



OHIO ACADEMY OF HISTORY NEWSLETTER **SPRING 2011**

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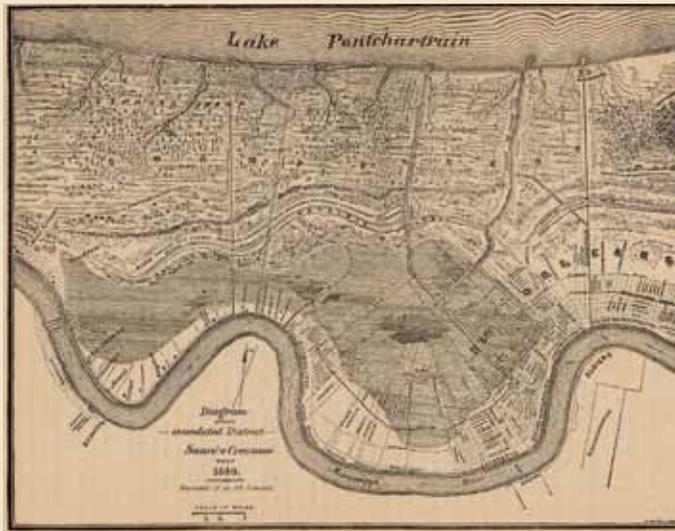
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Call for Submissions for Fall 2011 Newsletter

The Ohio Academy of History requests news and announcements from members for the Fall 2011 Ohio Academy of History newsletter. We are interested in hearing about promotions, new appointments, publications, conference presentations, grants received, prizes and awards, retirements, obituaries, etc. Please send your department's news and announcements to Dr. Martin Wainwright at mwainwright@uakron.edu by July 15, 2011.



"Diagram showing the inundated District Sauvé's Crevasse May 3rd 1849. Facsimilie of an old drawing." From Report on the Social Statistics of Cities, Compiled by George E. Waring, Jr., United States. Census Office, Part II, 1886. Courtesy of the University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin.

New Orleans: A City Historically at Risk

Over its nearly three centuries of existence, New Orleans has had numerous nicknames: "The Gateway to the Mississippi Valley," "The Paris of the United States," "America's Most Interesting City" and the "Crescent City." Two more recent designations have been "The City That Care Forgot" and "The Big Easy," an apparent creation of the 1970s. Both of the latter refer to the light-hearted reputation of the city, its renown for good food, hot music, historic places and loose living. What happens in New Orleans may not stay there, but it is often fun and frequently pretty wild. Thoughts of New Year's Eve on Bourbon Street and "earning" beads during Mardi Gras come rapidly rushing to the fore.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu and the New Orleans Convention Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce are quick to assure tourists that the city is still open for business, but few Americans could ignore the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina six years ago. No rational human being could deny that the city suffered a major wound and, for a variety of reasons ranging from governmental incompetence to corruption to media fatigue, recovery has proceeded slowly. New Orleans suffered damage unprecedented in the history of urban America. What most observers, however, do not realize is that devastation is no stranger to the citizens of New Orleans. Since its founding, the cataclysmic woes of fire, flood and pestilence have befallen the Crescent City. During the late eighteenth century, uncontrolled conflagrations upon two occasions destroyed large sections of the colonial town.

Many of the old buildings that attract tourists to the French Quarter are consequently Spanish, not French, in design. After the Americans gained control in 1803, the disasters seemingly assumed a cyclical pattern. Each spring the melting snow and ice in the Midwest swelled the waters of the Mississippi River and threatened to inundate the city. Each summer, increasing heat brought the danger of rampant disease.

In 1849, for instance, a cholera epidemic ravaged the community, killing three thousand. Four years later, a yellow fever outbreak carried away more than twelve thousand souls, one in every fifteen residents. Local wags joked darkly that the absence of able-bodied workmen would soon force the dead to dig their own graves. In 1878, another yellow fever epidemic devastated New Orleans and much of the Mississippi Valley, causing 20,000 deaths. Floods also took their toll. In 1849, the collapse of a levee near Carrollton, a suburb, sent a torrent of water surging toward the metropolis that ultimately inundated 220 city blocks. For more than forty days, New Orleans was underwater. On any given day, one thousand boats of various sizes plied the town's currents. The New Orleans Weekly Delta deemed the flood "one of the most destructive calamities which ever visited our city." Authorities made the Global Ballroom downtown a refuge and pitched sixty tents on the Place d'Armes (present-day Jackson Square), but these measures could not accommodate all of the victims. Many who found their way to dry ground had no shelter. In 1927 the city

narrowly escaped the wrath of the great flood that destroyed the Lower Mississippi Valley.

In the twentieth century, medical science and technology brought some relief from these calamities. Walter Reed's discovery that the mosquito was the vector for yellow fever led to the prevention and treatment of that disease. In 1905 New Orleans suffered its last yellow fever epidemic. Improved sanitation and inoculations, furthermore, spelled the end of other horrible illnesses. In 1928 Congress passed a flood control act that provided \$325,000,000 for the construction of spillways and levees that would regulate the flow of the Mississippi River.

Medical knowledge and federal dollars, however, could not subdue the elements; hurricanes still vexed the Crescent City. The first recorded storm befell Spanish explorers near the mouth of the Mississippi River and damaged their ships on October 23, 1527. In 1722, four years after the founding of New Orleans, a hurricane destroyed the St. Louis church, the area hospital and numerous dwellings, convincing many observers that the site was unfit for the colonial capital. While detection and tracking of the dreaded tropical cyclones improved during the twentieth century, modern meteorology still provided no means to control them.

On September 29, 1915, for example, a fierce hurricane struck New Orleans. The violence of the storm caused five million dollars in damage and called into question the reliability of the ten-foot levees that supposedly protected the city. 275 people in the region died, a number that included many citizens who refused to evacuate low-lying areas despite adequate warning of the impending storm. In August 1947, a storm with a diameter of twenty-five miles passed directly over the city. Adjacent Jefferson Parish was under six feet of water. The runways at Moisant International Airport flooded, forcing the closing of the recently opened facility. Once more the levees designed to protect the Crescent City proved inadequate. Damage in the community approached \$100 million in value. Seventeen years later, officials feared that Hurricane Hilda would strike New Orleans directly. Although the storm spawned three tornadoes that did considerable damage in the Louisiana metropolis, the worst of the destruction occurred elsewhere and there were no deaths. The residents of the Crescent City had dodged a bullet. The following year, their luck would change.

