Results of Member Survey

ASEH included a member survey in *ASEH News*, summer issue, 2001. We received 71 responses, summarized below.

**Benefits of Membership**
Most respondents checked receipt of *Environmental History* as the most significant benefit of membership. Professional growth, support of ASEH, and receipt of *ASEH News* ranked next in priority, with discount on ASEH conferences, receipt of information on other conferences, and contact with ASEH members receiving very few votes.

**Regional Conferences**
64 percent of the respondents would like to see ASEH continue to sponsor regional conferences, with 36 percent voting “no.”

**Most Important Factors in ASEH Conference Attendance**
Location and cost ranked as the most important factors in determining attendance, with timing, program content, and interaction with colleagues scoring much lower.

**Conference Costs**
Most respondents favored reducing hotel costs rather than reducing fees for registration, banquets, or field trips.

**General Suggestions for ASEH Conferences**
The most frequent suggestions included the following:
- Continue special interests breakfasts/lunches
- Conference in Canada
- Include more non-academics
- Highlight work of graduate students
- Encourage more senior scholars to give papers
- Involve high school teachers
- Include more information on teaching environmental history

**Important Issues for ASEH to Address in the Future**
The most frequent suggestions included the following:
- Educating public officials
- Reaching beyond the academic community to the public
- Welcoming scholars from other disciplines
- Developing international membership base
- Membership growth
- Broadening membership base
- “Academic honesty and political neutrality”
- Improving literary of members in environmental science and history of environmental science

**Fund-Raising Priorities**
Scholarships, travel grants, and executive director received the most votes, with membership directory and oral histories receiving some votes.

ASEH thanks those members who took the time to respond. For more information on the results of the survey, contact Lisa Mighetto at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>.

ASEH Conference Announcement

**Brown Palace Hotel**
**Denver, Colorado March 20-24, 2002**

**Hotel Info:**
Brown Palace, 800-321-2599, $149 for standard room (1 double or queen bed), $165 for superior room (2 doubles or 1 king bed). Comfort Inn Downtown Denver, 800-237-7431, $109 for a single, $119 for a double, triple, or quad. The two hotels are connected by a pedestrian bridge.

Registration Programs were mailed to members in early January. An early draft of the conference program is available online, at <http://www.du.edu/specific> (click on the "Special Events" button). The deadline for early registration is February 15.

For More Info. on Denver Conference:
Contact Ari Kelman, 303-871-2950, <akelman@du.edu>
Contact Verna Clark, 303-871-2397, <veclark@du.edu>

**Attention Authors:**
If you are an author who would like to exhibit your books at the Denver conference, please contact your publisher, or contact Debby Pitts at Scholar’s Choice at <dpitts@scholarschoice.com> phone (716) 262-2048 ext. 108.

**Attention Presses:**
For more information about book exhibits, please contact Mark Fiege at <mark.fiege@colostate.edu>.

Future ASEH Meetings


**2005. Knoxville, TN.** (dates to be determined).

If you would like to submit a proposal to host an ASEH meeting for 2006 or beyond, please contact ASEH Sites Committee Chair, Jacqueline Corn, 3208 Bennett Point Road, Queenston, MD 21658. (410) 827-7305. <mjcom@Friend.ly.Net>

If you would like to volunteer to serve on an ASEH local arrangements or program committee for 2004 or beyond, please contact ASEH Vice-President, Douglas Weiner, Department of History, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. (520) 621-3736 or ASEH Secretary Lisa Mighetto, Historical Research Associates, Inc. 119 Pine St., Suite 207, Seattle, WA 98101. (206) 343-0226. <mighetto@hrassoc.com>
Irvine, 1982

It was January 1982. Skies were clear. The weather was fantastic. Scholars, with coffee and donuts in hand, circulated through the lobby outside the Science Lecture Hall on the campus of the University of California, Irvine. “It’s so wonderful to meet you! I’ve read your work.” In infinite variation, these words were uttered over and over during the three day gathering. The event that occasioned such exuberance was the first conference of the American Society for Environmental History, “Critical Issues in Environmental History,” held twenty years ago; the dates were January 1-3, 1982.

