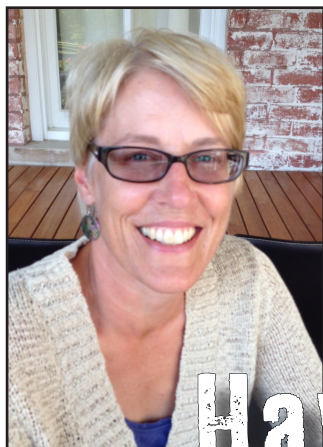


# The History NEWSLETTER

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

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## Have you seen us?

# LOS DESAPARECIDOS

The Department of History has been badly shaken by the sudden and mysterious disappearances of a number of key faculty members. In June, four simply vanished from their offices in Old Main, and there seems to be little prospect of their quick return.

The disappearances of Kathryn Sloan, Linda Coon, Tricia Starks, and Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon have been “explained” in various manners, none entirely plausible. We assume our chair, *la jefa maxima*, Kathy Sloan, and her predecessor, Abbess *emerita* Lynda Coon, are political prisoners. But a “friendly” administration insists that it instead spirited them away so that they might be “trained” to assume “higher” responsibilities. Coon, the official version goes, is replacing History’s Bob McMath as dean of the U of A’s sparkling Honors College. Sloan has served as History’s chair since 2013, and was routinely described by colleagues as “the nice Claire Underwood.” But we are

asked to believe that she has “voluntarily” stepped down so that she might become Fulbright College’s associate dean for fine arts and humanities. She will appear to serve as administrative liaison between the Dean’s Office and assorted departments, programs and research centers, promote research and interdisciplinary programs, oversee faculty awards and fellowships, and supervise the academic integrity process.

You can bet when Coon and Sloan reappear they will be exhibiting bad cases of the Stockholm Syndrome. Coon will recite woodenly: “I am honored to be selected as the second dean of the Honors College. There are many reasons for my enthusiasm: the team, both internal and external to the college, the extraordinary students, the solid foundation that has already been built, and the new directions ahead.” Sloan will chime in, but in an oddly detached monotone: “I am honored and excited to have been

appointed to such an esteemed position. This is a unique opportunity to work closely with innovative and dedicated faculty members, staff and students across Fulbright College, and I look forward to promoting Senator Fulbright’s legacy of peace through education.” But look for unusual blinking or hand gestures that might signal their attempts to communicate with the outside world.

So far, Coon and Sloan’s captors are keeping their stories straight. Departing provost Sharon Gabor stated upon Coon’s “appointment”: “I am confident that Lynda Coon will be an excellent dean. She is more than qualified as a teacher, researcher and administrator to lead the Honors College. More, she has a strong vision of what the Honors College can and should become.” The Honors College’s associate dean, Carol Gattis, displayed similar “enthusiasm”: “She is U of A-centric, and cares about students and the college. She is going

to take us to the next level.” For his part, Fulbright College dean Todd Shields deftly spun Sloan’s deposal: “We’re happy to have Dr. Sloan join the Fulbright College administrative team. The associate dean of fine arts and humanities is crucial to the work we do every day. Her experience with interdisciplinary studies programs will be invaluable to our students and faculty.” The media has played along with the official explanations of the disappearances. The *Arkansas Traveler* celebrated Coon’s “elevation” to Honors College dean in a front-page article that, among other things, reported, “Her career began in administration where she ran a disciplinary program.” *Spank us, Kitten!*

Trish Starks, our associate chair and chair of graduate studies, is a third candidate for the milk carton. The U of A having become a “tobacco free” campus, she has been driven from among us for the next *two and a half years*. Starks will join the little knots of smokers who congregate on nearby sidestreets, so that she might complete her book *Cigarettes and Soviets: The Culture of Tobacco Use in Modern Russia*. That she won an incredibly huge \$121,250 grant from the National Institutes of Health to prove that nicotine slaves are all the same (at a petting party or a poker game), might fool some into imagining that this is not another straightforward case of political exile. But not us, puppetmasters.

The explanation for Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon’s “departure” is perhaps the least persuasive of all. They say he has joined the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service officer. Yeah, right—somebody with *that* accent representing *this* nation. That would confuse the folks in Mogadishu something awful. Surely, his captors can’t expect it to have escaped our notice that the English born and bred BGF is a dyed in the Northumbrian wool monarchist. And, surely, the Foreign Service has developed means of assuring that the republic is not “represented” abroad by adherents of subversive doctrines. And, besides, why would Ben chose to leave? He’s only been here since 2007, was quickly promoted to associate professor and director of the International Studies programs, and has been lavished with such honors as the Alumni Association’s “Rising Star Award,” Fulbright College’s master teacher award, and election to the Teaching Academy. We knew Ben Grob-Fitzgibbon when he didn’t have no shoes. Now we’re supposed to think that he’s front-page news?

The four disappearances raise the question most immediately of who will teach our exploding numbers of undergraduates. Adjuncts and graduate students? With our tradition of faculty commitment to the classroom? No way.

*Free the hostages.* ■

## The Reformation

After seven years of abbess infallibility, the veneration of saints, the favoring of certain monastic orders and the stern suppression of others, and the selling of indulgences, the Department is experiencing a bracing dose of Calvinism. On August 1, Associate Professor Calvin White, Jr., succeeded the vanished Kathryn Sloan [*see related story*] as History’s chair. He doesn’t promise salvation (that has already been decided). But we expect our parties to be just as fun, only with less incense and brocade.

When *la jefa maxima* disappeared in July, a grassroots consensus quickly emerged to bring Evan Bukey out of retirement. “He’s tanned, rested, and ready to chair!” we chorused in unison. When it became clear that no precedent existed for drafting an *emeritus* to lead the Department, the faculty quickly settled on its predestined alternative.

Calvin White came to the department in 2007, having earned a doctorate at the University of Mississippi and already established himself as an authority on the Church of God in Christ, the large and influential black Pentecostal denomination. The University of Arkansas Press published White’s first book, *The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ*, in 2012. It will issue a paperback edition this autumn. White is now embarked on a badly needed study of Oscar DePriest. By 1928, the Great Migration had brought enough African Americans to Chicago’s South Side to make DePriest America’s first black congressman elected from a northern state.

White teaches like a preacher and writes like an angel but also has all the seasoning required to chair a boisterous department. Since 2011, White has been overseeing the U of A’s burgeoning African and African American Studies program. He serves on the board of the

Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation and has been active in college and university committees. White has been repeatedly honored for his work with students and colleagues, having won Fulbright College’s Outstanding Advisor Award and John E. King Award for Outstanding Service and, most recently, one of the U of A’s most prestigious distinctions, the Dr. John and Mrs. Lois Imhoff Award for Teaching and Student Mentoring.

In short, a department no longer famous for its fashion sense will be wearing White after Labor Day. ■

## The Reinforcements Arrive

You would think, with all the faculty disappearances and most of our graduate students enduring the Duncan captivity, that we’d have office space to spare in Old Main. Nope. We’re still stuffed to the gills. The department has hired a trio of tenure-track professors—two to replace verifiably departed colleagues and one to fill a new position in colonial Latin America.

The creation of this new position is particularly fortunate, considering our sole Latin Americanist heretofore, Kathy Sloan, has vanished, a casualty of Fulbright College’s “dirty wars” [*see related story*]. Dr. Shawn Austin, who has been teaching at Saint Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana, promises to take our Latin American curriculum *way* south of the border, as he is a specialist in colonial Paraguay. He has two books on the subject in the offing, a monograph titled *Beyond the Missions: The Guaraní and the Encomienda Community in Colonial Paraguay* and an edited volume, *Native Peoples of the Colonial Rio de Plata*. Now that we’ve lost our *jefa maxima*, maybe Dr. Austin will be our Colonel Trunk. He holds a B.A. in history from Brigham Young University-Idaho. He earned his master’s and a doctorate with distinction from the University of New Mexico. This autumn, he will be teaching a survey of colonial Latin America and World Civ. I.

Most of us historians are more likely to do our business with Smith Coronas than

Smith & Wessons, but Todd Cleveland, our new man in Sub-Saharan Africa, can tell tales of research derring-do even more hair-raising than Jeannie Whayne's stories of snakes slithering through the Mississippi County tax records. Cleveland didn't confine himself to the archives, it seems, in researching his two books on the African diamond trade, *Stones of Contention: A History of Africa's Diamonds* and the forthcoming *Diamonds in the Rough: Corporate Paternalism and African Professionalism in the Mines of Colonial Angola, 1917-75*. We trust his recent work on the transnational experience of soccer players in Lusophone Africa is less immediately life-threatening (though still

hell on the shins). A seasoned teacher, Dr. Cleveland has served as assistant professor of history at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, since 2008. He holds a BA and MA from the University of New Hampshire and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota. He will offer "History of Sub-Saharan Africa" this fall.

Dr. Kelly Hammond has arrived to fill our post in East Asian history but will add, too, to the Department's strength in the Islamic world. As the title of her dissertation, "The Conundrum of Collaboration: Japanese Involvement with Muslims in North China, 1931-1945," suggests, her research interests include late imperial and modern China,

Islam in China and Central Asia, and Japanese imperialism and the Pacific War. "Her focus on the complex relationship between Chinese nationalists, Japanese imperialists and Chinese Muslims in an intensive era of nation-building and war is captivating," Kathy Sloan said shortly before she herself was taken captive. Dr. Hammond has been serving as a research fellow at the Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar, and, as a result, can teach you a thing or two about rum-running. She earned her BA at Bishop's University in Quebec, her MA at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, and her PhD from Georgetown. Being Canadian, she has already endured the third degree from Dan Sutherland concerning her hockey loyalties. This fall, Dr. Hammond will be teaching "Modern China" and World Civ. II. ■

## Department Does the Freddy

Only those few as aged as the newsletter editor might recall "The Freddie," the shortest-lived and most problematic dance craze of the British Invasion (it's on YouTube if you don't believe us). Incredibly, students—inspired by the Department's new expert in Early Modern Europe—are once again dancing the Freddie in the halls of Old Main (it's on YouTube if you don't believe us). Assistant Professor Freddy Dominguez teaches a more fully clothed version of old staples such as "Tudor-Stuart England" and "Renaissance and Reformation" than many TV-addled students come to class expecting. But his decidedly catholic interests have encouraged Dominguez to cross curricular boundaries, ranging farther and digging deeper than those traditional offerings have typically allowed. The result has been a wealth of things to set students dancing—seminars, special topics courses, and senior capstone courses, covering such topics as Machiavelli's *The Prince* and regicide and propaganda.

Dominguez was mentored by Princeton University's Peter Lake and Anthony Grafton, which might give you an idea of where all this comes from. His dissertation examined the activities of Elizabethan-era English Catholic exiles in Spain, Rome, and France, and he's beginning a project on the "Nun of Lisbon," a late 16th-century miracle-worker who probably inspired dance crazes of her own. From his office in Wolf Hall, Dominguez writes: "Broadly, I'm interested in the relationship between politics and religion, and the tools used by people to manipulate their positions within these spheres. I'm interested in studying people who are at once in the center and the margins of their societies—so exiles who, though not home, have access to the ears and purses of some of the most powerful men in Europe (kings and popes), or a nun who becomes enormously famous for her peculiar claims to sanctity. I'm also interested in how particulars (individuals, events) give us a sense of more general trends, how tiny stories can have big implications. These interests spill over into the classroom where I'm developing a series of classes that think about religion and politics, including one coming up this fall, 'Church and State: From Constantine to the French Revolution,' which will focus on a series of case studies that will explore the tension between the two. Though I tend to think in transnational ways, I am also developing courses that deal with national topics, including Tudor-Stuart England and, in the near future a new course on Golden Age Spain."

Finding that the first year on the tenure track was just not hectic enough to suit him, Dominguez has also embarked on fatherhood—with the vital assistance of Mary Beth Long, visiting assistant professor in U of A's Department of English. Their daughter, Laura María Dominguez, was born on the last winter solstice—December 21, 2014. ■

## 45th Annual Awards Ceremony and Gorefest

Master of Ceremonies *herr doctor* Hare decided the theme of this year's History awards program and Phi Alpha Theta initiation would be zombies. Don't ask us why. It turns out that Laurence made a major mistake in inviting the walking dead. They feed on brains, see? When it was all over, only the newsletter editor was left alive to tell the tale—and to spend the uncollected prize money. He bought a couple of bottles of Templeton's, a carton of Luckies, and some cufflinks.

