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## ASEH Annual Meeting To Be Held In Providence, Rhode Island March 26-30, 2003

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### “Frontiers in Environmental History: Mainstreaming the 'Marginal'”

Members will receive program information, including the registration information form, in the mail. For additional information, contact local arrangements committee co-chairs Nancy Jacobs <Nancy\_Jacobs@Brown.edu> or Karl Jacoby <Karl\_Jacoby@Brown.edu>.

Check ASEH's website throughout the late fall and early winter for updated information on the meeting, including the conference program <<http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ/ASEH/>>.

### Registration Costs

	Before Feb. 21	After Feb. 21
ASEH/FHS Members	\$95	\$105
Non Members	\$105	\$115
ASEH/FHS Student Members	\$40	\$50
Student Non Members	\$50	\$60
On-site one-day registration fee		\$60

### Accommodations

The conference hotel is the Providence Biltmore <<http://www.providencebiltmore.com>>. Located in downtown Providence, it is well connected by public transportation to outstanding restaurants in nearby neighborhoods.



### Room Options

- Traditional rooms with one queen-size or two double beds (\$120).
- Deluxe junior suite with one king- or two queen-size beds and a separate living area with sofa bed (\$150).

To reserve a room at the Providence Biltmore, please phone 401-241-0700 or toll free 800-294-7709. Please request the rate for the American Society for Environmental History. To receive this rate, please reserve by the close of the business day, February 25, 2003.

### Transportation

The Providence Amtrak station is downtown, conveniently located near the Biltmore hotel. Most major U. S. airlines serve T. F. Green airport, 8 miles from downtown.

### Special Events

- Wednesday, March 26. A distinguished lecture by Jared Diamond, author of *Guns, Germs and Steel*.
- Thursday, March 27. Luncheon banquet, including ASEH awards and ASEH presidential address by Carolyn Merchant.
- Thursday, March 27 and Saturday, March 29. Cocktail hour discussion group sessions.
- Friday, March 28. Reception.
- Saturday, March 29. Evening banquet with keynote address by Ambassador Mwelwa Musambachime, of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations.



## From the President's Desk

### From the President's Desk

#### ASEH Enters its Second Quarter Century

This year the American Society for Environmental History enters its second quarter century. Between the founding of our society twenty-five years ago in 1977 and the present, we have seen our membership swell from a few dozen visionaries to a 1,500-member professional group devoted to promoting the interdisciplinary study of the history of human interactions with the natural world.

Our membership comprises university and college faculty and students, environmental managers, scientists, lawyers, museum professionals, secondary school teachers, writers, and others. All are interested in contributing to the development and dissemination of knowledge about humankind's relationship to the natural world and society's efforts to deal with the environmental consequences of urbanization, industrial development, and other aspects of social and economic change over time.

#### ASEH Annual Giving

To capitalize on the accomplishments and momentum of the past quarter century, ASEH established an Annual Giving campaign to support the ASEH Endowment Fund. The ASEH Executive and



Development Committees have kicked off this year's campaign with 100% giving and have created several named grants. Again this year we are asking for your help.

#### The ASEH Endowment Fund

Owing to the extraordinary generosity of its members, the American Society for Environmental History has made an excellent beginning in increasing its Endowment Fund. As a result of our 2001 Development Campaign, the ASEH now has an Endowment totaling \$110,000, consisting of a Travel Endowment of \$50,000, a Prize Endowment of \$50,000, and a Minority Travel Endowment of \$10,000. ASEH has created the following grants:

7 Named Travel Grants of \$500 per year each for graduate students, low income, and international scholars to attend annual meetings:

- E.V. and Nancy Melosi Travel Grant (Melosi)
- 2 Morgan and Jeanie Sherwood Travel Grants (J. Sherwood)
- Ellen Swallow Richards Travel Grant (Flader and Merchant)
- Donald Worster Travel Grant (Rome and Worster)
- J. Donald Hughes Travel Grant (Hughes)
- John D. Wirth Travel Grant (Weiner and ASEH members)

4 additional ASEH Travel Endowment Grants of \$500 each.

Minority Travel Grants: \$10,000 fund, the income from which will be used to fund travel for minority/non-whites from North America, Mexico, and the Caribbean to attend ASEH annual meetings, amounts to vary according to need. Fund to reach \$20,000 by 2004.

The Samuel P. Hays Research Fund: \$3,800 the income from which will be used to fund research by ASEH members.

