ralph Waldo Emerson’s ‘Nature’”
Matthew Parnell, “Youth... Power... Egypt: The Development of Youth as a Sociopolitical Concept and Force in Egypt, 1805-1937” (Joel Gordon)

Likewise, the ever-busy faculty also supervised the passage of seven MA students who successfully completed their programs last summer:

Stuart Bailey, “Volkswagen and Volkswog: The Concept, the Car, and the Company in Four Germanies and the United States” (Laurence Hare)
Arih Hughes, “A Light in Darkness, Oscar Micheaux: Entrepreneur, Intellectual, Agritator” (Calvin White)
Karl Krotke, “The Growth of the Russian Orthodox Church in America: Influences during the Tenure of Bishop Tikhon” (Tricia Starks)
Anna Crayton, “John Paul Hammerschmidt and the Early Struggle for the Construction of Interstate 49” (Jeanne Whayne)
Chadwick Totty, “The Way of the Gods: The Development of Shinto Nationalism in Early Modern Japan” (Elizabeth Markham)
Max Brinson, “A Watchman on the Walls: Ezekiel and Reaction to Invasion in Anglo-Saxon England” (Joshua Smith—English)
Yun Yang, “The Principle of Dong Zhongshu’s Omen Discourse and Wang Chong’s Criticism of Heaven’s Reprimand in the Chapter ‘Quan Gao’ (Liang Ci)”

The department also honors the following students who passed their comprehensive exams and entered the ABD ranks this year: Anne Marie Martin, Baris Basturk, Jason Phillips, Daniel Fischer, and Rebekah McMillan.

In an increasingly rough job market, several of our graduates have secured gainful employment, the ultimate test of a historian’s might!
Bianca Rowlett accepted a tenure-track position in history at University of South Carolina-Sumter for Fall 2016.
Amanda Ford left the department mid-year for a tenure-track position at Carson-Newman University for Spring 2016.

Blake Duffield accepted a tenure-track position in history at Central Baptist College for Fall 2016.

However, those graduate students who have yet to experience the delight of a successful thesis or dissertation defense will have to remain regretful until they no longer have to endure the drudgery of those—continuing to rack up awards and honors for the department each and every day. Here is but a sampling of some of these accolades:

Misti Harper, ABD, won the highly competitive Fulbright College Dissertation Research Award ($5,000) to support her dissertation “And They Entered as Ladies: When Race, Class, and Black Femininity Clashed at Central High School,” directed by Dr. Calvin White.

Chelsea Hodge, PhD Student, received the Arkansas Women’s History Institute’s Susie Pryor Award for the best unpublished essay on Arkansas, and history for “The Coal Operator’s Daughter”: Folklore and Labor Activism in the Upland South.

Ben Bohlen, ABD, PhD Student, received a grant research from the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library to support research on an article “Articles of Segregation: French Pioneers and Pueblo Indians,” and also won the Graduate School’s Three Minute Thesis Competition for Fulbright College.

Chadd Totty, MA, was selected to participate in the Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program next year.

This program is operated by the Japanese government that recruits native English speakers to participate in the Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program next year.

Chelsea Hodge, PhD Student, received the Arkansas Women’s History Institute’s Susie Pryor Award for the best unpublished essay on Arkansas, and history for “The Coal Operator’s Daughter”: Folklore and Labor Activism in the Upland South.

Finally, several of our newly minted PhDs were honored for work done while they were students here.

Rebecca Howard received the James L. Foster and Billy W. Beason Award for her outstanding contribution to Arkansas History for the dissertation “Civil War Unionists and their Legacy in the Arkansas Ozarks” directed by Professor Jeannie Whayne.

Aaron Moulton won the Sturgis Leavitt Award for the best article on a Latin American or Iberian subject from the Latin American Studies for his 2015 Cold War History article “Building their own Cold War in their own Backyard: The Trujillo Regime, Coconino University, and others,” with the goal of integrating groundbreaking research into his own teaching and research.

Bolithen was one of three only three graduate students selected for this program.

Nikolay Antov, assistant professor, has secured a contract from Cambridge University Press to publish his book The Talk of the Gown. The Balkan Frontier in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. Last January, he represented the U of A and the King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies at the annual delegates meeting of the American Research Institute in Turkey.