The first to go were the brainiest graduate students. Had they lived, the following awards would have been bestowed: *Diane D. Blair Fellowship to support doctoral research in the history of the U.S. South: Michael Powers, David Schieffler, and John Treat; George Billingsley Award for the best paper on a Middle Eastern or Asian topic: Baris Basturk; Gordon McNeil Graduate Paper Award for an outstanding paper by a graduate student: Timothy Anglea; James J. Hudson Research Fellowship for a graduate student researching a*



*military history topic:* **Madeleine Forrest;** *Jesse Taylor, Jr. Endowed Scholarship:* **Lauren Dean, Misti Harper, Mitchell Lohr, Alexander Marino, Jared Pack, Eric Totten, Arley Ward, and Chase Whittington;** *Mary Hudgins Endowed Scholarship for support of students of Arkansas history:* **Chelsea Hodge, David Schieffler, and John Treat;** *Mary Hudgins Arkansas History Research Fund to support students of Arkansas history:* **Edward Andrus, Frankc Berlanga-Medina, and Misti Harper;** *Matthew B. Kirkpatrick Prize for Excellence in Graduate Teaching:* **Bianca Rowlett;** *Oscar Fendler Award for the best paper on Arkansas or Southern history:* **Jama Grove;** *Walter Lee Brown Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Scholarship:* **Michele "Scout" Johnson;** *Willard B. Gatewood Graduate Fellowship:* **Louise Hancox and Darren Swagerty;** *Willard B. Gatewood History Graduate Fellowship:* **Sanket Desai and Saxton Wyeth.**

More of our undergraduate honorees survived the zombies, because they didn't deign to appear at the ceremony in the first place, apparently expecting their certificates and prize money to be delivered to their dorm rooms on silver platters by liveried servants (instead of being converted, as noted, into Templeton's, Luckies, and cufflinks). The following awards went to undergraduates, dead and alive: *David W. Edwards Scholarship for an outstanding undergraduate in the study of history:* **Jared Devore, Louis Lopez, Tabitha Orr, Diego Quinones, Greyson Teague, and Madison Wieters;** *George W. Ray Memorial Award for a History major interested in the study of western civilization:* **Corbin Stinnett;** *Georgia V. G. Saunders Award for an outstanding student who is a veteran or child of a veteran:* **Sean Bryant;** *Gordon McNeil Award in European History for the best paper on European history:* **Annie Everett;** *J. Margaret Roberts Endowed Award to provide financial assistance to a History student on the basis of academic excellence:* **John Grant Addison;** *J. William Fulbright Award for a senior History major with the highest GPA:* **Sally Averitt-Hubbard, Amelia Freeman, Zoe Gastineau, and Sarah Plavcan;** *James J. Hudson Award for Military History:* **Kerry Cole;** *Mary Hudgins Arkansas History Research Fund:* **Tabitha Orr;** *Phi Alpha Theta Undergraduate Paper Award for an outstanding paper:* **Sally Averitt-Hubbard;** *Robert E. Reeser Classical Studies Award for an outstanding paper:* **Nathan LeMaster;** *Sidney Moncrief*

*Scholarship for African American history:* **Margaret Watermann;** *Stokely-McAdoo Family International Study Scholarship to pursue research and study opportunities internationally:* **Caroline Potts.**

In the end, the zombies made a more sumptuous meal of History than they could have with any other department, given the alarmingly huge number of undergraduates awarded Certificates of Academic Excellence for maintaining GPAs of 3.5 or higher. The menu included: **John Grant Addison, Jillian Akers, Michael Anthony, Sally Averitt-Hubbard, Jordan Balmer, William Barr, Caitlin Beasley, Kate Beasley, Natalie Bell, Nicole Benedict, Candace Bolte, Sean Bryant, Jenifer Chadbourne, Kerry Cole, Samantha Conner, Kathleen Connery, Stephen Cook, Michael Crafton, Joshua Depner, Andrew Dixon, Conner Doyle, Tyler Dunn, Anna Eaton, Annie Everett, Kyle Ferguson, Rachel Feurtado, William Finkelstein, Carter Fox, Amelia Freeman, Laura Freeman, Philip Gardner, Zoe Gastineau,**

**Jake Golden, Anna Guinee, Caitlin Halpin, Elizabeth Harrison, Krisenda Henderson, Tucker Henderson, Luis Hernandez-Mercado, Emma Hernon, Emily Hilton, Braden Hinkle, Ryan Hollis, Kimberly Hosey, Daniel Ince, Kathleen Jolly, Christopher Kennedy, Jennifer Kohnkewald, Andrew Lawson, Nathan LeMaster, William Loder, Mitchell Lohr, Thomas Low, London Lundstrum, Sara Marlow, Christina Martinez, Thomas McMahon, Mason McNeill, Taylor Merrow, Marina Meyer, Nathanael Mickelson, Andrew Myers, Vianny Nolasco, Kevin Olson, Tabitha Orr, John Parker, Allison Peck, Jordan Peden, David Perrin, Quinn Peters, Skye Peters, John Ashton Pickell, Sarah Plavcan, Caroline Potts, Michael Powell, Diego Quinones, Jessica Ramirez, Sarah Rickman, Deborah Robertson, Christopher Robles, Amy Rogers, Clio Rom, Taylor Scriber, Julianne Seykora, Sarah Sloan, Mitchell Smith, Katelyn Snavely, Corbin Stinnett, McKinsey Stokes, Michael Tapee, Austin Taylor,**

## Homegrown Honors

No wonder they always put historians in charge of the Honors College. We know how to raise up undergraduates real good. This year's crop produced the following theses: Sean Bryant, "Arkansas Aviators in the First World War" (advisor: Laurence Hare); Annie Everett, "The Genesis of the *Sonderweg*" (advisor: Laurence Hare); Rachel Feurtado, "Dhouda, Heloise, and Catherine: How Women's Written Work Progresses from the Early to the Late Middle Ages" (advisor: Lynda Coon); Amelia Freeman, "Ideology of Crisis: Apocalyptic Rhetoric in Nazi Politics and War, 1925-1945" (advisor: Laurence Hare); Zoe Gastineau, "How Women in Heian Japan Reflect and Alter Ancient China's Ideal Woman: The Warriors of Virtue" (advisor: Elizabeth Markham); William Loder, "Vienna's *Altes Burgtheater*: Cultural Representation through Digital Visualization" (advisor: Laurence Hare); London Lundstrum, "Provençal Pestilence: Marseilles, Provence, and the Last Outbreak of Plague in Western Europe" (advisor: Richard Sonn); and Forrest Walker Roth, "Creek Running Dry: Illicit Alcohol in Northwest Arkansas" (advisor: Elliott West).

If you believe it's just us who think history majors are the most, you're nuts. Grant Addison won the nationally competitive Truman Scholarship from the Harry S. Truman Foundation. The Arkansas Alumni Association named Sean Bryant a Senior of Significance. Tabitha Orr won the Prize for Distinction in the Liberal Arts and the J. Harry and Catherine H. Wood Scholarship from Fulbright College, as well as the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship. Annie Everett and Margaret Watermann (who was also a finalist for Homecoming Queen) won SURF grants from the state to fund their thesis research, supervised by Laurence Hare and Michael Pierce respectively. And Zoe Gastineau is off to South Korea, having been awarded an English Teaching Assistant Grant by the State Department.

This May, Phi Beta Kappa initiated historians Kerry Cole, Annie Everett, Rachel Feurtado, Amelia Freeman, Zoe Gastineau, and Thomas McMahon into the mysteries of the order. ■

DeMarco Taylor, Greyson Teague, Jamey Voorhees, Colin Walker, Jonathan Warner, Christopher Warren, Margaret Watermann, James Watson, Robert West, Amanda White, Lyndsey Williams, Justin Williford, Jared Wilson, Dylan Wright, and Trenton Yeakley.

We rely on honors societies to breed up the next generation of brains. Had Hare not set off the apocalypse, these young folk would have been inducted into Alpha Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta: **Omar Anderson, Timothy Anglea, Samantha Connor, Andrew Dixon, Amelia Freeman, Kathleen Jolly, Allison Peck, Bethany Rosenbaum, Shannon Rowe, Meghan Shrewsbury, Jesse Sims, Jake Spangler, Corbin Stinnett, Eric Totten, Jared Wilson, and Timothy Wilson.** All that the following wanted out of life was to be sworn into Pi Gamma Mu, the honors society for social sciences: **Lauren Bonds, Sean Bryant, Kadeesia Crutchfield, Andrew Dixon, Matthew Fey, Amelia Freeman, Ryan Grant, William Loder, Kosuke Morikawa, Taylor Naumann, Jared Pack, Shannon Rowe, and Timothy Wilson.**

With these catastrophic losses, it will apparently be up to the newsletter editor to organize next year's awards ceremonies. He's bringing back the banquet and cocktails. ■

## Hare Raising Questions about Archaeology

Laurence Hare has certainly earned his donuts this year. He's been elected to the U of A's Teaching Academy, been promoted to associate professor and director of International Studies, and published a book with a distinguished press. *Excavating Nations: Archaeology, Museums, and the German-Danish Borderlands*, part of the University of Toronto's German and European Studies Series, examines scholars who went right to the source and called it Norse. Hare illuminates the role that the study of prehistory in the contested Schleswig-Holstein region of northern Germany and southern Denmark played in the development of professional archaeology

and modern German and Scandinavian identity.

But, since Officer Hare has been suitably Mirandized, let's let him speak for himself: "The purpose of *Excavating Nations* is to assess the powerful relationships between archaeology and modern nationalism in the German-Danish borderlands. It is the first study to trace the connections between the past and the present over the course of the entire modern border dispute and the first to use these connections to reassess the region's broader importance in European history. The book begins with the emergence of popular antiquarianism and the founding of the first regional museums in the early nineteenth century, when German- and Danish-speakers shared a new vision of the ancient past. Later, it explores how regional antiquity became implicated in the conflicts over the border in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and reveals the close ties between the growth of nationalism and the emergence of professional archaeology and modern museums. Finally, it considers the region's role in the Nazi use of Nordic antiquity and the impact of archaeology on the transformation of the borderlands in the period after the Second World War."

But if artifacts were "employed as symbolic imagery, used to justify territorial claims, or disputed as national property," the study of northern European prehistory was, nevertheless, the collaborative endeavor of a remarkable "cross-border network of scholars, both antiquarian enthusiasts and professional archaeologists. . . . They visited one another's collections, participated in cooperative excavations, inducted foreign colleagues into their own national societies, and even shared their precious artefacts."

While the artifacts could not accurately be termed either German or Danish in any modern sense, Hare examines the passion both nations invested in such things as a fourth-century boat and an eighth-century wall.

The newsletter editor, who attended high school in what was perhaps the least Scandinavian district in the nation—at least north of the Rio Grande Valley and south of the South Bronx—now understands why its football team was nonetheless called the Vikings. ■

## Three Books: Gigantino Slaves Away

Most professors would make chairing the U of A's Traffic Appeals Court a full-time job, what with the careful calibration of nearby, sunlit, and bird-littered parking spaces, the meting out of pardons and pounds of flesh, the soliciting of "contributions" to favorite "charities." James J. Gigantino II may have done all that, but in the past year also found time to publish as many books as most professors produce across entire careers—and to get married and be promoted to boot. The three works run the gamut: a monograph with an important press; an edited volume of scholarly essays; and a rich collection of primary sources.

Even teachers who are supposed to know stuff can, in discussing the Missouri Compromise or the Wilmot Proviso, blithely chatter about "free" and "slave" states. But in recent years Jim Gigantino has made a signal contribution to the growing realization that slavery and freedom were not so cleanly sectionalized—South vs. North—even late in the antebellum era. In *The Ragged Road to Abolition: Slavery and Freedom in New Jersey, 1775-1865*, published this past autumn by the University of Pennsylvania Press, he shows slavery's decisive presence in parts of the North into the 1850s. Rather than the Revolution inspiring emancipation in northern states, as popularly imagined, slavery grew in New Jersey in its aftermath, such that there were 11,500 slaves there by 1790. The Garden State's gradual abolition law of 1804, the last such passed by a northern state, was, Gigantino says, inspired not by Revolutionary ideals but by the partisan interests of dueling Federalists and Democratic Republicans. The law induced no new birth of freedom, but simply freed those born *after* July 4, 1804 and only *after* they had served their mother's masters for two decades or more ("slaves for a term" Gigantino calls these unfortunates). Thousands of those born before 1804 remained in bondage, while "slaves for a term" could be "bought, sold, whipped, worked, and separated from their families just like slaves before them." Even in the

# Michael O'Brien, 1948-2015

Michael O'Brien did not spend too many years on the Department faculty before moving on to Miami University and then back to Cambridge, all in the course of establishing himself as one of the planet's leading authorities on American intellectual history. But these years in Fayetteville (1980-87) were evidently important to him, as they surely were to his colleagues and those who studied with him. As David Sloan wrote shortly after O'Brien's death on May 6, "During his time on our faculty, Michael O'Brien published both *All Clever Men*,



Michael O'Brien

*Who Make Their Way* (1982) and *A Character of Hugh Legaré* (1985), two studies of antebellum thought in the American South that not only established him as one of the most authoritative scholars in the field, but also pointed the way toward his two-volume Bancroft Prize masterwork, *Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life in the American South, 1810-1860* (2004). Michael and his delightful wife, Tricia, also became socially indispensable during those years, hosting Friday evening gatherings that were often dangerously hilarious, certainly never dull. . . . Michael O'Brien combined intellectual independence, analytical brilliance, and felicity of expression. He was truly one of a kind." For his part, O'Brien recalled our Department as "a world inhabited by a very, very odd collection of people."