#### Next Goal: An ASEH Executive Director

A major goal for this year's Annual Giving Campaign is to raise our ASEH Endowment Fund to a level that will support a part-time ASEH Executive Director. With the move to annual meetings in 2000 and the vibrancy of our ASEH Newsletter, website, and journal, we need an Executive Director to act as coordinator of ASEH activities and as a liaison to the Executive Committee (responsible for ASEH functions), the Development Committee (responsible for fund-raising), and the Local Arrangements and Program Committees (responsible for our annual meetings). Our secretary Lisa Mighetto is doing a magnificent job in this capacity already. Our annual meetings, however, now require increasing time commitments in planning for future meetings and expertise in local arrangements. We have depended on volunteers to arrange the meeting locations, to negotiate with hotels, caterers, book sellers, and others who contribute to the success of our gatherings, and to coordinate with the ASEH Program Committee. We need to expand our assistance to these committees as well as to the ASEH

#### American Society for Environmental History

President: Carolyn Merchant, *University of California-Berkeley*

Vice-President: Douglas Weiner, *University of Arizona*

Secretary: Lisa Mighetto, *Historical Research Associates, Inc.*

Treasurer: Mark Madison, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

#### **Executive Committee:**

Jacqueline Corn, *John Hopkins University*

Sarah Elkind, *San Diego State University*

Mark Harvey, *North Dakota State University*

Linda Lear, *George Washington University*

James McCann, *Boston University*

John McNeill, *Georgetown University*

William Rowley, *University of Nevada*

#### **Ex Officio**

#### **Past President:**

Susan Flader, *University of Missouri-Columbia*

Donald Pisani, *University of Oklahoma*

Jeffrey Stine, *Smithsonian Institution*

The American Society for Environmental History seeks understanding of the human experience of the environment from the perspectives of history, liberal arts, and sciences. The Society encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue on every aspect of the present and past relationship of humankind to the natural environment. ASEH maintains a web site at <www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ>. Contact <dwilliam@snu.edu> to discuss including material on the web page.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent by December 20, 2002 to: Lisa Mighetto, Editor, 119 Pine St., Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101. E-mail to <mighetto@hrassoc.com>.

Other correspondence should be directed to: American Society for Environmental History, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701-3147.  
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Executive Committee.

Books to Contributors

Several present and past members of the ASEH Executive Committee have donated 2 copies each of a recent book to be personally autographed to the first ten people who donate \$500 or more to the ASEH Annual Giving Campaign on a first-come, first-choice basis. These books include:

- Linda Lear. Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature (1997)
- John McNeill. Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth Century World (2000)
- Martin Melosi. The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present (2000)
- Carolyn Merchant. The Columbia Guide to American Environmental History (2002)
- Dennis Williams. God's Wilds: John Muir's Vision of Nature (2002)

If you would like to make a contribution to the ASEH, please fill in the attached form and address it to our treasurer Mark Madison, National Conservation Training Center, Rte 1, Box 166, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. Mark's e-mail address is: <mark\_madison@fws.gov>. Telephone: 304-876-7276

This fall, in addition to the attached form in this newsletter, you will receive a letter asking for your contribution. I hope you will participate in our 2002 annual giving campaign to kick off ASEH's second quarter century.

Carolyn Merchant  
ASEH President

**ASEH Future Meetings**

**ASEH Future Meetings**

**Mark Your Calendar**

2003. Providence, RI. March 26-29, 2003.

Providence Biltmore Hotel, Kennedy Plaza, Providence, RI 02903. (800) 294-7709. Local Arrangements Chairs, Nancy Jacobs, Department of History, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. <Nancy\_Jacobs@brown.edu>; Karl Jacoby, Department of History, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. <Karl\_Jacoby@brown.edu> Program Committee Chair, Ravi Rajan, Department of Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA. 95064. (831) 459-5740. <srriajan@cats.ucsc.edu>

2004. Victoria, B.C., Canada. March 31-April 4, 2004.

Fairmont Empress and Victoria Conference Center. Joint Meeting with the National Council on Public History (NCPH). Local Arrangements Chair, Lorne Hammond, Curator of History, Royal British Columbia Museum, 675 Belleville Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9W2. (250) 387-2486. <lhammond@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca>

2005. Knoxville, TN.

Local Arrangements Chair, Kathleen A. Brosnan, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-4065. (865) 974-5421. <kbrosnan@utk.edu>

**Hosting  
Future Conferences**

Anyone wishing to submit a proposal to host the annual conference of the ASEH in 2006, 2007, or 2008, should contact Marty Reuss at [martreuss@aol.com](mailto:martreuss@aol.com) or phone him at 703-428-9560. He will be glad to discuss the requirements and to send a copy of the conference guidelines. Marty notes that hosting a conference requires considerable effort and time and requires institutional support. Those interested in proposing to host a conference should evaluate carefully the support available.