Shawn M. Austin, assistant professor, is betting that he will win the prize for crossing the most foreign borders this summer. We suspect Wolpert, Marhak, and Cleveland, at very least, might call that but and maybe even raise.

Austin was in Cuzco, preparing a student abroad trip for the H2P Passport course, and then pursued research in Sucre, Bolivia, and Buenos Aires, and ended up in Montevideo to attend an academic conference and present a paper. Last May, Austin went to his son’s baseball game in Prairie Grove and was thrilled to discover that History’s own Brenda Foster was the umpire. This being his first year here, he is only beginning to appreciate the range of Brenda’s talents, which include, for instance, synthesizing water during dry spells.

Carre Banton, assistant professor, isn’t speaking to the newsletter. Out of kindness, I suppose. But it hasn’t escaped our attention that Banton spent much of the academic year in New York City, making the most of a research fellowship at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. This summer, she led the U of A biannual study abroad trip to Ghana.

Nikolay Antov, assistant professor, has secured a contract from Cambridge University Press to publish his book. The Talk of the Gown. The Balkan Frontier in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. Last January, he represented the U of A and the King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies at the annual delegates meeting of the American Research Institute in Turkey.

Shawn M. Austin, assistant professor, is betting that he will win the prize for crossing the most foreign borders this summer. We suspect Wolpert, Marhak, and Cleveland, at very least, might call that but and maybe even raise.

Austin was in Cuzco, preparing a student abroad trip for the H2P Passport course, and then pursued research in Sucre, Bolivia, and Buenos Aires, and ended up in Montevideo to attend an academic conference and present a paper. Last May, Austin went to his son’s baseball game in Prairie Grove and was thrilled to discover that History’s own Brenda Foster was the umpire. This being his first year here, he is only beginning to appreciate the range of Brenda’s talents, which include, for instance, synthesizing water during dry spells.

Carre Banton, assistant professor, isn’t speaking to the newsletter. Out of kindness, I suppose. But it hasn’t escaped our attention that Banton spent much of the academic year in New York City, making the most of a research fellowship at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. This summer, she led the U of A biannual study abroad trip to Ghana.

Alessandro Brogi, professor, is singing like a canary: “O say can you see by the dawn’s early light...” This was the big event of 2015. I had to sing that at our Fort Smith ‘we don’t build walls’ office, to become a US citizen after many, many years of my holding operation, perfectly content with a green card. But it’s time to vote now! I have bragged about my new passport, perhaps too much, in my classes, but my students cheer every time I sing it. But I want to embark on a career in history, so they can understand those lyrics much, much more about the history of us and on us, vs. us, and them, and alone. As the newly minted undergraduate director I have performed worthy and unworthy acts of devotion to students. The latter included the now yearly pageant of the Life Raft!, an initiative of University Housing. This is a context in which faculty from various disciplines fight for their lives, picturing an apocalyptic scenario in which after the end of the world as we know it, students rescued on a life raft have on one, and ONLY ONE, faculty member. Well, they did it again, the biologist won. It didn’t matter how much I tried to tell them that History best prepares you for the future, no matter how bleak it is, with all the analytical and leadership skills you acquire. The biologist convinced an organism of bio-what? that they could make something out of nothing in this wasteland. And so it goes. I was left out and eaten by zombies, much like my esteemed colleague Laurence Hare, was left the year before, fighting for our ‘Lost Cause’ in this World War Z. Meanwhile, the ‘serious business’ of publishing, organizing and participating in conferences went on thanks to the generosity of the U of A Blair Center, the conference ‘J. William Fulbright: A Global Initiative of Liberal Internationalism and U.S. Global Influence’ held in September at Carnall Hall under the direction of yours truly was a smashing success of scholarship, cultural exchange (as so befits the subject), and libations. The manuscript was a smashing success of scholarship, cultural exchange (as so befits the subject), and libations. The manuscript
during the 1970s appeared this year in a book aptly titled Reassessing America in the 1930s: U.S. Public Diplomacy and the Rebuilding of America’s Image Abroad (Manchester University Press). And so did an essay and an article on the usual Eurocommunists. And I’m still working on the barely explored (at least by US citizens) subject of US-Italian relations through tourism-related research: one pitched summer to gather oral histories. He's moved to Fayetteville, bought a house, and moved again. He reports that "everything is going well. NWA (though our two boys—untie their parents—did complain about the lack of snow this winter)!