Michael O'Brien was born in Plymouth, Devon, and educated at Cambridge, where he earned his PhD. Of his work on southern intellectual history, the *Guardian* wrote: "Michael took seriously the idea that the region had had intellectuals, and had discerned in their long-neglected writings an attempt to gain control, if only in their imagination, of a shifting and fragile social world. . . . Southern intellectuals of the [antebellum] period, it turned out, were not unthinkingly conservative. . . . They were not isolated provincials, but participants in a cosmopolitan dialogue with Europe. Most of all they were not throwbacks to a pre-modern plantation culture, but deeply implicated in the tendencies of modernity."

In recent years, O'Brien had also published several books about these intellectuals' opposite numbers—the Adams family, including the Pulitzer finalist *Mrs. Adams in Winter: A Journey in the Last Days of Napoleon* (2010). He edited a collection of C. Vann Woodward's correspondence, as well.

Michael O'Brien returned to Fayetteville last year to deliver the 2014 Timothy P. Donovan lecture, "The Adams Family and the Classical Tradition." He was working on a general history of American intellectual life at the time of his death. ■

1830s, at least a quarter of New Jersey's African-American population was bound in some manner. The state's slaveholders sold slaves out of state into the 1850s, and, at the dawn of the Civil War, New Jersey still harbored eighteen "apprentices" for life and "probably hundreds" of "slaves for a term." Members of a single black family could exist in "multiple gradations of freedom: some could be free, some slave, and some slave for a term." And slavery's continued presence shaped white

New Jerseyans' posture toward sectional conflict and toward the free and fugitive blacks in their midst.

If Gigantino's New Jersey offers a necessary corrective to the received wisdom about slavery and freedom, it can also tell us a lot about the American Revolution. More fighting probably occurred there than in any other state (everyone, it seems, got themselves a gun). To tell this story, Gigantino has edited *The American Revolution in*

*New Jersey: Where the Battlefield Meets the Home Front*, published by Rutgers University Press this past spring. Nine scholars—William Kidder, Gregory Walsh, Eleanor McConnell, Todd Braisted, Robert Selig, Michael Adelberg, Bruce Bendler, Donald Sherblom, and Gigantino himself—explore a state badly rent by war. New Jersey was dangerously positioned between the British stronghold of New York and the patriot stronghold of Philadelphia, and occupied by English troops in 1776, which only exacerbated divisions within its population. Indeed, at least as many New Jerseyans seem to have served with the British Army as with the American. The volume's first part addresses the experience of war both at home and within the armies, with essays covering militia service, illegal trade, iron and salt production, and civil conflict. The second part deals with the Revolution's legacy: essays consider its impact on propertyholding, slavery and abolition, and loyalist households. As with *The Ragged Road to Abolition*, Gigantino is careful to place his state within larger national and international settings and elucidate the meaning of its experience for our understanding of American history more generally: "The book," he emphasizes, "focuses on how average Americans experienced the Revolution."

You'd figure that the third of this year's books would be about New Jersey, too. Nope. In a sign that Gigantino is finally going native (we heard him muttering "The horror! The horror!" just the other day), the University of Arkansas Press has recently released his *Slavery and Secession in Arkansas: A Documentary History*. In chronicling Arkansas's move toward disunion in 1860-61, Gigantino doesn't cherry-pick his evidence but instead offers readers the entire tree, with incomparably generous excerpts of speeches, debate, newspaper commentary, and private reflection. Few—especially those with the sort of education the U of A affords—will be surprised that slavery was at the center of discussion. But they might find it instructive that what seemed most to concern many Arkansas secessionists was defending their federally guaranteed right to the return of their fugitive slaves against "nullification" by northern states. So much for states' rights.

We did the math and find that at his 2014-2015 rate Jim Gigantino will have published 100 books by the time he is old enough to retire. ■



# New PhDs Take Wing

The Department has a bad case of the empty nest syndrome. It's not just those disappearances among our faculty—Coon, Sloan, Starks, Grob-Fitzgibbon, and, doubtless, more to come. A number of our most talented and highly esteemed graduate students have sprouted wings in the past year. With fresh doctorates firmly in beak, they are taking to the sky. You couldn't call them birdbrains, though.

**Rob Bauer** flew the coop some years back, actually. Indeed, he's been teaching at Flathead Valley Community College in Montana long enough to have earned tenure there. Oddly unenthusiastic about perpetuating this distinctive status of tenured ABD, Bauer returned to Fayetteville this June to defend his dissertation, "Outside the Lines of Gilded Age Baseball: Profits, Beer, and the Origins of the Brotherhood War," directed by Elliott West. It's longer than baseball's postseason has become, but not because Bauer spends an inordinate amount of time fiddling with his batting gloves. Instead, he gives a comprehensive accounting of labor-management relations, physical training, the rise and fall of would-be major leagues, players' bad habits, and unfortunate encounters with monkeys, and frequently hapless mascots, as well as statistics galore. Dr. Bauer earned his BA at Washington State and an MA at the University of Montana. He will continue on at FVCC, where he is chair and sole member of the history department. Bauer says department meetings, as a result, usually run smoothly and factionalism only occasionally occurs.

**Kelly Houston Jones** showed up in Fayetteville in 2008, announcing that she intended to write a general history of slavery in Arkansas. Maybe, certain faculty members found this ambition a bit—shall we say—lofty. Nothing had entirely replaced Orville Taylor's *Negro Slavery in Arkansas*, well over fifty years old, but, still, to comprehend slavery in all its dimensions in a doctoral dissertation seemed quite a task. But, sure enough, Kelly did it, defending "The Peculiar Institution on the Periphery: Slavery in Arkansas," directed by Jeannie Wayne, last autumn. She also developed an enviable reputation as a teacher, served expertly as assistant editor of the *Arkansas*

*Historical Quarterly* for two years, and gave countless conference presentations and public talks on aspects of slavery in Arkansas, quickly becoming well known around the state for her expertise. Her publications are spreading that reputation farther. They include articles in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* and *Agricultural History* and chapters in *Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas*, ed. John Kirk (University of Arkansas Press, 2014) and *Arkansas Women: Their Lives and Times*, forthcoming from the University of Georgia Press. Jones earned her BA at UALR and MA from the University of North Texas, and, in academic year 2014-2015, served as visiting professor of history and African-American studies at the University of Central Arkansas. Not every talented young PhD gets what they deserve, but Dr. Jones has. She has been appointed assistant professor of history at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Most people who engage in "transnational" study just happen to choose places where rum is the basic ingredient of cocktails or olive oil is indispensable to regional cuisine. **Jason McCollum**, God bless him, instead chose the Great White North for his study of agrarian politics, yielding "Political Harvests: Transnational Farmers' Movement in North Dakota and Saskatchewan, 1905-1950," directed by professor, dean, and Alliance lecturer *emeritus* Bob McMath. Pathetically grateful, as always, for Americans' interest, the Canadian Embassy helped fund McCollum's research, as did a \$5000 dissertation research award from Fulbright College. McCollum has written essays for the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* and a forthcoming volume from Texas A&M University Press, *Farming across Borders: Selections on Transnational Agricultural History in the North American West* (ed. Sterling Evans), as well as essays for *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* and *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. He has taught just about every survey course the Department offers, and also "Modern Latin America" and a senior capstone course, "The American-Canadian West," and has won the Department's Matthew Kirkpatrick Teaching Award and recognition as an outstanding faculty member from the Residents' Interhall Congress and Associated Student Government. Jason's BA and MA are from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, but he moved

to Fayetteville once he realized that trying to surf the Ozarks couldn't be any worse than trying to surf the Gulf of Mexico. He has accepted a tenure-track position at Missouri State University-West Plains.

Providing further proof that opposites attract, **Bianca Rowlett** chose the often frightening and always hardboiled Jeane Kirkpatrick as the subject of both her master's and doctoral research (she had earlier earned a BS in biology from Arkansas Tech). In "Jeane Kirkpatrick and Neoconservatism: The Intellectual Evolution of a Liberal," directed by Randall Woods, Dr. Rowlett uses Ronald Reagan's UN ambassador to trace the complicated course of American politics since 1945 (though a darling of the right, Kirkpatrick seems never to have repented of the New Deal portion of her liberalism). She shows how the United States struggled to find its way in a changing world, particularly as Kirkpatrick tried to match developments in Latin America, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa to a worldview born of the Cold War. Rowlett also grapples with gender, given that Kirkpatrick was the first woman to hold so influential a position in America's diplomatic corps. Over her graduate career, Bianca Rowlett became one of our Department's most experienced and highly regarded instructors. She has taught multiple sections of the U.S. history and world civilization surveys, as well as senior "capstone" courses on modern U.S. history and, more recently, upper-level courses in Russian and Soviet history. She has been honored by the University of Arkansas both for excellence in teaching and as an outstanding mentor, attesting to her talent with students. The Department is therefore fortunate to have secured Dr. Rowlett's services for the coming academic year. ■

## Our Decorated Department

Most departments don't even open for business on the days that college and university honors and awards are handed out. They know the sticky-fingered Department of History will make off with most of them. 2014-2015 proved no exception. A member of our faculty has

**Beth Barton Schweiger** has been repeatedly celebrated for both her teaching and mentoring. This year, she won the Nolan Faculty Award, recognizing, in particular, her work in preparing graduate students to enter the profession. The award announcement noted that Schweiger's "qualities as an unparalleled proponent of graduate education shine most in her personal and professional relationships with graduate students. [She] begins mentoring from the very first email or

Of course, no one would ever know how smart historians are, or how hard they work, if the Department's crack staff—Jeanne Short, Brenda Foster, and Melinda Adams—did not make sure they showed up at the right place at the right time to teach the right students or research the right stuff. The trio won the staff senate's Outstanding Team Award in 2011, and, in 2012, Jeanne was named University of Arkansas Employee of the Year. This year, **Brenda Foster** took top honors as the university's Employee of the Year. As the Department's Ministrix of Information affirmed, "Not only does she handle course scheduling and book requests, a myriad of bureaucratic forms (time sheets, conflict of interest forms, etc.), graduate and employment applications, Brenda also moves offices, assembles and disassembles furniture, handles technology issues, and occasionally serves as therapist for the 72+ members of the History Department." This last task is particularly onerous. Historians are partial to the talking cure. ■

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# Comgradstud Bulletin

For three years, Comrade Starks tended our graduate studies program, watching as it became the most highly steeled graduate program in the college. The blows of the Blackboard crashes, the fury of rival programs, and the weather challenges of nature herself – all these scorpions constantly plagued our department, but it stood firm as a rock, repelling the countless assaults of its enemies and leading its students ever forward, to victory.

DEPARTING FROM US, COMRADE STARKS ENJOINED US TO GUARD THE UNITY OF OUR PROGRAM AS THE APPLE OF OUR EYE. WE VOW TO YOU, COMRADE STARKS, THAT THIS BEHEST WE SHALL FULFIL WITH HONOR!

Burdensome and intolerable has been the lot of the graduate class; painful and grievous their sufferings. But the following students have succeeded in throwing off the rule of the landlords and capitalists, and replacing it by the rule of the Master's Thesis:

**Manuel Salvador Rivera Espinoza**, "The Sacrality of the Mountain: An Exploration on the Understanding of the Mountain as a 'Sacred Space' in Early China" (supervisor: Rembrandt Wolpert)

**Alexander Marino**, "America's War in Angola, 1961-1976" (supervisor: Randall Woods)

The dictatorship of historians was established on the basis of an alliance between the graduate students and professors. They could not have defeated ignorance without such a communal labor. We now recognize the alliance of professor and student in the cooperation between the two on the successful completion of the comprehensive exams: **Ali Capar, Adam Carson, Nate Conley, Dan Elkin, Madeleine Forrest, Louise Hancox, Michael Powers, and John Treat.**

Like a huge rock, our profession and department stand out amid an ocean of smaller pursuits by lesser men. Wave after waves dashes against it, threatening

to submerge it and wash it away. But the rock stands unshakable. Wherein lies its strength? Not only in the fact that our profession rests on an alliance of students and professors, that it embodies a union of free ideas, and that its students go on to become pillars of the field themselves in the completion of the dissertation. The following Heroes of Historical Labor successfully defended their dissertations in the past year:

**Rob Bauer**, "Outside the Lines of Gilded Age Baseball: Profits, Beer, and the Origins of the Brotherhood War" (supervisor: Elliott West)

**Kelly Houston Jones**, "The Peculiar Institution on the Periphery: Slavery in Arkansas" (supervisor: Jeannie Whayne)

**Jason McCollom**, "Political Harvests: Transnational Farmers' Movements in North Dakota and Saskatchewan, 1905-1950" (supervisor: Dean *emeritus* Bob McMath)

**Bianca Rowlett**, "Jeane Kirkpatrick and Neoconservatism: The Intellectual Evolution of a Liberal" (supervisor: Randall Woods)

The workers and peasants of the whole world want to preserve the Republic of History as an arrow shot by the sure hand of Comrade Starks into the camp of the enemy, as the pillar of their hopes of deliverance from oppression and exploitation, as a reliable beacon pointing the path to their emancipation. They want to preserve it, and therein lies our strength. Therein lies the strength of the working historians of all countries. The following hero students have gone out to join the ranks of the eternal, global historical community in pursuit of continuing revolution:

**Kelly Jones** has accepted a tenure-track position in history at Austin Peay State University in Tennessee for Fall 2015.