On September 9, 1965, Hurricane Betsy dealt the city a cruel blow. The "category three" storm created a night of terror and confusion. Collapsed power poles, downed trees and damaged buildings were everywhere. Eighty

percent of the city's residents lacked electricity, and over 200,000 homes had no telephone service. Several low-lying areas battled flooding. In the Ninth Ward, a levee breach on the Industrial Canal sent water crashing into a neighborhood of mainly working-class people, black and white. The flooding continued into adjacent St. Bernard Parish. Many sections of the city resembled vast inland seas with people clinging desperately to rooftops. One observer estimated that there were 65,000 refugees.

As Mayor Victor H. Schiro and his staff toured the city to assess damage and to address problems, the chief executive made two important decisions. The first was to quell crazy rumors. The mayor resolved this matter in an unintentionally humorous way. During a television interview, Schiro advised citizens not to believe any false rumors "unless they came from him." His second decision was a more sober realization that city government could not cope with the crisis. The mayor declared, "This is the most serious thing that has ever happened to us. There has been nothing comparable in my lifetime." Schiro called the White House.

With the Louisiana congressional delegation's powerful backing, the mayor convinced President Lyndon B. Johnson to come to New Orleans. LBJ at first begged off, vowing to send his best man. Senator Russell Long retorted, "We aren't...interested in your best man." Johnson originally planned to fly into the city, make a speech and depart. Schiro, however, convinced the president to visit the Ninth Ward and view the flooded areas personally. The experience moved Johnson. He told the diminutive Schiro, "Little Mayor, this is horrible. I've never seen anything like it in my life." LBJ promised to place federal resources at the city's disposal and stated, "all red tape [will] be cut." On September 12, 1965, two days after the presidential visit, Johnson sent Schiro a lengthy telegram that outlined the extent of federal aid to the city. Much of this promised assistance was already operational.

Schiro coordinated cooperative efforts of city, state and federal officials. The mayor conducted weekly meetings with municipal department heads and representatives of all involved state and federal agencies. Each official had a specific assignment and each made a regular report. Schiro was also careful to invite the municipal councilmen, the "city's board of directors," to these meetings and to seek their assistance. By September 17, the city was dry, evacuees were returning home and municipal services approached normal.

When it became evident that existing federal financial assistance was not adequate,

Schiro successfully lobbied Congress to obtain specific aid for New Orleanians. The Betsy Act helped residents to rebuild and paved the way for federal flood insurance. Philip C. Ciaccio, Ninth Ward councilman and the mayor's political foe, acknowledged that Schiro subsequently channeled municipal and federal funds into his district because the need was so great. The mayor's effort ultimately fostered the emergence of independent African American black political organizations that would profoundly affect the future. Until his death, Victor Schiro proudly accepted the title, the "Hurricane Mayor."

Hurricane Betsy, of course, was not Katrina. In 1965, the damage that the city sustained was paltry in comparison to the devastation that Katrina wrought. In August 2005, eighty percent of the city was underwater and 500,000 residents were scattered to the winds. Those who stayed behind were in dire straits. Damage to transportation routes and communications was unprecedented. The government, with its ponderous bureaucracy, became a hindrance, not an aid as it had been in Vic Schiro's time.

One former resident has recently proclaimed that the city is dead, worthy of an obituary, but the Crescent City's demise, like that of Mark Twain, has been greatly exaggerated. Today's New Orleans has shared one vital quality with its earlier versions. It keeps coming back. As the words on a makeshift sign propped alongside a flooded building announced in proper Crescent City vernacular, "Dawlin,' the Big Easy will rise again." Amid the elements of despair, there are indications of hope. The FEMA trailers are on the way out. The tourist industry is rebounding. The number of tourists is not so great, but the amount that they are spending is. Despite numerous delays, individuals have taken it upon themselves to rebuild. It may seem odd for a modern southern metropolis to follow the principles of a nineteenth-century New England philosopher, but New Orleanians are practicing Ralph Waldo Emerson's self reliance. Although there is more than a little evidence of tremendous amounts of work still to be done, Lakeview and Broadmoor are doing well. So are the French Quarter and uptown. The Superdome, once a hellish "refuge" from the storm, is again open and revamped and, in 2010, the hometown Saints brought the NFL's Lombardi Trophy to town. The streetcars run again on St. Charles Avenue. The musicians' village in the Ninth Ward is taking shape. Mardi Gras and Bourbon Street remain vital—loud, too.

Katrina highlighted issues of class, race, crime and poverty that have unfortunately plagued New Orleans for decades and caught

the attention of a national audience that would do well to look within as well as without. The hurricane, however, masked one of the Crescent City's finest qualities, the great reality that its citizens love her. Despite the woes and the problems, real though they are, New Orleanians cannot fathom living elsewhere. Before Katrina, a Gallop poll determined that over fifty percent of local citizens were "extremely satisfied" with life in the Crescent City. Few other American cities could match that percentage. Then, of course, what other American cities have gumbo, Mardi Gras, Jazzfest, the French Quarter, Lake Ponchartrain, the Garden District, Bourbon Street, Antoine's and Brennan's, Dooky Chase and Mother's, eighteenth-century architecture, beignets, above-ground cemeteries, streetcars, second lines and Drew Brees? As a nineteenth-century visitor once remarked, the city always seemed to be between a parade and a ball. In 1879, after the yellow fever epidemic, Lafcadio Hearn, a more perceptive journalist from the North, wrote of New Orleans, "Its condition is so bad that when I write about it, as I intend to do soon, nobody will believe I am telling the truth. But it is better to live here in sackcloth and ashes than to own the whole state of Ohio."

By Edward F. Haas

Edward F. Haas, professor of history at Wright State University and a New Orleans native, has written two books on the history of the Crescent City and is the co-author of *Louisiana; A History*.

**New this year:
THE BOOK EXCHANGE**

Please bring one, two or three new or gently used books that may be of use to your fellow scholars. Your badge is your entrée to the Book Exchange. The OAH asks for a modest financial donation per book that you wish to take home. Proceeds will benefit the Junior Faculty Research Award fund.

Ohio Academy Of History ANNUAL MEETING

8-9 April 2011

Denison University, Granville, Ohio

Full Program is available on Ohio Academy website at www.ohioacademyofhistory.org.