Lynda Coon, professor and campus kytten, published "Gendering Dark Age Jesus" in the April 2016 volume of Gender & History. In her new role as Dean of the Honors College, she has enjoyed partnering with the amazing faculty of history to increase international educational experiences of honors students at the U of A. This summer, they could join Todd Cleveland and Alex Marino in South Africa. Stay tuned in January 2017 for H2P Passport in Peru with Shawn Austin and Laurence Hare (H2PPassport is the embedded study abroad section of the three-semester honors sequence in world cultures: the Honors Humanities Project).

Freddy Dominguez, assistant professor, isn't speaking to History Newsletter. A close student of Tudor politics, he must have sensed the editor is headed for the chopping block. Let's hope he's right.

James Gigantino, associate professor and chair, began a week-long backpacking trip in Yellowstone. Two country summer last fall. He was the department's director of undergraduate studies, a position he held for about a month. After a two-weeks long campaign with no cell service, he emerged back into civilization with a series of travel messages from newly elected chair Calvin White telling him to get back quickly. Nice liberal education. He held a full professorship for two weeks as Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies after Professor Hare had been promoted to Director of International Studies. Returning in August, he moved offices and assumed new duties, with the added benefit of some sunlight. His edited book, Slavery and the New West, was published by Ohio University Press in 2017, and he will be presenting a paper on tourism in Southern Africa’s past (and to a lesser extent, present) and, in particular, the Africans employed in this industry. He headed to Portugal this summer to conduct archival work for the project (since he is most interested in Mozambique, a former Portuguese colony). In September, he will teach a new course next summer to gather oral histories. He's helping to generate two books from this tourism-related research: one pitched for undergraduates on tourism in Africa and a more scholarly text. He says that, in addition to published articles, book reviews, and other forms of professional achievement this past year was to launch the South Africa study abroad program, with the capable assistance of doctoral student Alex Z. Jones.

The Department’s earnest hope is that our PhD students’ contributions to scholarship don’t end with completion of their dissertations. No, we expect that once that doctoral thesis is honed and buffed and polished, once the errant which becomes a that and is comprised is used correctly, it will become an honest to God book published by a distinguished press.

Rocio Gomez, assistant professor, has scored a contract with the University of Nebraska Press for publication of her first book, Silver Veins and Dusty Lungs: Water, Public Health, and the Environmental Legacies of Industry in Modern Mexico, 1835-1945. She's been a faculty organizer, handed over the (screamed) (lockbox) of the U of AS King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies and went on an sabbatical last fall. His publication, “Crosscuting Boundaries in Middle Eastern Film” in History in Cinema has essays forthcoming in a collection on Arab cinema and an essay on “Nollywood” in a forthcoming volume on “Black America.”

The Department might also claim a patent of sorts in several other recent releases. Geoffrey Jensen (PhD 2009), assistant professor of history at Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University, has edited The Routledge Handbook of the History of the American Military, which he co-edited, includes essays by both Matthew Stith and assistant professor of history Steven Rosales. Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon, as newsletter readers know, has joined the French Foreign Legion. But he has his Continental Drift: Britain and Europe from the End of Empire to the Rise of Eurocapitalism, released by Cambridge University Press the same month as the Brexit vote, was largely written on our dime.

J. Laurence Hare (H2Passport is the embedded study abroad section of the three-semester honors sequence in world cultures: the Honors Humanities Project). He began serving as director of the Honors Humanities study abroad course in Vienna and Prague. Closer to home, he was invited by the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation to the Suzhou campus of Renmin University of China to participate in an international colloquium on “The Internet and the Future.” He gave a paper entitled “The Internet: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow’s Internet,” in which he considered in cross-cultural perspective how cultural visions of the future have shaped the design, commercialization, and utilization of computer networking technology from the 1960s until the Y2K conversion crisis of 1999. Hare’s travels (for a fellow of the Fulbright program in Central Europe, where he joined Dr. Martin Neddle in leading the inaugural Honors Humanities study abroad course in Vienna and Prague. Closer to home, Hare began serving as director of the Fulbright College International Studies program and co-director with Thomas Gomez of the Fulbright College Global Scholars Program. In April, Fulbright College recognized him with the Outstanding Advising Award.