**Jason McCollom** has accepted a tenure track position at Missouri State University – West Plains for Fall 2015.

**Jared Phillips** has accepted the position of Program Manager for Feed Communities' partnership with UAMS-NW on a \$2.99 million grant from the CDC to address health disparities in NW ARK by providing healthy foods through sustainable local food networks.

Comrade Starks never regarded the Republic of History as an end in

itself, but always looked on it as an essential link for facilitating the victory of historians of the whole world over ignorance and superstition. Comrade Starks knew that this alone could fire the hearts of the people of the whole world with determination to fight the decisive battles for their emancipation through history. The following members of our commune were recognized at the college and national level – their awards a testament to the strength of our cause and the shining beacon that our students have become:

**Jason Dean**, doctoral student, was elected a member of the Grolier Club in 2015.

**Misti Harper**, ABD, received the award for the Best Graduate Paper Presentation at the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers Conference in October 2014.

**M. Scout Johnson**, doctoral student, was elected Chair of the Southcentral Region of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students in fall 2014.

**Elizabeth Kiszonas**, ABD, was selected for the Fulbright College Yowell Graduate Teaching Award in 2015.

**Matthew Parnell**, ABD, won the James J. Hudson Doctoral Prize in the Humanities in 2014.

**Michael Powers**, ABD, was named a "Midlo Center Visiting Scholar" (University of New Orleans) in November 2014.

**Bethany Henry Rosenbaum** was awarded a \$100,000 SREB doctoral fellowship. (FA 2014)

DEPARTING FROM US, COMRADE STARKS ENJOINED US TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HISTORIANS INTERNATIONAL. WE VOW TO YOU, COMRADE STARKS THAT WE SHALL NOT SPARE OUR LIVES TO STRENGTHEN AND EXTEND THE UNION OF THE WORKING HISTORIANS OF THE WHOLE WORLD! ■

# The Talk of the Gown

**Nikolay Antov**, assistant professor, passed this way last autumn—or, at least, a guy that looked a lot like him did. We expect we'll see him again this fall since he's scheduled to teach "Islamic Civilization," "Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923," and a graduate seminar in early Islamic history.

**Caree Banton**, assistant professor, has won the Lapidus Center Fellowship from the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. The \$30,000 award provides six-month residency for work in the archives of the New York Public Library system. Banton will devote this time to her book project, *More Auspicious Shores: Post-Emancipation Barbadian Emigrants in Pursuit of Freedom, 1834-1912*. Banton is also this year's winner of the OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology Faculty Award.

**Alessandro Brogi**, professor, says he'll be brief this year—brief for him, he means. "The highlights for this year were: 1) of course, some academic (*dolce*) vita in Rome, accompanying 65 U of A students to our famed Rome Center, teaching two courses there, and even taking them to two sessions of the Italian Parliament, to show them how a 'genuine' democracy, with many, many MPs and political parties, works. No comment on other excursions... with the exception of a 'reunion' with high schoolmate Count Niccolò Capponi, who offered his services to tour our students through the streets of Florence, ending at the family archives and treasures – last but not least including a log of signatures of actors and filmmakers who used the Capponi Palace for the shooting of the gothic movie *Hannibal*. 2) Preparation for a conference, *J. William Fulbright in International Perspective: Liberal Internationalism and U.S. Global Influence*, sponsored by the Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society. The conference will take place this coming September. We thought it was about time to show how perhaps the most cosmopolitan of US foreign policy initiatives originated in Arkansas. Our aim is also to produce a book celebrating

the 70th anniversary of the Fulbright program and trying to explain what American liberal internationalism truly is. The year also featured a book chapter (on the Eurocommunists, of course), and the acceptance of two forthcoming articles on those old comrades, but, surprisingly this time also the Pope, Italian Catholics, and peace initiatives during the Vietnam War. And the paperback edition of my *Confronting America* came out just around Christmas Day. Course adoptions please? Consistent with my exploration of US foreign relations seen from both sides of the Atlantic, I joined the Transatlantic Studies Association, presenting a paper at their annual conference, which was also the launching pad of the Fulbright initiative. And, on a fine spring day, I hosted and chaperoned Prof. Geir Lundestad, introducing him to a sizeable local audience. He is the longtime director of the Nobel Peace Institute of Oslo, where I once 'served.' He entertained us with stories of Nobel laureates we otherwise would never have heard. Still too many reviews of esteemed colleagues' books, reviews that are too long perhaps, because the web allows it. Last but not least, shockingly to many colleagues in the department, I have turned into a genuine morning person. This has been thanks to my 11-year-old Sam who came to live with me (and wants to be in school no later than 7:30 am!), and who is bringing me the joys of full-time fatherhood."

**Robert Brubaker**, lecturer, has finally managed to coax his recalcitrant monograph, *Vijayanagara: Warfare and the Archaeology of Defence* (Manohar), into publication. Buoyed by this success, he is busily working away on a related article for an edited volume on fortifications in the Deccan region of Central/South India.

**Evan B. Bukey**, professor *emeritus*, has, over the past year, spent a month immersed in Austrian archives, attended the Ring Cycle at the Vienna State Opera, spoke on "New Aspects of the Holocaust" at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and published reviews in *Contemporary Austrian Studies* and the *Journal of Modern History*. Bukey calls this "slowing down." It would be speeding up for many of us.

**Lynda Coon**, professor and "dean of the Honors College," served as Fulbright

College's associate dean for fine arts and humanities before she was arrested. She was also an external reviewer for the University of Tennessee's history department and presented a paper, "Scripting Dark Age Jesus," on a panel entitled "Dark Age Deity," held at the International Medieval Congress in Michigan last May. From her cell, she has continued to serve as director of the Religious Studies Program in Fulbright College, for which she organized a highly successful—if a tad volatile—symposium: "Teaching Religion at the University of Arkansas." Finally, Coon has signed a contract to write a chapter for the *Oxford Handbook of the Merovingian World*.

**Freddy Dominguez**, assistant professor, says this of his rookie year: "apart from starting to build my course rotation (including a brand new seminar that focuses exclusively on Machiavelli's *Prince*), the most noticeable accomplishment has been figuring out how to read and write with a new baby in arms [that's Laura María Dominguez, born December 21]. Summer research has brought me to Rome where I've poked around the Vatican Library, the Vatican's Secret Archive, and perhaps most ominously, the Archive of the Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, or what used to be known as the Inquisition. It has been a crazy, infernally hot summer here. Research this year is to finish up a project on English Catholic exiles at the end of the sixteenth century and the strategies they used to defeat the Elizabethan regime with the aid of Catholic allies across Europe, and it's also meant to start building the groundwork for a project on the so-called 'Nun of Lisbon,' who in the late 16th century gained pan-European fame for her miracles, predictions, and communions with God. She eventually confessed to being a fraud." Dominguez received a \$5000 seed grant from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Economic Development to fund work on this latter project next summer in Spain.

**Robert Finlay**, professor *emeritus*, has cracked the China market. A translation of his book, *The Pilgrim Art*, has recently been published by Hainan Publishing House.

**James Gigantino**, associate professor and associate chair, began this past year

by traveling to Ghana, co-leading, with Calvin White, a three-week study abroad program sponsored by the African & African American Studies Program. They, along with fourteen students, covered more than 2,000 miles in the West African country, from Cape Three Points on the Atlantic Coast to the northern border with Burkina Faso, combating a wide range of student health issues and roadside bandits along the way. After the group safely returned to the United States, Gigantino saw the publication of his article, "The Whole North is Not Abolitionized: Slavery's Slow Death in New Jersey" in the *Journal of the Early Republic* in August. During the fall semester, he again taught the now one-year-old University Perspectives class for first-year students and premiered his self-paced online HIST 2013 course and a semester-based African American History to 1877 online course. He made a quick jaunt to Memphis to present at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History in September and then, in October, saw his book, *The Ragged Road to Abolition: Slavery and Freedom in New Jersey, 1775-1865*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. He presented on a roundtable at the New Jersey Forum, the state's annual state history conference, about the book in November. 2015 brought a presentation at the American Historical Association's annual meeting in New York and a book tour sponsored by the New Jersey Historical Commission to promote *Ragged Road* among audiences in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He also embarked on research leave to begin writing his next book project, *William Livingston's American Revolution*, which explores the impact of the Revolution on New Jersey and the Middle States through the eyes of the state's first governor. The spring also saw publication of his edited volume, *The American Revolution in New Jersey: Where the Battlefield Meets the Home Front* by Rutgers University Press, which contained a chapter written by him. He was keynote speaker at a conference, held in late May to launch the book. In March, the Board of Trustees approved his promotion and tenure, and in April, Fulbright College awarded him the Master Teacher Award. May saw the publication

of a chapter of his in the collection *Quakers and their Allies in the Abolitionist Cause, 1754-1808* from Pickering and Chatto. As you'll read elsewhere, there's yet another book, *Slavery and Secession in Arkansas* (University of Arkansas Press), that's only just appeared.

**Thomas Goldstein**, visiting assistant professor, completed a chapter entitled "A Tenuous Peace: Anti-Nuclear Activism within the East German Writers Union in the 1980s," for *Accidental Armageddons: The Nuclear Crisis and the Culture of the Cold War in the 1980s* (ed. Eckart Konze, Martin Klimke, and Jeremy Varon), which is forthcoming from Cambridge. He continues to work on revisions of his book, *Writing in Red: The Writers Union and the Role of Literary Intellectuals in the German Democratic Republic, 1971-1990*, which is under contract with Camden House. Hungry for more immediate adulation, he gave a paper at the 2014 German Studies Association conference in Kansas City, co-organized, with Laurence Hare, an artifact exhibition on World War I, as well as a lecture series, "Society and Culture in the Era of the Great War," and commented on the panel "Ideology and Experience in the World Wars" at the Phi Alpha Theta Arkansas Regional Conference. Not quite sated even then, Goldstein taught a class on World War II at Willowbrook Elementary School in Bentonville.

**Rocio Gomez**, visiting assistant professor, has been teaching environmental history as well as handling classes left leaderless when Kathy Sloan and Trish Starks disappeared. She also ably assisted in the Department's successful search for a historian of colonial Latin America. Gomez holds a doctorate from the University of Arizona. Her research explores the environmental history of modern Mexico, focusing on silver mining's effects on water and public health in Zacatecas.

**Joel Gordon**, professor, published several essays this past year: "Stuck with Him: Bassem Youssef and the Egyptian Revolution's Last Laugh," in the *Review of Middle East Studies* and "Piety, Youth and Egyptian Cinema: Still Seeking Islamic Space," in *Islamism and Cultural Expression in the Arab World*, ed. Abir Hamdar and Lindsey Moore (Routledge, 2015). He continues to serve

as chief consultant for an NEH funded documentary on Nasser that is currently under production by filmmaker Michal Goldman. Gordon also participated in a number of panels and symposia, including one with King Fahd Center colleagues considering the worst summer ever in Middle East history [the Mongols turned up during the winter, it seems], another, "Egypt's Failed Democratic Tradition," sponsored by the Joseph Korbel School of International Studies at Denver University, and a third addressing the racial politics of Ebola that also featured Calvin White, Caree Banton, and Ben Grob-Fitzgibbon. Last November, he presented a talk, "Sleepless Nights/Wasted Time: Seeking Islam in Egypt's Hollywood," at the University of Kentucky, and, at the 2014 MESA annual meeting in Washington, DC, he chaired a panel, "Dressing and Undressing for the Nation in the Post-World War I Middle East," which was organized by alum Ahmet Akturk, currently assistant professor of history at Georgia Southern University. Gordon sits on the review panel for the NEH Bridging Cultures through Film program, the board of governors of the Center for Arabic Study Abroad, and the outside advisory board for the Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz Chair for Historical and Civilization Studies at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In the past year, he peer reviewed 3 article and 2 book manuscripts for academic journals and presses and reviewed grant proposals for the Institute for Advanced Study and the Israel Science Foundation. Gordon's press appearances ran the gamut from discussing the old Egyptian national anthem with a *Guardian* reporter to being interviewed by KNSA TV about a local mayor who posted off-color anti-Muslim (and Hindu) jokes on his official website.

**Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon**, associate professor, has joined the French Foreign Legion.

**J. Laurence Hare**, associate professor, published his monograph, *Excavating Nations: Archaeology, Museums, and the German-Danish Borderlands*, in March 2015 as part of the University of Toronto Press's German and European Studies Series. The preceding month, an article he cowrote with Jack Wells, "Promising the World: Surveys, Curricula, and the Challenge of Global History," appeared in



*The History Teacher*. Hare also completed work on two book chapters, the first co-written with Fabian Link, "Pseudoscience Reconsidered: SS Research and the Archaeology of Haithabu," which will appear as a chapter in *The Nazi Soul between Science and Religion: Revisiting the Occult in the Third Reich* (ed. Eric Kurlander and Monica Black), which is forthcoming from Camden House. The second was a solo piece, "Paths Forward: In Defense of the History of Disciplines," which is slated to appear in *German History in Transatlantic Perspective*, ed. Michael Meng and Adam Seipp (Berghahn Press). Hare completed his third and final year as book review editor for *International Social Science Review*, in which he also published a review of Thomas Kohut's *A German Generation: An Experiential History of the Twentieth Century*. On the teaching front, Hare was inducted into the Teaching Academy and received a Teaching Improvement Grant from the Teaching and Faculty Support Center to complete a project entitled "Preparing Students for Major Success: Integrating Perspectives Core and Departmental Curricular Goals." Hare also served as faculty advisor for Phi Alpha Theta, the Pi Gamma Mu social science honor society, and the Society of European Historians. In this capacity, he organized a lecture and exhibition series, "Society and Culture in the Great War Era," commemorating the centennial of the beginning of the First World War. In the spring, Hare organized the Arkansas Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference, which brought sixty participants from across the state to the U of A. This July, Hare, newly tenured and promoted to associate professor, hung up his undergraduate director's hat and took up his new role as Director of Fulbright College's International Studies program.

**Elizabeth Markham**, professor, has been visiting fellow at Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge University.

**Charles Muntz**, assistant professor, writes us from abroad: "This past year I have been enjoying the fruits of two fellowships while living and working at Wolfson College at the University of Cambridge. Inspired by the beauty of English gardens and quality of English port, I have made great progress on my monograph and stand on the cusp of a

publishing contract. I have also presented some of the fruits of my academic labors to members of both Wolfson College and the Cambridge Faculty of Classics to general acclaim. And I have taken advantage of my proximity to Europe to examine some of the great collections of classical antiquities acquired by dynasties such as the Habsburgs, Wittelsbachs, and Bourbons. Nor has it been all work across the pond. During my tenure here I have, among other things, seen *The Marriage of Figaro* in the same Prague opera house where Mozart once conducted it, climbed into the Amsterdam attic where Anne Frank hid, and hiked up to the fairy-tale castle that inspired Walt Disney. All things must end, however, and I look forward to rejoining my colleagues in Arkansas later this summer." The publishing contract Charlie refers to—for *Diodorus Siculus and the World of the Late Roman Republic*—is with the mighty Oxford University Press.

**Michael Pierce**, associate professor, has got no loud talk or bad talk for you this year. He spent the first half of 2015 finishing up the research phase of his book project—*Blacks, Unions, and the Making of Walmart America: The Rise and Fall of New Deal Liberalism in Arkansas*. He traveled to Searcy to look at the George Benson Papers, Conway to go through the Ben Laney Papers, and Little Rock to root around the Arkansas History Commission and the Arkansas Studies Institute. In all, he has worked in 23 different depositories in 10 different states. Pierce hopes to start the writing phase this fall. He also presented a paper at the Labor and Working-Class History Association meeting at Georgetown University in May.

**Charles Robinson**, professor and vice chancellor for diversity and community, is serving as U of A's interim vice provost for student affairs.

**Steven Rosales**, assistant professor, as part of his continuing study of how masculinity is "performed" in America, hosted the Department's first Fight Night last May. He has received an advance contract from the University of Arizona Press for his manuscript, tentatively titled *Soldados Razos: Chicano Politics, Identity, and Masculinity in the U.S. Military, 1940-1975*. The *Michigan Historical Review* published his article, "This Street is Essentially Mexican": An

Oral History of the Mexican American Community of Saginaw, Michigan, 1920-1980" in its fall 2014 issue, and he has a chapter titled "The Right to Bear Arms: Enlisting Chicanos into the U.S. Military, 1940-1980" forthcoming in *The Routledge History of Race in the American Military*. Rosales presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association in May and guest lectured ("Macho Nation? Chicano Soldiering, Sexuality, and Manhood during the Vietnam War") for the U of A's Gender Studies Program last November. He serves on the steering committees for both Gender Studies and Latin American Studies. And he *really* serves, too—having been promoted to Lieutenant (O-3) in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He has responsibilities at a reserve center in Tulsa, OK, and at Naval Station Millington (TN).

**Beth Barton Schweiger**, associate professor, was invited to read four papers during the past year: at the Institute for the Study of Religion & American Culture at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; the Southern Intellectual History Circle meeting in Edgefield, SC; the Porter Fortune Symposium at the University of Mississippi, which honored Charles Reagan Wilson on his retirement; and a conference to honor the Anglo-American intellectual historian James Turner on his retirement from the University of Notre Dame. This August, she serves on a review panel for the 2015 National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowships in Washington, D.C. She won the Nolan Faculty Award from the college for contributions to graduate education, and with four students who are ABD and a fifth who will soon join them, she says, "I'd better get cracking on editing those drafts."

**Kathryn Sloan**, associate professor and deposed *jefa máxima*, has received a contract from the impossibly distinguished University of California Press for her book *Modern Death and Suicide in Mexico: A Cultural and Social History*. With Gramsci, Bloch, and Braudel as her models, she doesn't expect imprisonment to deter her in her work. In Sloan's last months of freedom, the *Journal of Urban History* published her essay, "Death in the City: Female Public Suicide and Meaningful Public Space in Modern Mexico City," and she was able

to travel to Tucson to present her research at the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies. She also chaired and commented on a panel on urban life and spectacle at the Urban History Association meeting in Philadelphia in October 2014.

**Elizabeth P. Smith**, visiting assistant professor, spent a month in New Orleans last summer doing further research toward book revisions (only in New Orleans, she says, do public libraries host marching band practice), and has submitted a proposal to the University of North Carolina Press. Last September, she returned to Chapel Hill to present at a symposium honoring Jacquelyn Hall, her dissertation advisor, on the occasion of Hall's retirement. She's currently working on an invited book chapter that's an overview of black and white women in the South during Reconstruction for a book edited by Judith Giesberg and Randall M. Miller and tentatively entitled *Women and the American Civil War*. In February, she commented at a panel on religion in early US history at the Arkansas Regional Phi Alpha Theta conference.

**Richard Sonn**, professor, continued his research project on immigrant Jewish artists in Paris, 1905-1940. In the fall of 2014, he presented a paper, "The Jewish Artists of Paris during World War I," as part of the Department's fall series on Art and Culture during the Great War, and another, "The Visual Representation of Music in 1920s Montparnasse," at the Western Society for French History conference in San Antonio. This spring, his article "Jewish Modernism: Immigrant Artists of Montparnasse, 1905-1914" appeared in an edited volume titled *Foreign Artists and Communities in Modern Paris, 1870-1914: Strangers in Paradise*, published by Ashgate. Sonn once again team-taught an honors colloquium on Darwin and evolution, and this spring offered the Department's new course on the Holocaust, HIST 4203, and played a role in getting a new minor in Jewish Studies approved. To help promote the program, he participated in "Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Jewish Diversity" in October, in which he discussed his research on Jewish artists in Paris.

**Trish Starks**, associate professor, has spent the year on the lam. In the summer, she went to the mother country for a

month's worth of research, bookending Moscow with presentations in Oxford. For the fall, she was on sabbatical and camped out beyond the Urals before heading off to Paris for another paper presentation in January. From coded messages sent from her hideout, we gather that she is filling her time with investigations of the history of addiction therapy and the ongoing research on tobacco use in Russia. An NIH/NLM Grant for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health promises to see her in full fugitive mode for the next two and a half years while she completes work on her monograph—*Cigarettes and Soviets: The Culture of Tobacco Use in Twentieth Century Russia*.

**Daniel E. Sutherland**, distinguished professor, says of the past year: "Simply put, my world revolved (and still does) around Whistler. He deserves the thanks for anything worthwhile that I accomplished." Having published *Whistler: A Life for Art's Sake* last year, Sutherland appeared in the PBS documentary *Whistler: The Pursuit of Beauty*. He gave talks on the artist in Detroit, Washington, DC, London, Lincoln (that would be in England), and Pasadena (that would be in California, not the one in Texas with the mechanical bull) and will be journeying to Santiago, Chile, this summer with the same object. He also traveled to Dublin (as in Ireland) last March "but that was about guerrillas." Sutherland is now working on a prequel of sorts—a biography of Whistler's mother. His essay on Anna McNeil Whistler's "extraordinary life" appears in theconversation.com and has been picked up by *Newsweek*.

**Elliott West**, Alumni Distinguished Professor, received the Alumni Award for Distinguished Research at a ceremony last October. So it's pretty clear what the alumni think of him. He continues to tour on a Springsteen scale. West was one of four faculty for a five-week NEH seminar for university faculty treating the role of the federal government in the West. He delivered the annual Carl Becker Lecture at Iowa State in September, a lecture commemorating the University of Denver's sesquicentennial in October, the annual Bierman Lecture at Whitman College in March, and the annual Preston Lecture at Hotchkiss School in Lakeview, CT. He also participated in a "Teach-In" conference on the American

frontier at the University of Oklahoma in March. Minding his overseas fans, West delivered the lead-off lecture, "The Great Coincidence: The California Gold Rush and Its Consequences," at a conference on Gold Rush Imperialism at Rothemere American Institute, Oxford University, in April.

**Jeannie M. Whayne** has been promoted to University Professor, the first woman in the history of Fulbright College to receive that title. This year, she saw her presidential address to the Agricultural History Society—delivered in Provo, UT, in June 2014—published in the Winter 2015 issue of the society's journal, *Agricultural History*, as "The Incidental Environmentalists: Dale Bumpers, George Templeton, and the Origins of the Rosen Alternative Pest Control Center at the University of Arkansas." She co-edited a special issue of that journal that appeared in July 2015 and consisted of three papers presented at the Rural Women's Studies Conference in Canada in 2013. She delivered a paper, "A Faustian Bargain? The Portfolio Plantation in the Age of Scientific Agriculture," at the World Congress on Environmental History in Guimarães, Portugal, in July 2014 and gave the Greenfield Lecture at Arkansas State University in October 2014 ("Delta Empire: Lee Wilson and the Transformation of Agriculture in the New South"). A paper she delivered at a Duke University conference on Race and Rurality in the Global Economy in March 2015 will be published in the proceedings of that conference. Entitled "Race in the Reconstruction of Rural Society in the Twentieth Century U.S. South," it examines the situation confronting African Americans in the rural South, comparing their situation in the early 20th century to that of the early 21st century. Whayne participated in a roundtable with Jay Barth, Hal Bass, and Kay Goss on "The Life and Legacy of Wilbur Mills" at the Arkansas Political Science Association conference at Hendrix College in February 2015. She is currently preparing a paper for the European Rural History Organization in Girona, Spain in September: "The Remaking of Rural Society in the Twentieth Century South: Communities and the Environment in the Lower Mississippi River Valley." She continues research on a book project



on Memphis as “Cotton’s Metropolis,” a social, economic, and environmental history focusing particularly on the relationship between the city and the cotton-producing counties on its periphery. Wayne is completing a three-year term as co-director of the university’s Teaching and Faculty Support Center and also serves on the executive board of the Southern Historical Association. She says she is particularly pleased that her student, Kelly Houston Jones, completed an excellent dissertation on slavery in Arkansas in December 2014, that won the Arkansas Historical Association’s Foster/Beason Award, and secured a tenure-track position at Austin Peay State University

in Tennessee. She also welcomed the opportunity to toast/roast Tom DeBlack, who won a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arkansas Historical Association.

**Calvin White, Jr.**, associate professor and chair, writes that he “still finds himself gainfully employed at the University of Arkansas after recently completing his eighth year,” but presumably he is enjoying a new chair’s expected honeymoon. White also directs the African and African American Studies program and is conducting research for his second project, *Oscar Stanton DePriest: A Black Congressman Amongst White Segregationists*, which promises to be a most welcomed addition to bookshelves

everyone (“just buy the dang thing, please”). Additionally, he received the campus-wide 2014 Dr. John and Lois Imhoff Award for Outstanding Teaching and Student Mentorship. Home life in Fayetteville continues to be enjoyable for White as his wife, Shatara, and daughter, Monroe, become increasingly more involved in the community. If you are ever on campus, you can find him stowed away in Old Main 416, pondering life, religion, and how to make the Keurig coffee machine work.

