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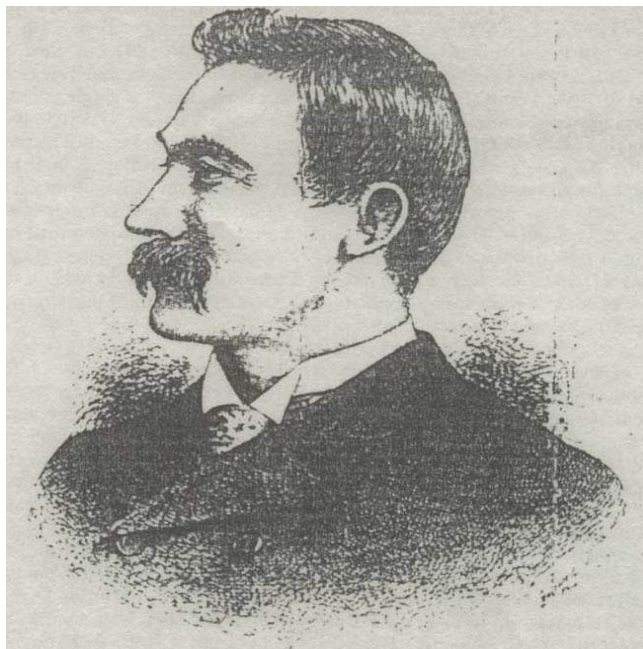
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HISTORY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. XXXV, 2006-2007



Michael C. Pierce

WE LIKE MIKE

We're not sure if the Department has made an honest man of Michael Pierce or he's made honest men and women of us. But Dr. Pierce, after some years of toiling in our vineyard, will fetch his Savile Row suits out of mothballs and take off down the tenure track. He fills the Department's new position in U.S. labor history.

Since early in the century, Dr. Pierce has been our utility infielder, teaching sections of Arkansas history both for history students and education majors, and the U.S. history survey. He has more recently revived the essential but long-dormant "America between the Wars, 1917-1941." Pierce has likewise been a stalwart since 2001 in the production of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, being the chief reason that journal is not the same sort of disgrace that *History Newsletter* has become. He also served as associate director of the Arkansas Center for Oral and Visual History between 2001 and 2003.

Pierce has clearly proved his met-

tle, but also came to us very well fitted to teach labor history. Pierce earned his Ph.D. at the Ohio State University in 1999, having written a dissertation on industrial labor and American Populism. That work has developed into a meaty manuscript, "The Plow and Hammer: Organized Labor, Farmers, and the Populist Party in Ohio," currently under consideration by a major scholarly press. He has published essays in *Labor History* and *Agricultural History*, and in *History of Law in Ohio* (2004), edited by Michael Les

Benedict and John Winkler. Pierce co-edited, with Warren Van Tine, *Builders of Ohio: A Biographical History* (2003), and co-authored, with Van Tine, C.J. Slanicka, and Sandra Jordan, *In the Workers' Interest: A History of the Ohio A.F.L.-C.I.O., 1958-1998* (1998). Have we mentioned he's from the Buckeye State?

These labors have earned Dr. Pierce an enviable reputation in the field (as well as in the foundry.) Last summer, the tony St. George Tucker Society invited him to talk to them about Tom Watson and organized labor. His essay on the subject, "The Socialist Have Opened Fire on Us': Tom Watson's Fight against Trade Unionists in the Populist Party," will appear in the forthcoming volume, *The Strange Career of Tom Watson: C. Vann Woodward and His Agrarian Rebel*, edited by David Moltke-Hansen and Sheldon Hackney. Pierce has also served as our man in Bolivia, dispatched there last spring by the U.S. Department of State's Office of Public Diplomacy to lecture on American populist and labor movements. In the course of his visit, Pierce, all aflush with visions of the cooperative commonwealth, managed to persuade President Evo Morales to nationalize Bolivia's natural gas industry. Understandably miffed, the State Department has

since forgiven Dr. Pierce and promises to send him to the Ivory Coast just as soon as it can.

With the expertise he has developed in Arkansas history, Mike Pierce seems poised to finally make good on David Y. Thomas's call in the very first issue of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (1942) for "research in the history of labor" in the state. He has already embarked on a fascinating project centered on Fort Smith. But even more than that, colleagues look forward to Dr. Pierce and Tricia Starks doing the Sonny and Cher thing at department meetings. "Babe....."

THE NEW TEAM

Dan Sutherland has an elaborate baseball analogy for what's going on in the History Department. It measures various aspects of our professional lives to the third decimal point, arriving ultimately at such statistics as Esoteric Research Aptitude (ERA). Henry Tsai has raised his own lofty metaphors upon Sutherland's foundation, based upon the intrinsic similarities of British historians and Japanese pitchers. A lot of this has gone right over the steroid-beclouded head of the newsletter editor. But we do know that, as several of our Hall of Famers head toward the locker room (and as David Chappell departs to take the George Steinbrenner chair of American history at the University of Oklahoma), we have snagged some of academe's most promising rookies. While our team will look a lot different than the one many alumni knew, we can expect it to perform at the same championship level.