## Announcements

### Check Out These Websites

#### TeacherServe

**TeacherServe**<sup>®</sup>

TeacherServe provides essays by scholars to provide updated content, discussion guidance, and teaching resources for high school teachers. It is a service of the National Humanities Center, the nation's only nonprofit center for advanced studies in the humanities, and its education programs provide seminars and web materials for teachers and college instructors.

"Nature Transformed: The Environment in American History," in TeacherServe from the National Humanities Center, includes several articles of interest, such as "History with Fire in Its Eye: An Introduction to Fire in America,"<sup>1</sup> by Stephen J. Pyne, Arizona State University. The site also includes "Rachel Carson and the Awakening of Environmental Consciousness,"<sup>2</sup> by Linda Lear, George Washington University.

For more information, contact:

**Marianne D. Wason**

Editor, TeacherServe

Asst. Dir. of Education Programs

National Humanities Center

Research Triangle Park, NC

<<http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/tserve/tserve.htm>>

#### Nature and Environmental Writers

Nature and Environmental Writers - College and University Educators (NEW-CUE) sponsors the Writers' Conference and Workshop in honor of Rachel Carson. Events in 2001 and 2002 were held in Boothbay Harbor, Maine.



NEW-CUE, Inc. was founded for the purpose of supporting the efforts of professional writers as well as those who write for their own enjoyment. It is the mission of NEW-CUE, Inc. to excite students and the general reading public with the wonder of the natural world through the medium of nature and environmental literature. Objectives include the following:

- To encourage nature writers and educators to pursue and develop their talents;
- To offer writers an opportunity to share their work with other writers, to have their work critically reviewed, and to learn from the experience of those who are published authors;
- To help others rediscover the amazing relevance and delight found in the writing of Rachel Carson;
- To support efforts that ensure the preservation of nature.

For more information, see <<http://www.new-cue.org>>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/tserve/nattrans/ntuseland/essays/fire.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/tserve/nattrans/ntwilderness/essays/carson.htm>



#### ESEH Website

During the summer months, the website of the European Society for Environmental History was completely redeveloped. The most visible changes of the website are the navigation bar and the standardisation of page layout throughout the site. The navigation system has been improved by implementing a dynamic menu at the top of every page. If the mouse arrow is moved over a menu item a dropdown menu appears with active links. Not visible are the changes to make the site compatible with the latest crop of browsers: Internet Explorer 5+, Netscape 6+ & 7, Mozilla and Opera 6+. Further information about compatibility can be found on the front page of the ESEH website.

- Site map
- A new regional representative page
- The event archive is now organised by year
- Publishers - Publishing houses with environmental history in their programme
- Forthcoming & new publications
- Reviews
- Notepad newsletters
- Membership directory
- Information and registration forms ESEH meeting 2003
- Instructions bibliographical project (soon with new title submission form)
- New links

The new site can be visited at <<http://www.eseh.org>>. We appreciate receiving your comments about the website and suggestions for its further development. Please send correspondence regarding the new web site to Jan Oosthoek. Send any items to be included in the website to Sofia Åkerberg. We hope that you find the new site a useful resource and easy to use.

Jan Oosthoek  
Secretary ESEH

For more information, please contact

**Dr. Jan Oosthoek**

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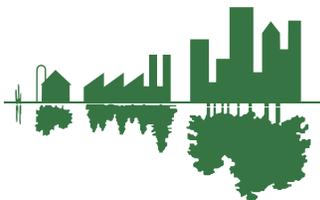
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**NEW ASEH Website**

ASEH's new website, designed by Jan Oosthoek, is nearing completion. The address is <www.aseh.net>. Check it out for information on awards, conferences, environmental history programs, links, and more.



**Call For Papers**

**Monitoring the Environment: Scales, Methods, and Systems in Historical Perspective**

**Society for the History of Technology**

Efforts to manage human uses of the environment often depend on a society first reaching consensus on what to measure and then putting systems in place to monitor the desired indicators. Mature indicators often become tightly linked with relatively formal decision-making procedures and give rise to specialized instruments, methods, and networks. The quantity being measured and the scale at which measurement occurs varies widely, ranging from microscopic to global and from the chemical and physical to the biological and cultural. Examples include the concentration of chemicals in air or water, satellite-based geophysical measurements, noise levels, aquifer levels, risk indexes, the reaction of test organisms, and the ratio of paved to unpaved surfaces in urban areas.