**Patrick G. Williams**, professor, will can the stale razzmatazz just this once so that he can thank the colleagues (faculty and staff) who engineered his promotion and everybody else who makes this about the best job a fellow could hold. He continues to edit the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, but ever more slowly.

**Rembrandt Wolpert**, professor, has during this past year been senior research associate at Peterhouse College, Cambridge. He claims not to be reading email but will occasionally take to the internet to taunt the newsletter editor. The beer is always better and the sausage always tastier where Rembrandt is and the editor isn’t.

**Randall B. Woods**, distinguished professor, must have had a splendid year, since it’s been the fiftieth anniversary of all sorts of stuff he knows a lot about. In April, for instance, he delivered a keynote address at a commemoration the National Park Service hosted at the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Randall and Rhoda—History’s first couple—even got to tool around the ranch in LBJ’s Lincoln Continental convertible (not the amphibious one). Woods has completed an appropriately Brobdingnagian study of the Great Society (we’ve seen it with our own eyes) and is getting set to take on John Quincy Adams. What do you bet Randall wins? ■



Randall Baines and Rhoda Bird Woods try on LBJ’s Lincoln for size.





# Alumni Round-Up

**Tom Aiello** (PhD 2007) has been tenured and promoted to associate professor of history and African American Studies at Valdosta State University, and it's no wonder. His book *Jim Crow's Last Stand: Nonunanimous Criminal Jury Verdicts in Louisiana* came out from LSU Press in May, while another, *Model Airplanes Are Decadent and Depraved: The Glue-Sniffing Epidemic of the 1960s*, appeared at the end of June from Northern Illinois University Press. Still a third, *The Battle for the Souls of Black Folk: W. E. B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, and the Debate that Shaped the Course of Civil Rights*, will be published by Praeger next year. Whew!

**Barry Allen** (BA 1969; MD 1973) of Rogers is a pediatrician at Community Clinic of Northwest Arkansas.

**Lindsay Amos** (BA 2012; MEd 2014) teaches social studies and enjoys reading and tennis. She lives in Bentonville.

**E. Taylor Atkins** (BA 1989; PhD 1997 [Univ. of Illinois]) is Presidential Teaching Professor of History at Northern Illinois University. Last September, when he was profiled in the American Historical Association's *AHA Today* blog, he paid tribute to the Department. "My teachers at the University of Arkansas—Henry Tsai, David Edwards, Elliott West, Elizabeth Payne, Tim Donovan—inspired me to be a historian." He said of the study of history; "I value the shared purpose of approaching our past with honesty and a desire only to know as much truth as is possible to know. The past is so casually and readily manipulated by people with narrow—sometimes nefarious—agendas. I like being in the camp that discovers evidence and calmly speaks truth amidst such disingenuous bluster."

**Russell P. Baker** (BA 1967; MA 1984 [UALR]) of Mabelvale is retired but remains editor of *Arkansas Family Historian*, published by the Arkansas Genealogical Society.

**Ian Baldwin** (MA 2010) is completing his dissertation at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He had a three-month fellowship at the Huntington

Library this year and received the Urban History Association's Sage-JUH Award for Best Graduate Student Paper for "Gay Liberation and the State: Space, Fair Housing, and the Making of Queer Left-Liberal Politics in Greater Los Angeles during the Long 1970s."

**Bob Besom** (MA 1973; PhA 1975) writes, "I don't have any new news. There's a whole lot of sameness in my life these days. I try to ride somewhere each day on the growing Fayetteville bike path, work in the yard doing battle with invasive plants, which is a big city focus now, and work on some aspect of the archival material I'm donating to the U of A Special Collections. Patty and I spend a fun month each year traveling to Seattle to visit our daughter, Lela. Arthur McEnany, who was a fellow graduate student in history in the early 1970s, returned for a visit last summer. He had not been back for many years and it was such fun catching up with him and showing off how things had changed in his absence."

**Heather Walters Bettinardi** (BA 2004; MA Ed 2013) teaches social studies at Little Rock's J. A. Fair High School, is currently working towards taking National Boards, and was admitted to Phi Kappa Phi in 2014. She has three sons: Tyler, 20, is a junior at UCA, majoring in history with a minor in political science; Gage, 18, is a freshman at Memphis College of Art; the youngest, 16, is a junior at Arkansas Virtual Academy. She is a Model UN team sponsor and baseball team "booster"

**David Boling** (BA 1987; JD 1991) recently joined the US Trade Representative's Office as Deputy Assistant USTR for Japan and is working on trade negotiations with Japan as part of the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations.

**Thomas Hill Brewer** (BA 2002), who got his M. Div. in May 2012 from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, teaches math and chemistry at Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy. He says he enjoys reading classical literature, watching Netflix, and spending time with his family, which has expanded as of late. His third child, and first son, Ezra Keane, was born in late April 2015.

**Miles Bryant** (BA 2011) writes, "Currently, I work in a hub for United Parcel Service as a package handler. I spend my down time reading, writing, watching Fox News and CNN, but mostly

watching Fox News and CNN. I live at home with my mom, dad, brother, and two dogs in West Memphis, AR, and I expect to be an uncle by the end of May. One dog is a Boykin Spaniel that eats Science Diet, retrieves, sits, stays for three to five seconds, and lives outside. The other dog is a Beagle that does not eat Science Diet, is a little overweight, and barks at his masters."

**Jennifer Lease Butts** (BA 1995) is currently assistant vice-provost for enrichment and director of the honors program at the University of Connecticut.

**Matthew A. Byron** (PhD 2008) is assistant professor of history at Young Harris College and has a chapter, "A Dishonorable Death: The Stuart-Bennett Duel," in a forthcoming book *A Matter of Honor* (University of South Carolina Press). He also presented "Dueling in the Age of Jackson" at the Florida Historical Society annual conference in St. Augustine. He will be serving as the Faculty Senate president in the coming year.

**Tammy K. Byron** (PhD 2008) was recently promoted to associate professor of history at Dalton State College, Dalton, GA.

**Jon David Cash** (BA 1979; MA 1983; PhD 1995 [Univ. of Oregon]) had his article, "Chris Von der Ahe, the American Association versus National League Cultural War, and the Rise of Major League Baseball," published in the October 2014 issue of the *Missouri Historical Review*.

**Cortney Rakestraw Coker** (BA 1998) is busy with two businesses—Isuba Valley Fence and Concrete and Isuba Valley Horse Park—and is expecting her first child.

**Douglas Edwin Coleman** (BA 1980; MA 1983) lives in New Market, MD, and is an analyst for the US Department of Defense. He recently moved out of management and back to a technical role. He still manages to have a lot of indirect influence and enjoys helping others as they begin their careers. He also enjoys gardening, exercising, spending time with his wife of 25 years, home repairs, and especially being out of doors. "When I was a small boy, I wanted to be a forest ranger."

**Ellen Compton** (MA 1963), retired archivist at the UA Libraries, spends her

time reading, working out, watching movies, and serving on the board of the Washington County Historical Society. Her granddaughter, Sarah Anne Shipley, graduated with the Fayetteville High Class of 2015. Sarah's brother, Harrison Shipley, is a junior at FHS and he *loves* his American History classes. She also has a new grandson, Braden Compton Shipley, born to her son David Curtis Shipley (BA 1985) and his wife Jamie (MA-English-UA). Their other son, Rhys Shipley, is five, and they live in Little Rock.

**Harold Coogan** (BSE 1961; MA 1966) describes himself as a "retired know it all history teacher," but as with similar claims made in earlier years, the retirement part is hard to square with the fact that he is still an adjunct faculty member at Rich Mountain Community College (RMCC). He also serves on the local quorum court as an elected justice of the peace. To his surprise, the RMCC Library recently dedicated the Harold Coogan Special Collections Room, and it's an entirely fitting thing. Mr. Coogan has donated considerable historical material to the library, most importantly a complete bound run of the *Mena Star*, 1896-2007, that he rescued and preserved after the 2009 tornado.

**Phil Cook** (BA 1997) was elected to his first term as county assessor of Kitsap County, Washington, in November 2014.

**Thomas Michael Cupples, Jr.** (BA 1998) is a banker in Little Rock. He lists his activities as "family."

**Terry Dake** (BA 1966) is a retired four-star general in the US Marine Corps and served as assistant commandant of the USMC from 1998 to 2000. He holds an honorary doctorate from College of the Ozarks.

**Erik P. Danielson** (BA 2001; JD 2004) lives in Fayetteville and is licensed to practice law in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. He was included in the *Northwest Arkansas Business Journal's* 40 under 40 for 2014. He owns Danielson Law Firm, PLLC, where his mother works as an attorney. His father is Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. When he's not doing the lawyer thing, Erik can be found playing tennis or golf. You might also find him at one of the three other businesses he owns: Walton Blvd. Wine and Spirits, Danielson Farms, or Danielson Entertainment Group, LLC.

**Michael A. Davis** (PhD 2005), associate professor of history at Liberty University, published his first book in late 2014: *Politics as Usual: Thomas Dewey, Franklin Roosevelt, and the Wartime Presidential Campaign of 1944* (Northern Illinois University Press). He is researching a new book about Elvis Presley and television. In 2014, he received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching at Liberty University, and he recently celebrated 20 years of marriage to his wife, Holly. They spent two weeks in Rome, Athens, and the Greek Islands in the Aegean Sea.

**John Kyle Day** (BA 1997; MA 1999; PhD 2006 [Univ. of Missouri]) writes, "I am currently serving as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council. I was elected in the past year to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association, among the great honors of my life. I also just received news that my book, *The Southern Manifesto: Massive Resistance and the Fight to Preserve Segregation* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2014), just made it into paperback. Huzzah! My better half, Rena Orujova Day (MA 2002) is a financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments and just bought her own building for her business. Our daughter, Sabina Harper Day, age 10, performs dance and plays softball. Our son, John Ragib Day, age 2, is now talking, in addition to destroying the household on a daily basis."

**Mike Deaderick** (BA 1964; MA 1966) may call himself a retired history instructor and businessman, but that didn't stop him from receiving the Arkansas Historical Association's 2015 Charles O. Durnett Award for his essay, "Civil War Combat in Northeast Arkansas."

**Thomas A. DeBlack** (PhD 1995) is professor of history at Arkansas Tech and now has 20 years there under his belt. He has been elected to the board of the Arkansas Humanities Council and received the Arkansas Historical Association's Lifetime Achievement Award at its 2015 meeting in West Memphis, where he also gave a presentation. His wife, Susan, just completed a term as president of the Arkansas Optometric Association, and his daughter, Susannah, has finished the 5th grade. She presented

the Susannah DeBlack Award at the same AHA meeting that feted her father. Along with all this, DeBlack continues to manage four dogs, four cats, and a rabbit. Alums should feel free to send strays to Tom.

**Tom Dillard** (MA 1975) was recently elected president of Friends of the Malvern-Hot Spring County Public Library and continues to write a weekly column on Arkansas history for the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. He says he's retired but evidently not from gardening, which he works at full time. He and Mary have a cat named Hillary that they fear is a Republican because she will not answer to her name.

**Basil Dmytryshyn** (BA 1950; MA 1951; PhD 1955 [UC Berkeley]), professor *emeritus* of history-Portland State University, Oregon, writes, "On June 1, 2014, our only grandchild, Elizabeth Fetherston, married her fellow University of Oregon graduate, Kehl van Winkle. In August 2015, Elizabeth will receive her MAT from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, where Kehl will start his second year of law school. On December 6, 2014, I gave an invited lecture on 'Russian Activities in the Greater North Pacific Region, 1700-1867' to history students at Corban University, Salem, Oregon. On January 14, 2015 I celebrated my 90th birthday. Never expected to reach that mark! On April 10, 2015, a hemorrhage occurred in one of my eyes, causing a total loss of vision in that eye. Fortunately the other eye is still OK! On May 5, 2015, two representatives of the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, Blake B. Rickman and James L. Harris, visited me in my independent retirement living complex in Keizer, Oregon. We talked about current developments at U of A and reminisced about those of 1948-51. My Arkansas-born wife, Virginia, was unfortunately not present for the discussion, because on that day she had another commitment."

**Ann Engeler** (BA 1963), a retired public school teacher and professor of English at Northwest Arkansas Community College, enjoys reading, writing, hiking, some drawing, and some photography, usually monochromatic. She continues her support of animal shelters and humane treatment of all animals; she's an advocate of spay-neuter programs and humane care (spay-neuter-release) of

## Can You Help?

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

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

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

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

Gifts to the **Gatewood Fellowship** may be sent to: 325 Administration Building, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701, while checks to the **James J. Hudson Fellowship** should be forwarded to: Dean of the Graduate School, 340 N. Campus Dr., Ozark Hall 213, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701. Gifts to the **Walter L. Brown Endowment** should be directed to the Fulbright College Development Office, 525 Old Main, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. ■

feral cats. She published a comic strip, "Fitzgerald, PhD," about Frances "Frankie" Fitzgerald, English professor, for NWACC for a few semesters. [See p. 18] She retired her this past semester.