Organized by historian Kendall E. Bailes of U.C. Irvine’s History Department and featuring fifty presenters, the conference attracted a long list of luminaries, all founders of the now flourishing field of environmental history. “The Irvine conference turned out to be a real battery charge for lots of us,” recalls Donald Worster, ASEH president at the time. The Friday evening keynote address, “Environmental History: Pitfalls and Opportunities,” with comments by Wilbur Jacobs and Alfred Crosby, was given by ASEH founder John Opie, who in his own quixotic words, “had seen the light and moved into that strange black hole called environmental history.” The Saturday morning opening plenary was chaired by UCLA historian Lynn White, Jr. (author of the 1967 article, “The Historical Roots of our Ecologic Crisis”) and featured Joseph Petulla, Susan Flader, and a paper by Clarence Glacken, read in absentia, owing to illness.


The conference also featured papers on Native Americans and the environment, including contributions by Wilbur Jacobs, Donald Grinde, Clara Sue Kidwell, and Calvin Martin. It included work on conservation history by Samuel P. Hays, Roderick Nash, Douglas Strong, Carroll Pursell, Carolyn Merchant, and Ronald Tobey; commentary on the history of ecology and climate by John Perkins, Thomas Dunlap, Nan Woodruff, and Robert Claxton; papers on urban environmental history by Martin Melosi and Joel Tarr; international perspectives by John Richards, Thomas Cox, Philip Pyde, Margaret McKean, Lars Lundgren, Kristian Gerner, and Ingmar Oldberg; the history of preindustrial civilizations by J. Donald Hughes, and Bruce Piasecki; and the role of the U.S. government by Clayton Koppes and Harold Burstin.

The Irvine conference was a transformative moment for the fledgling field of environmental history. The society began to plan biennial meetings, the journal moved from the care of founding editor John Opie to a new home at the University of Denver under J. Donald Hughes, and membership in the ASEH began to take off.
national and international prominence. It is also a celebration of the aesthetic heritage and contemporary energy of the region’s living art community. An exhibition of contemporary landscape art will be mounted in conjunction with the conference. Sessions envisioned include: Spanish and Mexican-period seascapes and landscapes; Yosemite Valley and its legacy; Representations of the California desert; Photographing the Sierra Nevadas; Topographical survey photography: Urban and industrial sprawl in California; The Monterey Peninsula: its artists and its allure; Revisiting visions of California as Eden; Ordinary landscapes.

For more information, please contact:
W. R. Swagerty, Director
John Muir Center, University of the Pacific
WPC 229
Stockton, CA 95211
(209) 946-2527 FAX (209-946-2578)

The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st-Century City: A Symposium to Celebrate and Continue the Work of William H. Whyte

Organized by:
The Ecological Cities Project, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
In collaboration with:
The Environmental Conservation Education Program, New York University
Principal Sponsor:
The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Dates: June 6-7, 2002
Location: NYU Vanderbilt Hall Auditorium
40 Washington Square South (on West 4th St.)
New York City

For further information:
contact: <ecologicalcities@cas.umass.edu>
or visit: <www.umass.edu/ecologicalcities>

Report on Conferences Recently Held

Meeting Held in Mexico

A meeting on “The City in North America: Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Public Works and Urban Services, the Environment, and Political Culture” was held in Mexico City, October 24-26, 2001. Nineteen scholars in history and the social sciences from Canada, Mexico, and the United States were commissioned to present papers, including keynote addresses by H.V. Nelles (York University), Ariel Rodriguez Kuri (Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Azcapotzalco/University of California San Diego), and Martin V. Melosi (University of Houston). Approximately half of the papers were cross-national on topics covering urban images, regional growth, municipal incorporation, water supply and pollution, waste problems, transportation regulation, public works contracting, environmental justice, and gender issues. The conference was one of the first to apply transnational analysis to public works issues for North America as a whole.

The primary sponsors of the conference were Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Azcapotzalco and the University of Houston (through the Tenneco Lecture Series). The co-directors, respectively were Georg Leidenberger of UAM and Martin Melosi from UH. Additional funding was provided by the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, the Canadian Embassy in the United States, Evaluacion del Diseno, Area de Estudios Urbanos, and Museo de la Ciudad de Mexico.

The conference was held at Museo de la Ciudad de Mexico in the heart of the historic district in Mexico City. The group plans a follow-up meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. Alan Artibise, University of Missouri-St. Louis, will be the director of the conference. His e-mail address is <>

1st International Conference of the European Society for Environmental History: “Environmental History: Problems and Potential, St. Andrews, Scotland, Sept. 5th-8th, 2001”

This conference attracted 161 delegates from 26 countries, of which were 20 European. The program offered four plenary speeches, four parallel sessions in which 96 papers were read, and also included eight posters. One afternoon was dedicated to the “local session,” in which research from the UK was presented to an interested international audience. The campus of the University of St. Andrews offered excellent facilities to continue discussion during the breaks and after the program, and many interesting contacts were made at the bar of University Hall, the residence for all delegates. The four field trips rounded up the program and offered insights into forestry and conservation conflicts, the long-term history of Upland hills and ways of waterbound subsistence, as well as making a close look at the birds of the nearby estuary possible. A farewell evening of Ceilidh with the Kippen Ceilidh Callers offered insights into Scottish folk music and dance and gave delegates a chance to try out international co-operation in practice.