We seek papers that examine the process by which a measurable quantity comes to be accepted as a legitimate indicator of environmental quality. What concerns gave rise to use of the new indicator? To what extent did the resulting system of measuring and monitoring depend on new technology and those who developed that technology? How was the adoption process for the measurement regime affected by institutional considerations within regulatory agencies, research laboratories, or activist organizations? In general, what insight does the case provide into ongoing efforts to select indicators and develop socio-

technological systems that allow societies to monitor and manage environmental change?

Papers will be presented at a seminar conference held at the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware, on July 18, 2003. One goal of this conference, sponsored by the Society for the History of Technology, is to encourage discussion among historians working at the intersection of technology and the environment. Graduate students are encouraged to participate, and travel expenses will be subsidized. Please send electronic copies of your paper proposal and a brief vita to Hugh Gorman, <hsgorman@mtu.edu> and Erik Conway <e.m.conway@larc.nasa.gov> by *Dec. 1, 2002*.

**Member News**

Marcus Hall was awarded this year's Ray Allen Billington Prize (from the Western History Association), for his article, "Repairing Mountains: Restoration, Ecology, and Wilderness in Twentieth-Century Utah," *Environmental History* 6:4 (Oct. 2001): 584-610. The award will be presented at the annual banquet during this year's Western History Association conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The banquet is Friday, October 18th at 7:00 p.m. The Ray Allen Billington Prize was established to recognize the best article (essay of 10,000 words or less) on Western history published in any journal other than the *Western Historical Quarterly*.

Marty Melosi's book, *The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America From Colonial Times to the Present* (Johns Hopkins Press, 2000) recently received the Sidney Edelstein Prize from the Society for the History of Technology for the best book in the history of technology for the last three years.

Char Miller, professor and chair of Trinity University's history department, has been selected as a Piper Professor for 2002. The award is given annually by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation to recognize college professors in the state of Texas for excellence in teaching, advising, and service to higher education.



His Excellency Mwelwa Musambachime is Permanent Representative and Ambassador to Zambia's Permanent Mission to the United Nations. He holds a PhD in History and Agricultural Economics from the University of Wisconsin. He also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Peace and Conflict Resolution from Uppsala, Sweden. His previous positions include Professor and Head of the History Department at the University of Namibia, Associate Professor and Dean of Faculty of Education at the University of Zambia. He has been a visiting professor in Malawi, South Africa, Burundi, France and the USA. He is the author of four books and numerous articles, book reviews and papers.

- Sunday, March 30. Environmental Leadership Program Workshop and breakfast.
- Sunday, March 30. Teleconferencing session and breakfast at Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University.

**Field Trips**

Held on the afternoon of Friday, March 28, field trips will include the following destinations:

- Walking tour of downtown Providence, led by Steven Corey of Worcester State College.
- Tour of Walden Pond and Battle Road section of Minuteman National Historical Park in Concord, Massachusetts, led by Brian Donahue and featuring David Hackett Fischer, both of Brandeis University.
- Tour of Slater Mill in Pawtucket Rhode Island and Blackstone Valley, led by Pat Malone of Brown



University and featuring Richard Greenwood of the Rhode Island State Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission.

- Tour of Pequot Museum in North Stonington, Connecticut, led by Bill Simmons of Brown University.
- Bird watching at Sachuest Point in Middletown, Rhode Island, led by Kurk Dorsey of the University of New Hampshire.
- Tour of Rose Island, Newport, Rhode Island and discussion of future of Narragansett Bay, led by Caroline Karp of Brown University.

**Attention Authors and Presses**

For information on exhibiting your books at the Providence Conference, please contact Steven Stoll at <steven.stoll@yale.edu>

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**Attention Authors and Presses**

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**ASEH Awards 2002**

ASEH will present the following awards at the Providence conference (March 2003):

- George Perkins Marsh Prize for best book in environmental history (edited volumes are now eligible)
- Alice Hamilton Prize for best article outside *Environmental History*
- Rachel Carson Prize for best dissertation

Books, articles, and dissertations that appear between November 1, 2001 and October 31, 2002 are eligible for this year's prize. Authors and presses can submit entries. Please mail three copies of each submission to Lisa Mighetto, 119 Pine Street, Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101. Deadline: November 8, 2002. For additional information, contact Lisa Mighetto at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>.

In this issue ...  
Positions Open  
ASEH Award Submissions

**ASEH News** 

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American Society for Environmental History

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