Registration in the Atrium of Burton Morgan Building

Friday April 8, 2011

- Executive Council Meeting, 12:00-2:00 pm (Burton-Morgan 219)
- Concurrent Sessions, 2:00-3:30 pm
- Presidential Panel, 3:45-5:00 pm (Burton-Morgan 115)
"Content and Praxis, How Great History Teaching Can Make Great University Students"
- Dinner Break, 5:00-7:00 pm. Dinner is not included in the registration fee.
- Plenary Session, 7:00 pm. (Burton Morgan 115)
Address by Ohio Academy of History Distinguished Historian, Alonzo L. Hamby, Distinguished Professor of History (ret.), Ohio University
"The United States, Exceptional Nation? A Historical Inquiry"
- Reception (to follow immediately in the Atrium of Burton Morgan until 9:00 pm)

Saturday April 9, 2011

- Continental Breakfast, 8:00 am (in the Atrium)
- Concurrent Session II, 9:00-10:30 am
- Concurrent Session III, 10:45-12:15 pm
- Buffet Luncheon, 12:30-2:15 pm (admission by ticket only),
Business Meeting and Presidential Address—Thomas C. Sosnowski, Kent State University, "À la Recherche du temps perdu: A Paean to a Laudatory Past and Octogenerial Triumphs" (Welsh Hills Room, Burton Morgan Building)
- Concurrent Session IV, 2:30-3:30 pm

Accommodations

A list of suggested hotels can be found at www.ohioacademyofhistory.org.

Directions to Denison

BY CAR:

Denison's 900-acre hillside campus is in Granville, Ohio, just 27 miles east of Columbus, the state capital. Driving times from Cleveland and Cincinnati are approximately 2 hours 30 minutes.

From the East, West and South:

Take Interstate 70. Granville is 10 miles north of I-70 (Exit 126) on Ohio Route 37 West. When Route 37 turns off on the divided highway outside of Granville, continue straight ahead on Ohio Route 661 into Granville. Route 661 takes you to the center of Granville. At the traffic light, continue north on North Main Street one block to the main campus entrance.

From the North:

Exit Interstate 71 at Bellville and take Ohio Route 13 south into Mt. Vernon. From there, Ohio Route 661 south will bring you the 23 miles to the North Gate entrance of Denison.

BY AIR:

Port Columbus International Airport is the nearest major airport. When coming from the airport the best route is to take I-670 east to I-270 north, exit at Route 161 east. Stay on 161 all the way to Granville (note that 161 becomes highway #37 about 5 miles west of Granville). Take the second Granville exit, follow 661 north to the center of Granville where you reach a stoplight at Broadway and Main. Continue on North Main one block to the entrance to the campus.

The Denison Campus:

Google map with Granville and campus streets at: <http://www.denison.edu/maps/index.html>

Campus map: http://www.denison.edu/admissions/denison_campus_map.pdf

Parking: Visitor parking in the underground parking garage beneath the Reese-Shackelford Common (B on the map) and in the lot next to Swasey Chapel (16 on the map).

Registration: In the Atrium of the Burton-Morgan Building (10 on the map) enter from level 1 on the east end of the parking garage or from the Reese-Shackelford Common.

Bowling Green State University Retirements:

BGSU would like to acknowledge the retirement of a number of valued colleagues over the past three years, each after decades of dedicated service. The Department will miss our distinguished colleagues, and wishes them well in their future endeavors: Gary Hess, Tom Knox, Ken Kiple, Larry Daly, Jim Forse, Lillian Ashcraft-Eason and Don Rowney

Publications, honors and other news:

Amilcar Challu was awarded the Gerschenkron Prize for best economic history dissertation on a non-US topic in 2008. He also published *Living Standards in Latin American History*, edited by R. Salvatore, J. Coatsworth and A. Challú (DRCLAS-Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 2010) and has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2010/11) for a project entitled “The Political Economy of Hunger in Bourbon Mexico, 1730-1820.”

Ed Danziger published *Great Lakes Indian Accommodation and Resistance during the Early Reservation Years, 1850-1900* (University of Michigan Press, 2009).

Beth Griech-Polelle co-edited (with Christina Guenther), *Trajectories of Memory: Intergenerational Representations of the Holocaust in History and the Arts* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008), and edited the anthology, *The Nuremberg War Crimes Trial and Its Policy Consequences Today* (Nomos Press, 2009).

Ruth Herndon co-edited (with John E. Murray), *Children Bound to Labor: Pauper Apprenticeship in Early America* (Cornell University Press, 2009).

Scott Martin published *Devil of the Domestic Sphere: Temperance, Gender and Middle Class Ideology, 1800-1860* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2008). Lillian Ashcraft-Eason edited *Women and New African Religions* (Greenwood, 2009).

Gary Hess published *Vietnam: Explaining America's Lost War* (Wiley/Blackwell, 2008) and was named Ohio Academy of History Distinguished Historian 2009.

Luke Nichter was named the recipient of the 2009-2010 Distinguished Dissertation Award given by the Bowling Green State University Graduate College. His dissertation, “Richard Nixon and Europe: Confrontation and Cooperation, 1969-1974,” also won the History Department’s Outstanding Dissertation and the 2009 Ohio Academy of History Dissertation Prize. Don K. Rowney and Eugene Huskey published *Russian Bureaucracy and the State: Russian Officialdom from Alexander III to Vladimir Putin* (Palgrave/MacMillan, 2009).

Ron Seavoy published *Extinction: The Future of Humanity* (Hancock House, 2010).

Capital University

Retirements:

Kay Slocum, Professor of History and holder of the Gerhold Chair in the Humanities. Harry Jebesen, Professor of History

Publications, honors and other news:

Andrew Carlson published *Kossoye: A Village Life In Ethiopia* (Red Sea Press, 2010).

Tom Maroukis published *The Peyote Road: Religious Freedom and the Native American Church* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2010). Listed in Southwest Books of the Year Best Reading 2010.”

Alexander Pantsov published *Rasskazy o Mao Zedone* (in Russian, *Tales of Mao Zedong*) 2 vols., 2009 and translated *Clouds In the Snow: The Poems of Mao Zedong* (from Chinese to Russian), 2010.

Miami University

Publications, honors and other news:

Michael Carrafiello was promoted to Full Professor in 2010.

Andrew Cayton has been elected President of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, 2011-12.