**Jami Forrester** (PhD 2011) has been promoted to associate professor of history at NWACC, and is president of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers, a board member of Arkansas Council of Social Studies, and District 10 Coordinator of History Day. Dr. Forrester was named the 2014 national History Channel Educator of the Year and was ACSS University Educator of the Year. She still found time to enjoy scuba diving in Maui and Bonaire this past year with her husband Greg. They have two children,

Parker EvaMarie, age four, and Wyatt Scott, age two.

**Ed French** (BA 1977) reports that he is "still an active member of the human race."

**Emily Poole Fuller** (BS 2001 [Math/History]; MAT 2012) is a secondary mathematics teacher for Denver public schools, where she was hired to co-write mathematics curriculum for McAuliffe International School. She previously spent a year teaching abroad in Maracaibo, Venezuela. "We bought a cabin at 10,200 ft. outside of Leadville, CO in December of 2014. It was our 'first/second home'—we were first-time home buyers but bought a 'vacation home' in the mountains to escape from the city

(Denver) on the weekends and during the summer."

**Gretchen Gearhart** (BA 1983) still lives in Fayetteville and reports that she is well and happy.

**Rita Geiger** (BA 1966), retired, has been selected as one of Alpha Chi Omega's 2015 Real. Strong. Women. of Distinction, and will be featured in this summer's issue of *The Lyre*, Alpha Chi Omega's publication. She is also completing her second term on the Arkansas Alumni Association National Board of Directors.

**James R. Goff, Jr.** (PhD 1987), professor of history at Appalachian State University, was named chair of the department in 2014.

**Richard Gray** (BA 1989) is "still plugging along in St. Louis" and is an attorney at the Schindler Law Firm in Clayton, MO. He and his wife, Tara Jensen, an attorney at Jensen and Gray, P.C., have two kids: a son, Avery, 15, who just got his driver's license and is going into the 10th grade, and a daughter, Olivia, 13, who is going into the 8th grade.

**Patrick D. Hagge** (BA 2005), assistant professor of geography at Arkansas Tech University, and his wife, Trisha Noble Hagge (UA graduate with BSE Communication Disorders, 2005) welcomed the birth of their son Mark Patrick Hagge in July 2014.

**Michael D. Hammond** (PhD 2009) has been appointed academic dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Biblical Studies, and professor of history at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana, after six years at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida, where he was department chair and associate professor of history. He is chapter editor and contributor for Chapter 30, "The Recent Past," *The American Yawp: A Free Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook*, <http://www.americanyawp.com>. He helped initiate a semester abroad program in El Salvador, including teaching an intensive Latin American History and Culture course in San Salvador. He is also currently serving as editor of the blog, *Religion in American History* ([www.usreligion.org](http://www.usreligion.org)).

**Phillip A. Harrington** (BA 2014) is a community support specialist at the Sunshine School. He received the Above and Beyond Award for Fayetteville Public Schools given by the Fayetteville Chamber



of Commerce. Of his activities, he reports, "Well, Daddy and I went fishing after the big rain. 16 Crappie and 6 Bream. The mulberries produced a lot of fruit this year. Hopefully, the muscadine produces. No family yet. I have a wonderful partner: a 6 year old Doberman named Perseus."

**Derrick Hartberger** (BA 2013) married Emily Buckingham on March 26, 2015. He worked for the National Park Service last summer and is currently a full-time administrator in the Walton College of Business Dean's Office. He is also on the WCOB Staff Council and is a UA Staff Senator.

**Paul D. Haynie** (PhD 1988), professor of history at Harding University, was recently recognized for 25 years of service and, as its senior member, is "dean" of his department. Lately, he has attended the National Conference of Presidential Sites and Libraries at the Clinton Presidential Library, visited the tomb of Ponce de Leon in Puerto Rico and Mayan ruins on Cozumel Island, and published some reviews and some articles in the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*.

**Bill Horton** (BA 1997; JD 2001), an attorney with Nolan, Caddell & Reynolds in Rogers, was inducted into the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum, graduated from Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College, was one of NTLA's Top 100 Arkansas Attorneys, and was named a 2015 Super Lawyer. His spare time is filled with Razorback athletics, travel, reading biographies, and getting ready for his August 2015 wedding to Jenn Cairns in Barbados.

**Nathan Howard** (PhD 2005), associate professor of history at University of Tennessee-Martin, presented a paper at the UTM Spring Faculty Colloquium: "Sacred Spectacle in the Biographies of Gorgonia and Macrina." He will also be presenting it at the International Patristics Conference at Oxford (UK) in August 2015. He participated in a Late Antiquity regional workshop, "Religion in Late Antique Culture and Society," at Vanderbilt University last October, and has received funding to enlarge UTM library's Late Antiquity collection. He also just completed his eighth year as volunteer assistant coach of the university's cross country/track team.

**Chris Huggard** (MA 1987, PhD 1994

[University of New Mexico]), professor of history and Service Learning Coordinator at Northwest Arkansas Community College, writes, "I'm working diligently on a manuscript, *Pea Ridge: Civil War Battle, Collective Memory, and the Making of a National Park*, which is an environmental analysis of the battle, a history of the commemoration and efforts to get the national military park established, and a history of the management of Pea Ridge National Military Park. I also have given presentations on the topic recently at the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers and the Missouri Conference on History. I'm pleased to report that more than 300 NWACC students completed more than 7,000 hours of service learning in 2014-2015, highlighted by the Native American, Sustainability, Veterans, Syria, Haiti, and Interfaith Symposia projects among many others. NWACC's history faculty have grown to seven members, which makes for a very fruitful department. I'm currently serving on the Nominating Committee for the Mining History Association and as a referee for the Michael P. Malone prize for best essay biennially on the American West for the Western History Association. Tuppie,

the sweet beagle, survived a scare with her kidneys over the winter holidays but has recovered and is spunky again. Luna, the baby panther, is a dark as some of the characters in Pedraza's works." [Huggard's wife, Kay Pritchett, a professor in U of A's Department of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures has just completed her seventh book, *Dark Assemblages*, an examination of Pilar Pedraza's Gothic/Vampire works].

**Lyman A. Hussey** (MA 1964; PhD 1969 [University of Georgia]) is "semi-retired" but continues to teach undergraduate courses for the University of Phoenix and doctoral courses for Argosy University. He has been appointed to the board of trustees of the St. Petersburg [FL] Museum of History, home of the world's largest signed baseball collection and site of the world's first commercial airplane flight.

**Ben Johnson** (PhD 1991) is John G. Ragsdale, Jr. and Dora J. Ragsdale Professor of Arkansas Studies at Southern Arkansas University. In 2015-2016, he will be serving as SAU's interim provost and vice president of academic affairs, and hopes to get the Spudnut corporate brand all over campus (e.g., Spudnut Mulerider

FITZGERALD PhD



by AA Engeler



Ann Engeler (BA 1963)

Stadium, the Spudnut Institute for Carbohydrate Studies in the Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Recreation). Johnson was a University Honor Professor in 2014-2015 and served as vice chair of the State Review Board for Historic Preservation.

**Kimberly Marie Chenault Jones** (BA 2001; MAT 2008 [Marshall Univ.]) writes "[I'm] Enrollment Services Coordinator at Oregon Coast Community College. Note this is a promotion and I oversee admissions, registration, and financial aid. My hair is gray. My true profession is smart ass, but the pay is bad." Anyone who recalls Kimberly's stint on the History Department staff will surely find the "smart ass" part hard to believe. She lists her activities as "admissions, registration, financial aid. Admissions, registration, financial aid. Walk on beach. Parenting (is trying to keep boys, ages 9 and 10, from killing themselves or each other parenting?)." [The assistant editor believes that, yes, it qualifies as parenting. It also sometimes qualifies as crisis negotiating.] When asked to list her recent honors, awards, or offices she says there are "none, and now I feel like an underachiever." She still lives on the beautiful Oregon coast with her two children Liam (age 10 going on 20) and Eli (age 9) and her dog, Penny (3). Last year, the four traveled to Crater Lake and the Redwoods.

**Mildred Martin Jones** (BA 1963) lives in Holiday Island, AR, and is a homemaker.

**Scott Jones** (PhD 1998) teaches church history and directs the MA program at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in Hales Corner, WI.

**Nathaniel King** (BA 2013) is a master's candidate in East Carolina University's program in Maritime Studies. His research has allowed him to add some stamps in his passport: he conducted underwater archaeological surveys of HMS *Brunswick* (1805) and the Dutch East Indiaman *Bato* (1806) in Simon's Bay, South Africa, terrestrial archaeological survey of S.S. *Thomas T. Tucker* (1942) in Cape Point, South Africa, and underwater excavation of the *Pillar Dollar* wreck (ca. 1700s) near Key Largo, FL.. This fall, he will be conducting theses research at the Vasa Museum in Stockholm. He's also raking in the awards: Best Graduate Presentation at the Southeastern Regional

Seminar in African Studies, William Hamlin and Mary Quaife Tuttle Graduate Scholarship in European History, and the Richard C. Todd Phi Alpha Theta Scholarship. Plus, he was 2014 president of the Lambda-Eta Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta.

**Mark H. Lamberth** (BA 1971; MA 1974) of Batesville is president of Atlas Asphalt, Inc., elected chairman of the Association of Racing Commissioners International, and a member of the Arkansas Racing Commission.

**Kathy Lease** (BSE 1971 with a double major in English and history) is retired and lives in Texarkana, AR.

**Oscar Grady McDougald** (BA 1972) lives in Lexington, MS, and is a retired merchant and high school teacher. He enjoys hunting, fishing, gardening, writing, and travel.

**Collin Miller** (BA 1992), consultant in the oil and gas industry, is married with three kids, one age 19 and 9-year-old twins.

**James Paul Moore** (BA 1981; PhD 1992) is a retired psychologist and full-time jazz musician. As a member since 2013 of the longstanding Junkyard Jazz Band of Lawrence he was recently inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame. He handles jazz guitar and violin with the band, which plays a dinner dance every Thursday evening at the American Legion in Lawrence. His wife, Louella Moore, a professor of accounting at Washburn University in Topeka, is also active in the local music scene. Moore writes: "I always look back on my days in the Department of History with fond recollections. Those were some of the best times of my life. I suppose that one of the greatest gifts I received from my education in that grand old department is that professors like Tim Donovan, Gordon McNeil, and Evan Bukey taught me to think. I have been privileged to rekindle my friendship with Evan Bukey in recent years. As fellow cancer survivors, we enjoy sharing our journeys and bolstering each other with hope." Moore urges alums to "Keep Swinging!"

**Waddy W. Moore** (BSE 1953; MA 1955) is a retired history professor at the University of Central Arkansas. He says his activities have been limited since he fell and broke his hip in October 2014.

**Curtis Morris** (BA 1998) is Exhibits

Manager at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History in Springdale. He says he enjoys outdoor sports, water skiing, antique cars and firearms, working with Girl Scouts, and children's robotics competitions. Morris has two daughters and a Labrador retriever.

**John Howard Morris** (BA 1959; MA 1969) lives in Corpus Christi, TX. He has made a \$160,000 gift to the U of A to establish the John Howard Morris Piano Scholarship to aid music students.

**John G. "Chip" Mula** (MA 1969), a retired educator who lives in Edmond, OK, has been "keeping busy with the winter home in Galveston. Maureen, the wife of 47 years, is preparing to retire from Edmond Public Schools, and will make a happier man out of me with her great cooking when we are on the island."

**April Louise Brown Najjaj** (BA 1989; MA 1989; PhD 2005 [Boston Univ.]) is finishing up her second and last year teaching history at Gulf University for Science and Technology in Kuwait. "I have appreciated the opportunity to work abroad, but Kuwait has proven to be a challenging place for a foreign woman alone. I am currently on the job market and returning to the U.S. in early June. I will be spending some time this summer staying with family near Fort Smith and always have to come for a walk around campus whenever I can." She has been actively writing and publishing. She gave a paper entitled, "Water Management and the Alhambra: A Late Medieval Study" at a conference entitled, "Regadio, Sociedad, Territorio, Homenaje a Thomas F. Glick," in Valencia, Spain, September 25, 2014. The paper is being published in the forthcoming conference proceedings. Another paper, "Portrayals of Arabs in American Popular Fiction: A Case Study," presented at the al-Qurain Cultural Festival sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of Kuwait, January 18, 2015, has been published in the conference proceedings in both English and Arabic. A third, "Collective Memory and the Alhambra, Two Differing Perspectives," appeared in the spring 2015 issue of *The Levantine Review*.