During the conference, both the Board Meeting of ESEH and the First General Assembly were held. The General Assembly was attended by 87 members of the society. It approved of the general structure and statutes of the society, elected the new board, and applauded Sverker Sörlin, whose efforts lead to funding for an executive secretariat to commence in January, Verena Winiwarter, who could report continued support by the Breuninger foundation, the main sponsor of ESEH so far and Steven Anderson, FHS, who donated USD 1000 for the 2003 conference, which will be held in Prague. The new board members are Verena Winiwarter (President), Christian Pfister (Vice-president), Sverker Sörlin (Vice-president), Jan Oosthoek (Secretary) and Ulrich Koppitz (Treasurer).

Call for Papers

American Historical Association – Pacific Coast Branch

The 2002 AHA-PCB meeting will be held in Tucson, Arizona, August 1-4, 2002. The conference theme is “Borders and History: Exploring the Places Between.” The program committee invites single paper proposals or complete sessions on historical topics. Proposals are due on January 15, 2002. Please send a one-page proposal that includes a title, short paper abstract, research methods, one-page vita, and contact information (name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number) to program Chair:

Hal Rothman
History Dept.
University of Nevada
Las Vegas, NV 89154
<rothman@nevada.edu>

Jessie Embry
Charles Redd Center
University of Utah
Provo, UT 84602
<je3@email.byu.edu>

National Council on Public History

Annual Meeting, April 23-27, 2003
Houston, Texas,
Spring 2003

Deadline for Proposals: March 1, 2002
The National Council on Public History invites proposals for panels, roundtables, posters, workshops, and papers for the 2003 Annual Meeting. The conference’s Program Committee requests that presentations focus on the theme "Beyond Boundaries: Diversity, Identity, and Public History" and address subjects such as: geography and social identity diversity, or its absence, within the enterprise of public history efforts to incorporate inclusive perspectives into public history projects and the problematized past African-American, Cajun, Creole, Hispanic/Latino/Latina heritage Houston, the Gulf Coast, and the Sunbelt from these perspectives.

Session proposals must include (1) a cover page stating the type of session (panel, roundtable, poster, workshop) and including a one-paragraph overview of the session and a list of participants (moderator, presenters, and commentator as appropriate), (2) a one-page summary of each presentation, (3) a one-page resume for each participant including full contact information (mailing address, e-mail address, phone numbers). Complete session/panel proposals are encouraged, although the Program Committee will make reasonable efforts to construct sessions from topically related individual proposals. Workshop proposals should follow the NCPH guidelines, which are available on the NCPH website: <www.ncph.org>.

Electronic submissions are preferred. These should be transmitted to all members of the Program Committee simultaneously. Please state in the subject line: NCPH 2003 Program.

Robert R. Weyeneth, Chair: <weyeneth@gwm.sc.edu>
Barry Jean Ancellet: <ancellet@lsu.edu>
Cynthia Brandimarte: <cynthia.brandimarte@tpwd.state.tx.us>
Christopher J. Castaneda: <cjc@csus.edu>
Billie Gaines: <bgaines@atlantahistorycenter.com>
Aaron Mahr Yanez: <aaron_mahr@nps.gov>

If proposals are sent via regular/snail mail, please submit six collated copies to:

NCPH 2003 Program
Department of History
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

"Nature Protection in Nazi Germany"

We are seeking proposals for a conference on "Nature Protection in Nazi Germany" which will take place in Berlin on July 3-5, 2002. The goal of this conference is to assemble the current knowledge on the relationship between nature protection and the Nazi regime and to discuss about open questions and the direction that research will need to take in the future. The conference will also look at pre-1933 nature protection after 1945: the role of the Nazi experience that consisted of the Foundation for the History of Nature Protection (Stiftung Naturschutzgeschichte) in Koenigsdietz and the German Minister for the Environment Juergen Trittin will open the conference.