Mary Kupiec Cayton has stepped down as Chair of the History Department after five years’ service. She was awarded a Research Fellowship, Boston Athenaeum/Congregational Library, “‘A Divine and Supernatural Light’: Religious Emotion and the Rise of Evangelical Culture in

America, 1740-1840,” 2010. She published “Harriet Newell’s Story: Women, the Evangelical Press, and the Foreign Mission Movement” in *A History of the Book in America*, vol. 2, ed.

Robert A. Gross and Mary Kelley (University of North Carolina Press, 2010) and “Canonizing Harriet Newell: Women, the Evangelical Press, and the Foreign Mission Movement in New England, 1740-1840” in *Competing Kingdoms: Women, Mission, Nation, and the American Protestant Empire, 1812-1960*, ed.

Barbara Reeves-Ellington, Kathryn Kish Sklar, and Connie A. Shemo (Duke University Press, 2010). She also was awarded a Teaching American History/U.S. Department of Education Grant, “Voices of America,” in conjunction with the Ohio Historical Society, Hamilton City Schools, Lakota Local Schools, and Mason City Schools, ongoing, \$1 million. Mary Kupiec Cayton and Stephen Norris were awarded a National History Center/Teagle Foundation Grant, “The History Major and Preparation for Global Citizenship,” 2010

David M. Fahey published *The Women's Temperance Crusade in Oxford, Ohio*, 2010.

Mary Frederickson was awarded a fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Center United States Study Program, 2010.

Charlotte Newman Goldy is serving as Interim Chair for the current academic year.

Erik N. Jensen was promoted to Associate Professor. He published *Body by Weimar: Athletes, Gender and German Modernity*, (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Martin Johnson, Michael Carrafiello, Johanna Moyer, Robert Meckley, and George Vascik were awarded multiple grants, Teaching American History/U.S. Department of Education, “America’s Journey,” “Journey to Freedom,” in conjunction with Hamilton City Schools, Fairfield City Schools, Princeton City Schools, Middletown City Schools, ongoing, totaling about \$6.4 million.

Kevin Osterloh was awarded a fellowship, Loeb Classical Library Foundation, Harvard University Press, “Virtuous Sons of

Abraham: Judean Identity in a Hellenistic World under Rome,” 2009-10.

Carla Gardina Pestana will begin a term as Chair in July 2010. She published *Protestant Empire: Religion and the Making of the British Atlantic World* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009) and was named Guggenheim Fellow, “Atlantic Origins of Imperialism,” 2010.

Daniel Prior published “Travels of Mount Qāf: From Legend to 42° 0’ N 79° 51’ E,” *Oriente Moderno* 89/2 and “Sparks and Embers of the Kirghiz Epic Tradition,” *Fabula* 51/1-2, 2010.

Marguerite Shaffer won the Miami University College of Arts and Science Distinguished Education Award, 2010. Allan M. Winkler published, “*To Everything There is a Season*”: *Pete Seeger and the Power of Song, New Narratives in American History* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Muskingum University

Retirements:

In the spring of 2009, Robert Burk retired from the Department of History at Muskingum.

Publications, honors and other news:

The department hired Amy Bosworth, PhD, Purdue University (2008) to restore its offerings in Ancient and Medieval History. Bosworth’s research focuses on the representation of saints and saints’ lives in the Carolingian period. She teaches courses in Ancient History, the Crusades, and the Medieval Period.

The department hired Karen Dunak, PhD, Indiana University (2010). Dunak’s research examines American cultural changes through weddings, focusing on the post-1945 period. She teaches courses on the American Dream, Youth in Modern America and Gender and Sexuality in American History.

Laura Hilton became Chair of the department in fall 2010. She has recently published two pieces focusing on Displaced Persons: “The Jewish Communities in Frankfurt and Zeilsheim in Comparative Perspective,” in *We Are Here: New Approaches to Jewish Displaced Persons*

in *Postwar Germany*, Avinoam Patt and Michael Berkowitz, eds. (Wayne State University Press), 2010 and “The Black Market in History and Memory: German Perceptions of Victimhood from 1945-1948,” *German History*, Volume 28, Issue 4, December 2010: 479-497.

Bill Kerrigan was named the Arthur B. and Eloise Cole Distinguished Chair in American History and was the recipient of a NEH grant for work on his project focused on John Chapman and the rise of modern apple husbandry. He is currently on sabbatical completing his monograph on this topic.

Oberlin College

Publications, honors and other news:

Annemarie Sammartino published *The Impossible Border: Germany and the East, 1914-1922* (Cornell University Press, 2010).

Leonard V. Smith appeared in a documentary about Philippe Pétain that aired on Arte, a Franco-German cable network.

The Ohio State University

Publications, honors and other news:

David Stebenne was appointed to a four-year term as Associate Professor of History and Law at Ohio State University last fall. He published an essay entitled “Who Really Won the Election of 1960?” *History News Network* (HNN), November 15, 2010; presented a paper entitled “Moderate Republicanism in the Postwar South, 1945-1964,” at the Policy History Conference in Columbus, OH, June 4, 2010; and gave a talk entitled “The 2010 Elections and Their Consequences” at Central Ohio Technical College in Reynoldsburg, OH on November 17, 2010. He also served as a commentator on national politics during the year on WOSU Radio’s “All Sides with Ann Fisher” show. He is researching a new book, which will be a political and legal history of the USA from the 1930’s through the 1960’s, served in 2010 as a member of the OAH’s Publication Award Committee and was appointed to a three-year term on the American Historical Association’s Littleton-Griswold Prize Committee.

Wright State University

Publications, honors and other news:

Jonathan Winkler of Wright State University has been awarded the 2010 Paul Birdsall Prize in European Military and Strategic History by the American Historical Association for his work *Nexus*. The Birdsall Prize is awarded “biennially for the most important work on European military or strategic history since 1870 by a citizen of the United States or Canada.”

QUIT DREAMING: The Religious Right is Here to Stay

As I tell my students, the rise of the Religious Right is the most significant political phenomenon of the past forty years in the United States. But no one saw it coming. While evangelicals—Protestants who emphasize the need to be “born again,” and who place a strong emphasis on the authority of the Bible—and their militant cousins, the fundamentalists, were traditionally quite politically conservative, they had not generally been politically active, expending their energies instead on saving souls. But then came the cultural changes and social disruptions of the 1960s and 1970s: antiwar and civil rights protests; feminism and gay rights; “sex, drugs, and rock and roll;” and, Supreme Court rulings prohibiting official school prayer and permitting abortion.