**Lester Niblock** (BA 1981) has retired from the Marine Corps and is a consultant with CGI Federal. He writes, "Following my transition from the Marine Corps, I officially moved my residence from

Arkansas to Virginia – a bittersweet moment for me, I had to give up my Arkansas Driver's License. That said, I'm happy to report that my son, Walt, will graduate from Colonial Forge High School in June and will report for matriculation at the University of Arkansas this fall. Debbie and I look forward to returning to campus more frequently than we have in the past. Go Hogs!"

**David B. Offutt** (BA 1970), retired high school history teacher/adult education teacher, lives in El Dorado, AR, in the house he inherited from his father. He still has the same phone number he was born with. He enjoys camping trips and driving around the country in his 1994 Nissan pickup. He keeps his hand in history and current events by writing a monthly blog on his website: davidoffutt.wordpress.com.

**Krista Oldham** (BA 2005; MA 2012) has earned an MA in Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee and is college archivist and records manager at Haverford College in Pennsylvania. She is active in the Society of American Archivists and is community representative for Pennsylvania in the Digital Public Library of America.

**Carolyn Blanks Park** (AB 1953; MA 1955) returned to Fayetteville after the death of her husband, James M. Park (BA 1953), in 2011, to be near family members. "My, how NW Arkansas has changed!" she writes.

**Todd J. Pfannestiel** (BA 1988; PhD 2001 [William & Mary College]) is dean of the College of Arts, Education & Sciences at Clarion University in Pennsylvania. He says, "While directing a college keeps me rather busy, I still find time to keep up with all of my favorite sports teams, pretend to play golf, explore America for the latest microbrews, and read my Dr. Elliott West library." He serves on the Pennsylvania Humanities Council's board of directors and Phi Alpha Theta's National Council. He got married in November 2013, and his wife just earned her PhD in Healthcare Ethics from Duquesne University. "Not a day goes by that I don't think of my days in the History Dept. at the U of A. And I still use a typewriter a la Dr. Timothy Donovan and Dr. David Edwards!" [It's true—his information form was neat but very obviously typewritten.]

**Jessica Rogers** (BA 2006) moved in

March 2015 to Conakry, Guinea, to begin a new position with the Peace Corps as the Director of Management and Operations for their country office.

**Bethany Henry Rosenbaum** (MA 2014) is a doctoral student in history at the U of A, where she recently won an SREB Doctoral Fellowship. She was married in October 2014, and she and her husband enjoy riding bikes and jogging on the new Razorback Greenway. This summer she heads to Haiti on a mission trip.

**Frances Mitchell Ross** (BA 1961; MA 1963) taught in the U of A history department in 1962-63 and then at Little Rock University (later UALR). She retired in 2013. Her oldest two grandchildren, both young women, will be attending the U of A in the fall of 2015—one as a sophomore, one as a freshman. They are not declared history majors yet. Ross is general editor of *United States District Courts and Judges of Arkansas, 1836-1960*, a collection of judicial biographies by several authors that will be published by the U of A Press in the spring of 2016.

**Cody Salley** (BA 2013) has the coolest job ever—ski patrol, Beaver Creek, Colorado.

**Joel Scott** (BA 2009) is assistant manager of the Walmart Neighborhood Market in Springdale. He enjoys reading, learning Spanish, and playing with his daughter, Lillian, who is 3.

**John R. Scott** (BA 1973; JD 1977), Circuit Judge, 19th West Judicial Circuit, Division IV, was honored by the Arkansas Bar Association this year with its Outstanding Jurist Award. The Outstanding Jurist Award is given periodically to honor an active federal or state judge who exhibits exceptional competency, efficiency, and exemplary service to the administration of justice. The award praised Scott as "firm but fair, holding even the newest members of the Bar to the same high standards as other practitioners in his courtroom. Judge Scott is a formidable jurist, and his attention to detail, his sense of duty, and his considerable thoughtfulness are indeed traits of a truly honorable judge and attorney." Scott is a member of the Arkansas Bar Association, member and past president of the Benton County Bar Association, member and past president of the Rogers Kiwanis Club, and previously served as chairman and member of the

Rogers Airport Commission. He is active in the William B. Putman Inn of Court and was its president in 2006. Judge Scott has served on the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Judicial Council and currently sits on the Arkansas Supreme Court Child Support Committee. He and his wife, Representative Sue Scott, have four children and six grandchildren. They are active in St. Theodore's Episcopal Church and many community activities.

**Donna J. Smith** (BS 1976), a director of marketing and communications in Houston, says she's surviving another downturn in the oil patch. Her daughter is finishing her junior year in high school.

**Theodore Somach** (BA 2011) is owner and primary shareholder of TWS Holdings, LLC (twsholdingsllc.com) and Entertainment Distribution Group, Inc. He is currently living in Limassol, Cyprus and has large-scale operations in New Rochelle, NY, Philadelphia, PA, and five locations internationally.

**Geoffrey Stark** (MA 2004; ABD) is reading room supervisor at U of A Library's Special Collections. He reports that he has discovered original correspondence of Bram Stoker at the U of A and also materials related to Heinrich Krueger, a Nazi criminal and one-time U of A student. Stark has proven a treasure to researchers using Special Collections. He was acknowledged in Dr. Adam Laats's *The Other School Reformers: Conservative Activism in American Education* (Harvard University Press, 2015), Abby Burnett's *Gone to the Grave: Burial Customs of the Arkansas Ozarks, 1850-1950* (University Press of Mississippi, 2014), and Charles Witsell's *Architects of Little Rock* (University of Arkansas Press, 2014). He is a Golden Key member.

**Chris Stevens** (BA 2006) is a full-time doctoral student at McMaster Divinity College and associate pastor at Covenant Reformed Church in Toronto. He and his wife, Megan, are enjoying raising their new son Phineas Alexander Stevens (b. June 2014). Some of Chris's work has been and is being published in assorted books, dictionaries, and journals. He has also received academic scholarships and awards.

**Scott Tarnowieckyi** (PhD 2009), associate professor of history at Weatherford College in Weatherford, TX, writes, "Last spring I was elected to



chair our Social Sciences Department (12 full-time faculty members and over 20 part-time and dual-credit spread out over four campuses, multiple high schools, and five counties). It is like herding cats. The time commitment to do that required me to step down as chair of the college's Curriculum and Academic Standards committee and sponsorship of the local Phi Theta Kappa chapter. I am also a key developer and coordinator for a pilot block scheduling program for students that we are beginning in the fall known. I have a chapter in a collection titled *Border Wars* (Kent State University Press) that is currently scheduled to come out in November and an article, "Branded by the Lincolns as Guerillas": Adam Rankin Johnson, Guerilla Identity, and Irregular Warfare in the Lower Green River Valley," in the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*. It will appear either later this year or early next in a special issue devoted to the history of Henderson County, KY. Besides being elected chair of the department, I was nominated for and received the NISOD Excellence Award. I am still not too sure what it is, but it is always nice to be appreciated. My wife, Mimi, and I bought a house on the outskirts of Fort Worth, we adopted a third cat in October (Freya adopted us, actually), and we are expecting our first child (a little girl named Ella Rose Tarnowiecki) in August. I miss the hills and trees of the Ozarks, the lovely community of Fayetteville, Old Main, and attending Razorback football games in the fall."

**C. James Taylor** (MA 1969) is Editor-in-Chief of *The Adams Papers* project at the Massachusetts Historical Society but will retire from full-time status this year. He will continue to work on a project with the Adams Papers staff to complete a digital edition of John Quincy Adams' diary. His most recent publications are *A Traveled First Lady* (Harvard University Press, 2014), *Papers of John Adams*, vol. 17 (Harvard University Press, 2014); and *Adams Family Correspondence*, vol. 12 (Harvard University Press, 2015).

**Tommy R. Thompson** (MA 1965; PhD 1973 [Univ. of Maryland]), professor *emeritus* at University of Nebraska-Omaha, enjoys spending his time traveling and working in the garden. He recommends C. J. Sansom, a

British historical novelist who wrote the *Shardlake* series (Henry VIII's reign). He also likes Bill Bryson, an American writer.

**Scott Tucker** (BA 1984) is an attorney in Little Rock who says he has nothing new to report.

**John Unger** (BA 2003) is dean of students, athletic director, and boys' basketball coach at Decatur High School in Decatur, AR. The senior boys' basketball team recently won the 2015 district championship—their third straight district title. Unger is currently working on his principal and superintendent certification. He has a new daughter, Lena Joan, born November 2014.

**Jerry Vervack** (MA 1977; PhD 1990) is dean at Northwest Arkansas Community College.

**Dennis M. Wagemann** (BA 2003) lives in Bentonville and works in transportation/logistics. We suspect he still roots for the Cubs.

**Mary Floyd Ward** (BA 2005; MAT 2006) graduated in May 2015 with a JD from UALR William H. Bowen School of Law. Her note, "Arkansas's Human Trafficking Laws: Steps in the Right Direction or a False Sense of Accomplishment?" was published in the fall 2014 issue of the *University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law Review*.

**Elizabeth Salisbury Warren** (BA 1994) is a healthcare attorney in Nashville, Tennessee. She writes, "My husband and I have two wonderful boys (ages 11 and 9) who love to read, so still working on their budding love of history. I have discovered an elementary school-level history magazine called *Cobblestone* that they enjoy reading (I enjoy it, too) and sharing with their social studies teachers when they are done." She thinks too many of her old History professors have retired. We think so, too.

**A. Scott White** (BA 1985; MBA 1986) is a financial planner in Ft. Myers, FL, and lists his leisure-time activities as fishing, beaching, and sitting by the pool. He was named to the 2015 Raymond James Financial Services Executive Council. The annual award is presented to financial advisors who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to clients through personal service and professional integrity. His son, Jonathan White, graduated Ft. Myers High School

International Baccalaureate on May 30, 2015 and will attend the U of A in fall 2015.

**Charles G. Williams** (MA 1969) of Denton, TX, retired from college teaching last December, shortly after his 75th birthday. His wife, Dr. Stacey Williams, teaches at the University of North Texas, as does his daughter, Courtney Welch, who has a PhD in history. He lists his activities as "watching my grandchildren growing up to be Americans of worth to themselves and the world."

## Deaths

**Jane Richart Brown**, the widow of Dr. Walter L. Brown, died in Fayetteville on May 23, 2015, at the age of 88. She attended Mary Washington College and Texas State College for Women and then went to work for the Pampa (TX) School District. She married Walter Brown in 1950. Four years later, the couple moved to Fayetteville, where they raised two sons, Michael and Phillip. Mrs. Brown enjoyed gardening and photography, raised and trained collies, and was a fixture in the front rows at Razorback basketball games. She was also a seventy-year member of Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO). Jane Brown is survived by her sons and seven grandchildren.

**Kay Trumbo Havens** (BA 1956, MA 1963) died in Fayetteville on April 30, 2015. Born in Norman, OK, on March 3, 1934, she dazzled the U of A, where she would earn high honors in History, win election to Phi Beta Kappa, and be rated a Razorback Beauty. She also served as president of Pi Beta Phi Sorority. Kay taught at Leverett Elementary and Woodland Junior High in Fayetteville, before returning to the U of A in 1984 as assistant to the dean of the College of Business. In 1988, she became Director of Special Events, responsible for coordinating commencement ceremonies and board of trustees meetings, among other things. Kay retired in 2000, but remained a principal in Fayetteville's most subtly influential circle of citizens, the Modern Literature Club.

**Adam Kreuter** (BA 1936), for many years the *Newsletter's* oldest reporting alumnus, died on August 1, 2014, the day after his 99th birthday. Kreuter was born

in Park Ridge, IL. After earning a BA at the U of A and a law degree from the Kent School of Law in Chicago, he worked as an attorney in family law in Cedar Rapids, IA. He and his wife, Jane, whom he married in 1943, retired to Sturgeon Bay, WI, in 1980. Adam Kreuter is survived by a son, a daughter, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

**James A. Wooten** (MA 1950) died in Shreveport on June 12, 2014. Born in Ione, AR, on January 25, 1925, Wooten served in the Marines during World War Two. He became a special agent for the FBI and participated in the investigations of John F. Kennedy's assassination and the murders of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner in Mississippi during "Freedom Summer." ■

## Hot Off the Press

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

"The Age of the Sporting, Soaplocks, and Separate Spheres" by Mitchell Lohr.

"The One Bright Spot Where All Else is Dark and Hopeless: Images of Class, Race, and Culture in Britain's Imperial Education System During the Nineteenth Century," by Jeff Grooms.

"Reagan, Thatcher, and the Diplomacy of SDI," by Tim Anglea.

"Performing Piety, Commerce, and Community in the Medieval Italian Town," by John D. Treat.

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

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# The History NEWSLETTER



**Patrick Williams**  
Editor

We would like to thank  
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**Melinda Adams**  
Assistant Editor

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