The conference will include four sessions:
- Legal and institutional aspects of nature protection 1933-45
- History of ideas of nature protection (with special attention to links to Nazi ideology)
- Studies about specific individuals that played a role in the field of conservation during that time period
- Nature protection after 1945: the role of the Nazi experience

Please send proposals to <frank.uekoetter@web.de> or Prof. Dr. Joachim Radkau
Fakultät fuer Geschichtswissenschaft und Philosophie
Universitaet Bielefeld
Postfach 10 01 31
D-33501 Bielefeld
Germany.

The deadline for proposals is January 20, 2002.

Joachim Radkau
Frank Uekoetter

Representing the Arbeitsgemeinschaft "Fachkongress Naturschutz und Nationalsozialismus", which consists of the Foundation for the History of Nature Protection (Stiftung Naturschutzgeschichte) in Koenigsdietz, Germany, and the Department of History, Bielefeld University, Germany.

Grants

Minority Participation Travel Grant

Because the concerns of environmental history are broad and extend from the neighborhood to the planet, discussions at our annual meetings need to reflect that breadth and diversity. Experience has shown that, the greater the diversity of our society and meetings, the more interesting and incisive our scholarship has become. To promote these goals, an anonymous donor to the American Society for Environmental History has established a travel grant program to enable nonwhite scholars from North America, Mexico, and the Caribbean to attend the annual convention.

Currently, unfortunately, funding is limited. However, over the next few years we hope to match the existing $5,000 challenge grant and enlarge the endowment for this program, and are seeking contributions from our membership and from outside granting agencies toward this end.

Minority/nonwhite and other participants from North America, Mexico and the Caribbean wishing to attend the conference may apply. Priority will be given to those who are unable to obtain funding from their home institution or from another source. In your application, please specify all sources of funding received or applied for. Please also indicate your specific travel-related needs.

To apply: Send the information requested above, a vita or resume, and a short statement outlining your interests and objectives in attending the ASEH conference to:

Professor Doug Weiner
Department of History
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
Phone: (520) 621-3736
E-mail address: <dweiner@u.arizona.edu>

Deadline: March 1, 2002
Fellowships

Denver Public Library Announces Environmental Research Fellowship Opportunity

The Denver Public Library is offering a research fellowship in the amount of $3,000 to be awarded in the year 2002. The fellowship is made possible through the generosity of Joy R. Hilliard. The fellowship is open to independent scholars, advanced graduate students and holders of a Ph.D. or equivalent.

The Denver Public Library Western History and Genealogy Department has an extensive Conservation Collection that reflects the rise of the conservation and environmental movements in America. Manuscript holdings on the subject of environmental history are extensive and include organizational and individual files and records. Some of those organizations and individuals that are represented in this collection include, The Wilderness Society, Arthur Carhart's manuscript collection, Alaska Coalition, Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, American Farmland Trust, American Rivers, Isaac Walton League of America, William Vogt, Mineral Policy Center and Stanley P. Young.

In 1960 Arthur Carhart, became the first major donor to what was to become the Conservation Collection in the Denver Public Library. He worked tirelessly to bring collections of importance to the Library, encouraging every accomplished person he knew to contribute to this great resource. Today these files and records are available for research use.

Special Collection Librarian Barbara Walton stated, “The Denver Public Library is excited about continuing its relationship with environmental history researchers and scholars working with materials in our Conservation Collection. Because of the Library’s commitment to collecting primary source documents and records in this subject area, it is very gratifying for librarians to see this material being used.”

Requirements for the fellowship include: conservation/environmental academic training and experience, a written prospectus describing general subject area and how working with the Denver Public Library’s Conservation Collection will be beneficial to the applicant’s research goals, travel to Denver between ay 1, 2003, and April 30, 2003, to be in residence a minimum of three weeks, and a written report submitted within three months of departure from Library.

Researchers interested in applying need to provide the prospectus mentioned above, a cover letter and three references. Graduate student applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member. Send all materials to Manager, Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, 10 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy, Denver, CO 80204. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2002. For more information, contact Barbara Walton at <bwalton@denver.lib.co.us> or M. Celeste Jackson at <cjackson@denver.lib.co.us>

Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, Visiting Scholars Program

The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma seeks applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program. The purpose of this program is to assist researchers by providing financial awards for on-campus work in the Center's archives. Awards are normally from $500 to $1000 to defray the cost of travel and lodging.