Elizabeth Markham, professor, writes: “For us nothing comes easily to the mind for the newsletter—so we had a lot of fun collating the manuscripts from the year in Cambridge we have been occupied making new courses for the Institute for Advanced Study and American Research Center in Egypt. Gordon also screened and discussed Jehane Noujaim’s Oscar-nominated documentary The Square (2013) at UALR last April. Finally, Gordon was interviewed at length by al-Jazeera—in German—about a new historical documentary on the great Cairo fire of 1952. Kelly Hammond, assistant professor, isn’t speaking to the newsletter. But you can read about her elsewhere in this issue.”
overhauling courses we had made to try to accommodate changed student demographics, new course-offering times and formats and so on. We are more than exhausted, hence our silence". We assume she is referring to herself and Rembrandt, rather than employing the royal we—though she could do so far more than the Merwins.

Michael Pierce, associate professor, has finished the bulk of the archival research on his book project, which examines the ways that a coalition of Transcontinental and West Coast newspapers and New Deal liberalism to Arkansas by the early 1930s and the reasons that Democratic politicians like David Pryor, Dale Bumpers, and David Pryor of the Study of Southern Culture, the Arkansas Historical Association's annual meeting, and the Organization for the Study of Southern Ethnic Culture, and Society's conference.

Charles Muntz, assistant professor, reports that Oxford University Press has accepted the final draft of his book, Diodorus Siculus and the World of the Late Roman Republic. It should be available for purchase early next year. He delivered a very successful paper on Diodorus at the annual meeting of the Society of Classical Studies in San Francisco.

Steven Rosales, professor, has been busy again this year. Admiral Rosales has already identified which historian—though she could do so far more than the Merwins.—was the winner of the University's Alumni Distinguished Service Award in 2015 and was promoted to the Old State House from the Old State House Museum in 2015. She ventured into a new arena (for her), by doing a blog post for the Rural Women's Studies Association on the special issue of Agricultural History she co-edited. She delivered two additional papers, one in Girona, Spain, at the European Rural Studies Association, "The Remaking of Rural Society in the Twentieth Century South: Communities and the Environment in the Lower Mississippi River Valley", and the other at an American Historical Association meeting in New York this fall that's titled "The Civil War's Impact on the Arkansas Amazon and the Reconstruction of Rural Society." Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums, and serves on the board of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.

Sonn continues to edit the journal Arkansas Historical Quarterly and serve on the board of directors of the Arkansas Historical Association as well as contribute to History Education and lectured at a number of Old State House symposiums. She is planning a long-term project on the history of the West between 1848 and 1877. He also has three essays in press. West delivered keynote addresses at the American Society for Military History and the Old State House Museum in 2016. He also refereed manuscripts for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly and served a subpoena.
year he and Francs (BSW 1975) visited southern and eastern Spain, as well as Italy (they were married in Naples), and revisited some of their favorite haunts in southern France. They also took a trip to Lima, Peru to avoid the worst of the Wisconsin winter. A cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg was delayed because Tom slipped on stairs and tore his Achilles tendon. It is healing well, and adult education will resume soon with a trip to Poland.

Bob D. Beson (MA 1972, PHA 1975) writes: “My retirement in Fayetteville is fun but not too eventful. Each day mostly involves yard work, hiking, organizing attic papers to give to U of A Special Collections, and then some reading (now it’s Randall Wood’s remarkable history of the LBJ presidency— so slow read for me as I keep stopping to figure out where I was when each thing happened. I was pretty clueless about it all). I did have a productive trip to Richmond, Virginia, where I copied scores of antique pictures to go with the Hurtle sawmill papers I’ve already put in Special Collections.”

Bruce Breeding (BA 1984, MA 1996) is adjunct teaching at Lexington Theological Seminary, in Kentucky, and Bluegrass Community and Technical College. His son, Strohm Breeding, will enter the U of A in the fall of 2016 as a freshman. “We couldn’t be prouder!”

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, student 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 lecturerships. There are many other numbers of 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 Oscar Ameralie Fund, 9) The George Billingsley Award Fund, 10) The Jesse Taylor R. Scholarship Fund, 11) The Stickley-McAdoo Family Student International Study Scholarship, 12) The Walter L. Brown Endowment in History. The Mary Higdon Awards Fund searches for scholarships and internships for students working in Arkansas history.