All of this left evangelicals and fundamentalists feeling as if they were, to quote one historian, “immigrants in their own land.” Tapping into this alienation, television evangelists and shrewd Republican Party operatives combined forces in the late 1970s to mobilize these alienated Protestants to “take back” America by electing “pro-family, pro-life, pro-Bible morality, pro-America candidates” to office. Led by Jerry Falwell and his Moral Majority, the Religious Right made a substantive contribution to the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980 and 1984. In the post-Reagan years the Religious Right became a political powerhouse, with an intricate web of local evangelical churches and national organizations, including Focus on the Family and Concerned Women of America. Perhaps most significant, with George W. Bush the Religious Right had one of their own as president of the United States for eight years.

In fact, over the past four decades the Religious Right has become the most reliable constituency within the Republican Party, which has brought with it a great deal of political influence. And yet, along with their rise to political power has come a continuous series of assertions from scholars and political commentators that the Religious Right is dead or nearly

dead or soon to be dead. Signs of their demise have included the televangelist scandals of the 1980s, Pat Robertson’s failed run at the presidency in 1988, the election and re-election of Bill Clinton, and the emergence of “young” evangelicals who were not toeing the Religious Right line (actually, this sign that the Religious Right is fading pops up every few years). The most recent indicator of the Religious Right’s alleged demise—heralded by such savvy political commentators as E. J. Dionne—was Barack Obama’s overwhelming victory in the 2008 presidential election.

But all of these predictions have been wrong. And Sarah Palin, Michelle Bachman, and the overwhelming Republican victories in the 2010 midterm elections should be the final nail in the coffin for fantasies that the Religious Right is disappearing. There are some, however, who see the emergence of the Tea Party as a challenge to the power of evangelicals and fundamentalists in the Republican Party, the argument being that the economically-focused libertarians of the Tea Party will inevitably find themselves in heated conflict with the social conservatives of the Religious Right. The problem with this analysis is that there is enormous overlap between the Tea Party and the Religious Right. As polling by the Public Religion Research Institute reveals, half of self-identified Tea Partiers consider themselves Christian conservatives, and a strong majority of Tea Partiers agree with the Religious Right on hot-button “culture war” issues. Yes, there are some libertarian Tea Partiers who are at odds with the Religious Right, but they will not prevail. What we will get from the Tea Party/Religious Right is both absolute devotion to tax cuts and (domestic) budget cuts (which are presented as issues that Jesus would support) AND demands that abortion be made illegal in all (or almost all) circumstances, opposition to gay rights (Tea Party hero and South Carolina Representative Jim DeMint of South Carolina wants to make it against the law for gays to

teach in the public schools), and support for creationism and Bible reading in the public schools.

Over the past few decades the Religious Right has not gotten everything it wants (see: *Roe v. Wade*) and in some instances it seems to be losing the cultural battle (see: the growing acceptance of gays and lesbians). But this does NOT mean that the Religious Right does NOT matter, and it certainly does NOT mean that it is fading away. The Religious Right is more powerful than ever, and it plays a larger role in the Republican Party than it ever has. Those with more progressive political (and religious) commitments need to quit dreaming that it is otherwise.

By William Vance Trollinger, Jr.

William Vance Trollinger, Jr. is Associate Professor of History in the Departments of History and Religious Studies at the University of Dayton.

Amendments to the Constitution to be Voted on at the Spring Meeting

Junior Faculty Research Grant:

Resolution: To approve the creation of a new prize, a research grant for junior faculty, and the establishment of a new committee to administer the competition.

Rationale: The Junior Faculty Research Grant was designed in 2009 to promote scholarly research by untenured college and university faculty in the state of Ohio. The grant is intended to help defray the costs of domestic or international travel necessary to conduct research on a significant scholarly project (most likely, one yielding a scholarly article or monograph). The grant reflects the Academy's commitment to the promotion of scholarship and encourages participation by younger faculty in the organization.

Article VI: Section 13:

The President shall appoint a Junior Faculty Research Grant Committee. The committee shall be composed of three members who will serve staggered three-year terms. It will select the winner of the annual Junior Faculty Research Grant competition.

Article VII: Section 7:

At the annual spring meeting, the Academy may award a junior faculty research grant. The recipient will possess a Ph.D. in history, and be less than six years from award of that title. The recipient will be an untenured faculty member at an Ohio college or university and a member of the Ohio Academy. The recipient may be a full-time (tenure-track), lecturer, adjunct or other non-tenure-line faculty member. If no application is suitable for the award, no award shall be given.

The Council approved the two amendments unanimously.

Filling Vacancies on the Executive Council:

Resolution: To permit the filling of a vacancy among elected members of the Executive Council.

Rationale: Article IV: Section 3 of the Constitution provides a policy for filling a vacancy in the position of President or Vice-President/President Elect. No policy exists in case one of the elected representatives to the Council is unable to fulfill his/her term. The proposed amendment fills that gap.

Article IV: Section 8:

If a vacancy should occur during the three-year term of any elected representative to the Executive Council, the President shall appoint the runner-up nominated for the same position to fulfill the remainder of the term. If the runner-up is unable to serve, the Nominating Committee will select two new candidates from the same type of institution as the original nominees for a special election. The special

election may be held by electronic ballot or at the following annual spring meeting. The winner of the special election will serve out the remainder of the original term.

After discussion involving the question of an interim appointment, the original language of the amendment was approved by the Executive Council without objection on a unanimous voice vote.

Ex-Officio Officers to Vote on the Executive Council:

Resolution: To revise Article IV: Section 4 of the Constitution to allow Ex-Officio Officers to have a vote on decisions of the Executive Council.

Rationale: The current structure of the Constitution indicates that only the *elected* members of the Council may vote. The eleven elected members include the President, the Vice-President, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the seven elected Council members. Ex-Officios are *appointed* by the President and do *not* have the vote. The five non-voting Ex-Officios include the General Editor and Associate Editor of the *Newsletter*, the Editor of the *Proceedings*, the Archivist, and the representative of the Ohio Historical Society.

Until 2003, Ex-Officio Officers traditionally had a vote on Executive Council decisions. At a meeting of the Executive Council in October 2002, however, the Council decided that Ex-Officio Officers should not have the vote. That decision was endorsed by the Council at the April 2003 Meeting. The rationale for the decision was the desire to avoid "crea[ting] an imbalance of presidential power affecting the representative nature of the Executive Council." At the April 2003 Business Meeting, an amendment to Article IV, Section 4, of the Constitution indirectly incorporated that decision by specifically listing those who *were* members of the Executive Council and by *not* including Ex-Officio Officers on that list.