The Center's holdings include the papers of 52 former members of Congress, but topics cover more than just the history of that legislative body. Included in the Center's collections is information on government agriculture programs, flood control activities, water and soil conservation projects, federal-Native American relations, drought relief, and rural development and electrification. The Center’s collections are described on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/archives/> and in the publication titled A Guide to the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives (Norman, Okla.: The Carl Albert Center, 1995) by Judy Day, et al., available at many U. S. academic libraries. Additional information can be obtained from the Center.

The Visiting Scholars Program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those doing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students involved in research for publication, thesis, or dissertation are encouraged to apply. Interested undergraduates and lay researchers are also invited to apply. The Center evaluates each research proposal based upon its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected.

No standardized form is needed for application. Instead, a series of documents should be sent to the Center, including: (1) a description of the research proposal in fewer than 1000 words; (2) a personal vita; (3) an explanation of how the Center’s resources will assist the researcher; (4) a budget proposal; and (5) a letter of reference from an established scholar in the discipline attesting to the significance of the research.

Applications are accepted at any time.

To obtain more information, please contact Todd Kosmerick, Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Telephone: (405) 325-5401. FAX: (405) 325-6419. E-mail: <kosmerick@ou.edu>.

New Members 2001

ASEH welcomes the following new members:

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Winter 2001
Announcements

Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health

Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health has established a Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health. It is the first such Center established in a School of Public Health and seeks to bring together academic historians, public health practitioners, and educators in a unique effort to establish history as an integral part of all health policy and public health analyses. While primarily an academic study center, the mission of the Center is to create a place where scholars and practitioners can meet in an effort to bring a level of historical sophistication to policy and research efforts in public health. The Center is focused on modern historical investigations into issues that shape contemporary health practice. The Center, located in the School's Division of Sociomedical Sciences, is composed of a diverse faculty of historians and ethicists drawn from the School of Public Health, the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and the Department of History. Presently, the Associates of the Center are all participants in the Program in the History and Ethics of Public Health and Medicine, which trains MPH and PhD students in collaboration with the History Department and the Medical School's Center for the Study of Society and Medicine.

The Center has a major web site development project funded by the NSF and developed by Amy Fairchild with the assistance of Elizabeth Robillotti and Martina Lynch. Located at <www.livingcity.hs.columbia.edu>, the site provides a vast array of primary visual and documentary information about the changing health status of New Yorkers between 1865 and 1920. Using materials from the New York Department of Health, the newspapers and magazines of the time, and even movies made in the early 1900, visitors can gain an intimate insight into the changing nature of epidemic disease, the environment in which these diseases developed, and popular imagery and discussions of the meaning of disease in the lives of New Yorkers 100 years ago. Presently, plans are being made in conjunction with demographers and geographers at CIESIN to expand GIS that will allow visitors to see the evolving infrastructure of water, sewerage, electrical, and transportation systems, all of which affected the demographic distribution, crowding, and health of New Yorkers.

David Rosner, Director
Ronald Bayer, Associate Director for Public Health Ethics
Amy Fairchild, Assistant Director for Academic and Scholarly Activities

Books


Douglas R. Weiner, A Little Corner of Freedom: Russian Nature Protection from Stalin to Gorbachev, University of California Press, now available in paperback.

Member News

Derek R. Larson was appointed Director of the Environmental Studies Program at The College of St. Benedict/St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota this summer. He has taught courses in US Environmental History, American West, and recent US history at the colleges since 1998; the new position combines responsibility for the interdisciplinary academic program in Environmental Studies and the campus environmental sustainability programs of the two campuses.


Diana Muir's Reflections in Bullough's Pond: Economy and Ecosystem in New England won the 2001 Massachusetts Book Award given for the best work of non-fiction written by a Massachusetts resident or with a Massachusetts theme. As the other finalist was In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick, the award represents a clear triumph of environmentalism over cannibalism.


James C. Williams, De Anza College and co-chair of Envirotech, was elected Vice President of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC), the organization's general assembly meeting held as part of the XXI International Congress of History of Science in Mexico City in July 2001. The organization's newly elected President is Professor Alexander Herlea from France, who succeeds Carroll Pursell from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Alix Cooper has moved from the University of Puget Sound to SUNY-Stony Brook. Her new e-mail address is <acooper@notes.cc.sunysb.edu>; her new phone number is (631) 632-7492.

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ASEH acknowledges the contributions of the following individuals and sincerely thanks them for their generosity:

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A little Corner of Freedom: Russian Nature Protection from Stalin to Gorbachev, University of California Press, now available in paperback.
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If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact Carolyn Merchant at <merchant@nature.berkeley.edu> or Lisa Mighetto at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>

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