History Department, account 2780

Gifts to the Gatewood Fellowship may be sent to: 325 Administration Building, 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, 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, with checks made out to University of Arkansas Foundation History Department, account 2780.

— The James J. Hudson Fellowship should be forwarded to: Dean of the Graduate School, 340 N. Campus Dr., Gearhart Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. 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.
Historical Association and on the Drew County Historical Commission and Drew County Oral History. He was also appointed as one of the historical consultants for the restoration of the Taylor House on Hototl Drive in Pine Bluff. He was keynote speaker for this year’s Arkansas Political Science Association’s annual meeting and a panelist for the American Enterprise Institute’s recent symposium “The Southern Manifesto: Tales From the Past, Lessons for the Future,” held in Washington, DC, this past March.

Mike Deadrick (BA 1964, MA 1966) received the Arkansas Historical Association’s Charles O. Burnett award for the best manuscript article on Arkansas Civil War history in April 2015. He is retired and lives in Memphis. After teaching at the University of Memphis and at Memphis University School for twenty-five years, he became a commercial real estate developer.

Thomas A. DeBlack (PhD 1995) is professor of history at Arkansas Tech. Last October he spoke on the postwar lives of Arkansas’s Civil War generals at a symposium at the Old State House in Little Rock.

Paul Kevin Findley (BA1988, MS 1992) continues to work as a freelance writer in the commercial and fiction-writing markets. He is a member of the Arkansas Historical Association and Alternative Air Adventures and Legends of New Pulp Fiction (a charity fundraiser anthology). The AAA anthology is published by Dust to Dawn. Findley lives in Batesville, Arkansas. Legends is published by Airship 27, based in Colorado. He has one story in each book.

Dennis Michael Fingan (BA 1974) says, “I bought my lifetime hunting & fishing license as this is the year that I turn 65 (Lord willing). I primarily hunt quail and pheasant, and due to my longevity I have now completed the process of developing my credentials as a practicing cormugurd. Best regards to all of you whose task it is to carry on my sending the History Department a copy of my Mandolin Magic CD, Patrick postcarded by asking if I knew David Broden. I have never met David; we went to Arkansas Studies, and son of Brother Al Stricklin of Texas Playboy fame. At Patrik’s suggestion, I contacted Dr. Bob Wills and struck up an immediate friendship leading to my present involvement in promoting the uniquely American art form of Western Swing under the mentorship of Bob Wills legacy in particular. Amazing where a little postscript aside can lead. My best to all History alumni and to those of you whose task it is to carry on the illuminating work of the grandest of departments at the U of A.”

Waddy W. Moore III (BSE 1953, MA 1959, PhD 1969) is still recovering from a stroke. He lives in Conway and looks forward to each new edition of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly.

John H. Morris (BA 1959, MA 1969) moved to Corpus Christi, TX, in 2013, after spending some years teaching as an adjunct at Northwest Arkansas Community College and life here in Corpus Christi,” he writes, “but my U of A heartbeats are still strong.”

Brian G. Mula (MA 1969) says he has been busy with high water at his winter home in Galveston, but back in Oklahoma, he’s been busy tending to his life here in Corpus Christi,” he writes, “but my U of A heartbeats are still strong.”

Follow the link to read more articles in the Arkansas Historical Quarterly.
East, and Asia. I’ll also be assisting the history department in broadening the curriculum of the courses in the history major. It’s good to be home.

Natalie Nimocks (MA 1956), when asked for news of the last year, answers “How about news of the past sixty years? Briefly, I have been retired since 1996, after teaching at Central College. All my props (and I suppose most of my fellow grad students at the U of A) are long gone. But I remember them with affection and respect, especially Professor McNeil. After the U of A came Vanderbilt and a PhD. After that came history—in McNeil. After the U of A came Vanderbilt

“...requests my 40 years, Alan Rocke, Case Western Reserve Dismissed University Professor of Art History (MA 1971) has been very busy the past year still enjoying retirement. She likes to travel, fish, quilt, take pictures, and read. She and her husband of 49 years, Leatrice, have plans to visit their grandson in Washington state.

John Spears (BA 1999, MA 2006 [U of A School of Public Service of Global Health]) is a foreign-service officer with the US Agency for International Development, currently posted to the US Embassy in Mexico City for a three-year tour. This fall he will have three grandchildren at the U of A.