At the Executive Council Meeting in October 2009, however, positive sentiment was expressed for restoring the vote to Ex-Officio Officers and reasons were put forward for doing so. Ex-Officios, it was noted, represent the various critical functions needed to carry out Academy business. In recognition of the weight of their responsibilities, the number of years of service to the Academy, and their importance to the effective operation of the organization, the Executive Council resolved to re-enfranchise Ex-Officios.

In addition, the development of a formal relationship on outreach, membership management, and publication between the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Academy of History in 2009 has raised the issue of having a member of the OHS sit on the Executive

Council with the power to vote, just as the President of the Ohio Academy and the Archivist sit *ex officio* on the board of the OHS. The OHS is represented by two *ex-officio* positions on the Academy, the OHS Webmaster and OHS Production Editor, but normally one OHS member fulfills both roles. That individual would represent the OHS as another Ex-Officio Officer and exercise a vote on the Council.

Because the 2003 Amendment specifically did not include Ex-Officios as members of the Executive Council with the power to vote, a Constitutional amendment is necessary to make that possible.

At present the total of *elected* officers and representatives on the Executive Council is 11 members. The total number of Ex-Officio Officers is five. Reflecting the danger outlined in the rationale behind the 2003 amendment, i.e., that innumerable appointed positions might be created in the future, thus outnumbering the elected representatives of the Council and undermining its representative nature, the amendment, as originally presented to the Council in October 2010, represented a compromise between granting all the Ex-Officios the right to vote and continuing the present policy that allows only elected members the right to vote.

After much discussion, the Council members decided that the compromise amendment created problems that could only be addressed by allowing all Ex-Officios now serving on the Council to vote, leading to the amendment as outlined here below: (The critical changes in Article IV: Section 4 of the Constitution are in red.)

Article IV: Section 4.

There shall be an Executive Council consisting of the President, Vice President, retiring President, and Secretary Treasurer, **appointed officers and a representative of the Ohio Historical Society, all of whom serve *ex-officio***, plus seven additional elected members, elected for three year terms, at least two to be elected each year. Rotation of the elected members of the Executive Council shall ensure that each year there are two members from private colleges and universities, two members from state universities, one member from public history, one member from two-year institutions and regional campuses, and one member who has been a social studies teacher from the 7-12 level. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for each elected position on the Executive Council. Other candidates may be nominated from the floor. **The appointed officers who serve *ex-officio* with the power to vote are the General Editor and Associate Editor of the *Newsletter*; the Editor of the *Proceedings*, and the Archivist. No member of the Executive Council may cast more than one vote.**

The Executive Council unanimously approved the amendment as revised.

BIG CHANGES at the OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

Opportunity for OAH members to join the Ohio Historical Society

The OAH Executive Council and the Ohio Historical Society would like to announce a new affiliate membership program for the members of the Ohio Academy of History.

OAH members will be offered the opportunity to join the Ohio Historical Society for a discounted rate. The OAH member rate is \$50 for an individual membership that includes:

- Subscription to OHS's award-winning *TIMELINE* magazine
- Free admission for one year to all Ohio Historical Society sites
- Subscription to *Echoes*. Get behind-the-scenes looks at OHS events, exhibits, educational programs, collections acquisitions, research, and historic preservation efforts with this member newsletter.
- 10% shopping discount on most purchases at Ohio History Stores and our online store
- 10% discount on facility rentals
- Free or reduced admission to most OHS events and programs
- Discount benefits with Western Reserve Historical Society
- Discount benefits with The Dawes Arboretum in Newark
- Discount benefits with The Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati
- Membership in the national "Time Travelers" program
- Two membership cards
- Vote in annual Board of Trustees election

It's an exciting time here at the Ohio Historical Society.

We are in the midst of reinventing our museum space in order to allow our visitors a closer connection to our unique collections. The first phase of the new collections learning center will open this summer, featuring three thematic areas: archaeology, military history, and historic preservation.

The archaeology portion will include a spectacular array of objects and an interactive earthworks display. The military section will explore stories of military conflicts from Ohio statehood through today. The area will feature the Civil War battle flags of Ohio regiments and the stories of the units and men who rallied beneath the flags; a large section of open storage where the visitor can walk among collections related to Ohio's military heritage; and a travelling exhibit *The American Soldier: A Photographic Tribute from the Civil War to the War in Iraq*. The historic preservation exhibits will explore types of architecture found in Ohio; steps you can take to preserve your own home; and how preservation of historic buildings and sites throughout Ohio contributes to the state's story.

As part of our reinvention, we are revamping our main entrance. Beginning in February, 2011, visitors and staff will enter the building through the second-floor Plaza Level in order for construction crews to totally re-create our ground-level main entrance. We are enlarging the lobby, relocating and updating the Ohio History Store, creating a reception desk, and providing gathering space for school tours. Most importantly, the new entrance will provide more direct access to the exhibit floor for all patrons. Look for an improved entrance experience in July!

As researchers, I know that Academy members will be glad to hear that, beginning in July, 2010, we have restored research hours in the Archives/Library, which is now open Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can access the collections catalog at www.ohiohistory.org/occ; or contact our Reference staff at 614-297-2510 or reference@ohiohistory.org. They will be happy to help you!

By Betsy Hedler

Betsy Hedler is a Project Curator for Teacher Professional Development at the Ohio Historical Society. She has served as the Society's liaison to the Ohio Academy of History since October, 2010.

The membership period for this OHS membership will be the same as an individual's OAH membership. As your membership becomes due, you will see the option to join OHS with your renewal notice. If you have any questions about this membership please contact Betsy Hedler, ehedler@ohiohistory.org; or the Ohio Historical Society membership office at membership@ohiohistory.org, 1-800-686-1545.

Date: 29 October 2010

Location: Ohio State University-Marion

Present: Jacob Dorn, Tom Sosnowski, David G. Hogan, Jonathan Winkler, Mark Tebeau, Marsha Robinson, Timothy Connell, Christie Weininger-Raber, Korcaighe Hale, James O'Donnell, Martin Wainwright, Molly Wood, Betsy Hedler (Ohio Historical Society), Megan Wood (Ohio Historical Society), Vladimir Steffel, Betsy MacLean, and William Jenkins.

Meeting called to order at 3:08 PM.

Reports

1. President:

Dorn noted that the minutes for the spring meeting had been accepted electronically by the council without objection already.