...Building Saunders (BA 1963, MA 1965, ABD) writes, “So. I feel I would have achieved a PhD some time ago. However, I’ve forgotten a great deal of knowledge. At least according to the other graduate, you where you use letters of different value to spell words. I also feel I’m too damn old to write a dissertation. I’ve discovered the value of words like: pity, pith, and the like. I do pity their ignorance and pettiness. Damn Hillary anyway. Too much baggage.

I may lose everything to a moronic larcy. It is a great honor to work here, I do pity their ignorance and pettiness. Damn Hillary anyway. Too much baggage. May wake up dead any morning. I’ve been there before.”

Lindsey Shedd (BA 2006) is a computer science student at the University of Pennsylvania. She has been working for Google in Berlin, Germany since June 2009. She is currently working on a project for the University of Pennsylvania’s library system.

Jason Pierce (PhD 2008) was recently tenured and promoted to associate professor of history at Angelo State University in Texas. “Suddenly I’m squarely in the middle (both in terms of age and career stage) in my field.” He continues, “It’s a great job, but...”

My daughter, Caroline, is two semesters away from her degree in criminal justice from the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. Life’s good for this middle-aged Arkansas alum who’s divorced, yet looking...

Tommy Thompson (MA 1965), professor emeritus of history at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, loves to read historical novels. “Right now [I’m] on vol. 11 of 12 of the Ross Podkar series which takes place in the Cornwall area of England in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Winston Graham is excellent for researching the time period. Otherwise, visiting grandkids in Colorado and Florida, gardening, etc. Looking forward to a trip to the UK in a few months.”

Winfred Thompson (BA 1967) retired in May, after almost 15 years of service as president or chancellor of American universities abroad, namely the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates, the American University of Kuwait, and most recently the American University of Kosovo, which has recently been re-named the University of Pristina. These assignments followed a fourteen-year stint as president of the University of Central Arkansas. Plans for the future are pending at this point, but he plans to divide his time between Florida and Arkansas, with frequent visits to children and grandchildren in Arlington, VA, and Memphis, TN.

Haley Wallace (BA 2014) writes: “I graduated from U of A in May 2014 with a BA in History and minors in Anthropology and Medieval and Renaissance Studies. I graduated from George Washington University in May 2010 with a master’s degree in museum studies. I worked with the National Education Association (NEA) Archives at the Gelman Library on a 4-year campus. Internships during my master’s program included the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History and the Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens. I am currently working at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History in the department of botany on a project to digitize the collection of more than 1.2 million specimens. I have connected with the DC Hogs Alumni Chapter.”

Elizabeth Salisbury Warren (BA 1949) continues to practice healthcare law in Nashville, Tennessee. She says she has a wonderful husband (even if he’s an engineer) and 2 boys who are in middle school. “The upside of getting older and having a harder time falling asleep is having more opportunities to read, and I still love to read history books.” Last fall, we made our first trip with our boys to campus and got to show them our names on Senior Walk. We look forward to future visits (a lot has changed, but thank goodness Braum’s still exists. Our first stop was there for ice cream. Someone please move this franchise east of the Mississippi!”

Deaths

William D. Chamberlain died on May 27, 2016, in Noel, MO. He was born in 1942 in Hampton, Iowa, and spent his early years in Chicago before moving with his family to Noel. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1960 and, upon his discharge in 1964, returned to Missouri. He worked in the petroleum industry as vice president of Jack Pew Oil Company and JEB, Inc. He was also a volunteer fireman in Noel for many years and a member of the Noel High School class of 1965.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara, whom he married in 1965, two sons, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.ii

PAGE 20

PAGE 21
We would like to thank Jeanne Short, Brenda Foster, Calvin White, Jr., and James Gigantino for their assistance.

Patrick Williams
Editor

Melinda Adams
Assistant Editor

Do you want to get the History Newsletter digitally?  Did you change your address (either physical or email)? Do you have some news to share? Let us know! Contact us at pgwillia@uark.edu or mmadams@uark.edu

Join the Arkansas Historical Association
Membership includes four issues of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly per year, as well as the Association’s newsletter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Levels</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual, two year</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributing</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Membership</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(payable over three years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Membership</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(payable over five years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One-Year Corporate/Business Memberships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Send this form along with payment to:
Arkansas Historical Association
History Department, Old Main 416
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701