2. Secretary/Treasurer:

The academy has approximately \$7,045 in cash (with several pending expenses), \$10,425 in the Junior Faculty Research Fund certificate of deposit, and \$14,440 in the endowment.

3. Vice President:

Vice President Tom Sosnowski had nothing to report

4. Archivist:

Betsy MacLean reiterated her work on the new handbook, stressed the work on the amendments to the OAH Constitution, and noted her desire to have the position of historian filled.

5. Dissertation Award Committee:

Dorn reported for Christine Anderson that there were already three submissions, with more expected.

6. Distinguished Historian Award

Committee: Dorn reported that nominations were arriving.

7. Distinguished Service Award

Committee: Steffel reported that there had been no nominations received yet. Marsha Robinson suggested making a two-week extension for the call for nominations. Discussion ensued. Some members noted that their department chairs had not shared the call for nominations with their departments. Some stressed the importance of sticking to deadlines, and that the academy did not need to give the award every year. After further discussion, the

council reached a consensus on extending the deadline to 15 November, as one-time extension. Council approved this motion.

8. Junior Faculty Research Grant

report: Dorn, for Barbara Ramusack, reported that applications were expected.

9. Publication Award Committee:

Dorn, for TJ Boisseau, reported that nominations had been received.

10. Public History Award Committee:

Christine Weininger-Raber reported that the committee was having discussions about how to effect a merger of the prize committee with the similar public history liaison committee. The committee will take on the prize work, though at this point there were no nominations. Dorn added the importance of trying to work through the confusions inherent in the specifications of the Public History Award. Dorn, MacLean and others discussed the need to rectify language over the web and print versions of the Constitution explaining the two committees and expectations. The versions will be checked, and the editorial update of the web version will be made.

11. Teaching Award Committee:

There was no report.

12. Conference Committee (Spring):

Dorn, for Donald Schilling, reported that the planning for the conference was underway.

13. Local Arrangements (Fall)

Committee: No report, except to note that the meeting will be on 14 October 2011 at the University of Dayton.

14. Membership Committee:

Sosnowski noted that the committee still needs to be organized.

15. Nominating Committee:

Bill Jenkins reported that the committee had received some nominations. It wanted to encourage more nominations. General discussion ensued. There were not yet two nominations for each office. The sense of the Council was that the secretary/treasurer did not need to stand for reelection though it was technically an elected office.

16. Program Committee:

Robinson reported progress. Announcements had gone out through the H-Net list servs, and 24 applications were

already in. She indicated that more senior scholars and more full panels were desired. Dorn noted that it was imperative to hold to the 1 February deadline on getting the program out.

17. Public History Committee:

discussion had already occurred during the public history award committee report.

18. Standards Committee:

Connell reported that the committee had begun to consider proposals made to it, and would continue to deliberate.

19. Book Exhibit:

Hogan was not present. The idea of a book exchange at the annual meeting was discussed. The proposed idea was that everyone who attended the conference would be invited to bring a book to donate to the Academy to sell. The collected books would be sold at a special location during the conference. The proceeds of the sale would go to the Academy. The program committee would be required to explain this to attendees in advance.

20. Returning to the Standards

Committee: The council discussed the substance of a memo by John Jordan regarding Continuing Education Units and the larger responsibility of the Standards Committee. General discussion ensued over what role the Ohio Academy could or should play in developing a better professional development system, with some members noting the questionable practice of some universities in having teachers or school systems pay large sums for graduate credits without graduate level work. Dorn suggested that the issue be returned to the Standards Committee for further consideration, together with recommendations on how to implement CEUs at the spring meeting with regularity, and a report at the Spring Meeting on the questions raised here.

21. Newsletter:

Martin Wainwright and Molly Wood explained that there had been problems with newsgathering, production and distribution. Wood moved that a change be made to remove one of the two associate editors. She also moved that discussions occur between Wainwright, Wood and Megan Wood (Ohio Historical Society) on a reorganization of the editorial staff, revision of the production timetable and realloca-

Fall Meeting Minutes (Continued)

tion of the responsibilities. The council approved these motions. Dorn indicated that the recommendations on reorganization would be circulated to the council by email.

Dorn wished to note for the record how much he appreciated the efforts of all involved.

Megan Wood advised the council on a development in the relationship with the Ohio Historical Society. Previously she had been the sole liaison from the OHS, with responsibilities for the website, the newsletter and general liaison work. She introduced Elizabeth Hedler, Ph.D., project curator with the Ohio Historical Society, in the area of education and outreach. Hedler would take on the responsibilities of newsletter and website work. Wood would now handle matters relating to standards and public history.

22. Proceedings:

Steffel explained the state of the Proceedings publication. He noted that a new editor would be necessary in the near future. The current editor would not leave until the new one was found and brought up to speed. Steffel also provided that he needs advice on individuals who can help

with the peer review of the papers. He also identified the need for an editorial staff to assist the editor. Action on this would need to begin in the near term.

Business Items

23. Junior Faculty Research Grant:

Winkler presented draft language for a set of two constitutional amendments to allow the creation of a new prize (the grant) and the establishment of a new committee to administer the competition. After discussion, the council approved the resolution. The amendments would go to the general membership for approval at the spring meeting.

24. Constitutional amendment for filling vacancies on the executive council:

Dorn presented draft language for a new constitutional amendment to permit the filling of a vacancy among elected members of the Executive Council. The rationale offered was that Article IV: Section 3 provides a policy for a vacancy in the position of president or vice-president/ president elect. No policy exists in case one of the elected representatives to the council is unable to fulfill the term. The proposed amendment fills that gap. After discussion comparing the proposed amendment (having the runner up take up the position) with an interim appointment and related issues, the council approved the resolution. The amendment would go to the general membership for approval at the spring meeting.

25. Constitutional Amendment on voting by council members:

Dorn presented a third amendment to the constitution for consideration by the membership. He stated that he believes strongly that ex officio members of the Council should be granted the right to vote. Not all on council believe so. The current structure of the constitution only allows elected members of the council to vote. The amendment offered here represented a compromise between those who wished to change the system and those who did not.

General discussion about the merits and problems of the resolution ensued. Discussion continued on how many additional votes this entailed. Various commentators noted that in the abstract it was not clear how to stop someone from creating

Ohio Academy of History Financial Report

December 31, 2010

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Check Register Balance as of 30 Sept 2010: \$7,046.68

Debits

Fall Meeting expenses \$468.95

Credits

Fall renewals and meeting registration fees: \$970.00

Check Register Balance as of 31 December 2010: \$7,547.73

OTHER ACCOUNTS

Jr. Faculty Research fund (CD) \$10,449.56
(additional gifts of \$570 to be added at the next deposit opportunity)

ENDOWMENT

PNC 22013145472 (6/30/2011) \$ 4,754.95

PNC 22013145474 (1/5/2012) \$ 4,868.36

PNC 22013145473 (6/30/2012) \$ 4,815.73

TOTAL \$14,439.04

(additional gifts of \$100 to be added at the next deposit opportunity)

innumerable appointed positions if the president or a determined minority wished to do so. The council agreed to amend the original proposed amendment to address the concerns raised in the discussion. The council unanimously approved the revised resolution. The amendment would go to the general membership for approval at the spring meeting.

26. Draft seal:

Dorn presented six draft seals received from the graphic designer. He wished the council to consider these and then reach a decision on the final choice by electronic discussion.

27. OHS Affiliate Membership:

Megan Wood presented four possible tiers of joint membership between the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Academy. After discussion, Wood and others identified a likely preference for options where OAH members would either purchase a discounted membership in the OHS for \$50 (a \$15 discount) or a full price membership (\$60) with \$10 returning to the Ohio Academy. Steffel asked if there were similar shared memberships with other organizations in the state. Wood answered that there were, but that the Ohio Academy was the first group that they were actively developing this with after the various site partners (local historical groups that operate individual historical sites). General discussion ensued, and Dorn indicated that it would be best to continue discussing this issue electronically.

28. Constitutional Amendment Rationales:

Dorn returned to an issue raised by MacLean earlier, that it was an important idea to append clear rationales for the various constitutional amendments made over the years so that future generations might understand why the changes were made the way that they were. Council members moved and seconded, and unanimously approved MacLean proposal to undertake this work.

29. Adjournment:

Dorn noted that while there was work that remained to be done, the time for the meeting had ended.

The meeting concluded at 5:30 PM.

Distinguished Historian Award Winner

Alonzo Hamby will receive the Distinguished Historian award at the Ohio Academy of History's spring meeting. He will deliver a talk entitled: "The United States: Exceptional Nation? A Historical Inquiry"

Distinguished Professor of History at Ohio University and a member of its faculty since 1965, Alonzo L. Hamby is widely acclaimed as a leading student of U.S. political history from the 1930s to the 1980s. His special focus is the Presidency and a liberalism which fractured with FDR's death and the Cold War's onset, producing rival historiographies. Identified with and, indeed, a prime creator of the school aligned with the views of the Vital Center and Americans for Democratic Action, Hamby's work, arguably, is the most compelling statement of their importance. His books include *Beyond the New Deal: Harry S. Truman and American Liberalism* (1973), *Liberalism and its Challengers: FDR to Reagan* (1985), *Man of the People: A Life of Harry S. Truman* (1995)—hailed as the definitive biography—and *For the Survival of Democracy: Franklin Roosevelt and the World Crisis of the 1930s* (2004). His life of FDR, now nearing completion, offers a revisionist portrait. Reviewers of his work—whether in historical journals, leading newspapers, or general interest periodicals—repeatedly have underscored his writing, praising a deft blending of exhaustive original research, jargon-free prose, narrative and analytical skills, and measured judgments. In short, Hamby's work is accessible, crafted for and valued by both fellow historians and a larger public.

Executive Council and Officers/Committee Members

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Nominations for Spring 2011 Meeting

Executive Council: Public University

Beth A. Griech-Poelle earned her MA and PhD at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey in 1999. She is the author of *Bishop von Galen: German Catholicism and National Socialism* (Yale University Press, 2002). She is the editor of *The Nuremberg Trials and Their Policy Consequences Today* (Nomos Verlag, 2008) and is the co-editor of *Trajectories of Memory: Intergenerational Representations of the Holocaust in History and the Arts* (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008). She has also authored several articles in journals and edited volumes. She has been teaching at Bowling Green State University since 2000 and is currently Associate Professor of Modern European History where she also serves as Undergraduate Advisor to History majors and minors. Her specialties include modern German history, European women's history, and Holocaust and Genocide studies.

Jonathan Reed Winkler is Associate Professor of History at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. He is a historian of U.S. diplomatic, military and naval history, and international affairs in the modern era. He is the author of *Nexus: Strategic Communications and American Security in World War I*

(Harvard, 2008), winner of several prizes. Winkler received his PhD from Yale University (2004) and his BA from Ohio University's Honors Tutorial College (1997). Active in the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and the Society for Military History as well as the Ohio Academy, he is an editor-at-large for H-diplo. His current book project is an analysis of United States government coordination of commercial and military communications networks to meet transforming strategic interests across the entire 20th century. In 2010-2011 he holds a Junior Faculty Research Fellowship in International Security from the Smith Richardson Foundation.

Secretary-Treasurer

Kevin Kern is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Akron. He received his BA in History and Anthropology and an MA in Anthropology from Kent State University. He also holds an MA and a PhD in History from Bowling Green State University. Before coming to Akron, he taught at the University of Findlay, Bowling Green, and the University of Toledo. He specializes in Ohio history and late nineteenth/early twentieth century U.S. social and intellectual history, and is co-founder and Managing Editor of the *Northeast Ohio Journal of History*.

Vice-President

Molly M. Wood is Associate Professor of History at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. She received her BA in history from the University of Virginia, MA in history from the University of Richmond and PhD in history from the University of South Carolina. She has been at Wittenberg since 1999, where she teaches courses in modern U.S. history, U.S. diplomatic history, women's history, Latin America and world history. Recent publications include "Commanding Beauty" and "Gentle Charm": American Women and Gender in the Early Twentieth Century Foreign Service" in *Diplomatic History* 31:3 (June 2007) and "Diplomatic Wives: The Politics of Domesticity and 'the Social Game' in the U.S. Foreign Service, 1905-1941" in *Journal of Women's History* 17:2 (June 2005). The latter article was chosen for inclusion in *The Best American History Essays, 2007* published by the Organization of American Historians. From 2007 to 2010 she served as chair of the history department at Wittenberg. She has been a member of the Ohio Academy since 1999. She served as OAH Local Arrangements Chair in 2004, chaired the OAH dissertation committee in 2007 and served on the OAH Executive Council from 2007-2010. Currently she is Associate Editor of the OAH newsletter.