Through the good offices of the African-American Studies Program and the hard work of Dr. Charles Robinson, the Department has been able to hire a full-time historian of sub-Saharan Africa. Presented with a field of exceptional candidates, we selected Andrea Arrington for the posting. She will finish her PhD this spring at Emory Uni-

versity, having completed a dissertation entitled "Turning Water into Gold: Power, Culture, and Colonial Development around Victoria Falls, Zambia 1880-1930." Arrington comes to the University of Arkansas laden with honors and experience. She has taught at Emory, Clark Atlanta University, Reinhardt College, and Georgia State University, and currently holds both a Mellon Teaching Fellowship and a Fulbright Research Fellowship. We don't know if she has as many pith helmets as Joel Gordon has fezzes, but her research has taken her to Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, a number of West African nations, and England. She speaks both Shona and Tonga, so has no problem hailing cabs in New York City.

Department members are still chuckling over our good fortune in being able to recruit Calvin White before New York or Boston teams did. White earned a doctorate this spring at the University of Mississippi but has already won considerable recognition for his pioneering work on the Church of God in Christ, a large and influential, but woefully understudied, Pentecostal denomination. His dissertation, "They Danced and Shouted into Obscurity: A History of the Church of God in Christ and its International Impact upon People of African Descent," addresses "the extent to which class, respectability, and efforts of racial uplift intersected in the development of African Americans' religious traditions and racial identity after emancipation." A native of Arkansas, White earned his BA and MA at the University of Central Arkansas, and has taught at UCA, Ol' Miss, and Pulaski Technical College, where he won teaching awards both from the college and the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges. In 2005, White held a prestigious fellowship from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

Benjamin Grob-Fitzgibbon will teach modern Britain and its empire with the same Irish lilt as his predecessor, Tom Kennedy. Certain broke-down Department members have been hoping that Grob-Fitzgibbon was simply deceptively youthful in appearance, in the manner of David Sloan. Instead, he turns out to be a dismayingly accomplished young man. An undergraduate thesis he completed at Ithaca College was published in 2004 as *The Irish Experience during the Second World War: An Oral History*. This spring, a distinguished house, Pal-

grave-Macmillan, will bring out *Turning Points of the Irish Revolution: The British Government, Intelligence, and the Cost of Indifference, 1912-1921*, based on the dissertation Grob-Fitzgibbon completed at Duke last year. He has also published essays on intelligence and terrorism in assorted journals and collections. Over the past year, Dr. Grob-Fitzgibbon has been a visiting assistant professor at Duke and has also taught at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Each of our rookies will get the full back-of-the-baseball-card treatment in next year's *History Newsletter*. In the meantime, play ball!

36TH ANNUAL AWARDS AND INITIATION BANQUET

Given our sharp tongues and flirtatious ways, it was altogether appropriate that the Department assembled at Fayetteville's Tart House on May 4, 2006 for the 36th annual Phi Alpha Theta banquet. Yet faculty and friends were in a gentle (if exuberant) mood as we celebrated History's best students and gave David Sloan an affectionate heave-ho.

Though Alpha chapter president Col. Derek Everett used the occasion to blatantly electioneer for a second term, Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisors Beth Schweiger and Kathy Sloan managed nevertheless to initiate the following accomplished students into the order: Clark A. Donat, Valerie Farris, Michael D. Hammond, Suzanna Hicks, Aaron Moulton, Zachary N. Pharr, Zachary Wagner, and Heather Whelan.

David Sloan, the lame-duck chair of the Graduate Studies Committee and his worthy successor, Richard Sonn, presented the following awards to graduate students: *Gordon McNeil Award for best graduate paper*: Brandon Marshall; *George Billingsley Award for the best paper on a Middle Eastern or Asian topic*: Ross Brown; *James J. Hudson Award for Military History*: Ben Hash; *Mary Hudgins Research Grant in Arkansas History*: Brent Riffel; *Franklin County Fellowship*: Brent Riffel; *Gordon McNeil Award for an outstanding student in European history*: Natalie Hall; *David W. Edwards Scholarship for outstanding undergraduate study of history*: David Prater, Lonnie Strange; *Walter Lee Brown Scholarship for outstanding research in American history*: Bethany Larson; *Georgia Victoria Gwynllian Saunders Award for the outstanding senior majoring in history who is also a veteran*: Robin Henry; *Alpha Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta Award for an outstanding undergraduate paper*: Cody Hackett, Lael Simons; *Sidney Moncrief Scholarship for outstanding work in African American history*: Kathryn Allen;

Oscar Fendler Award for the best paper on an Arkansas or Southern history topic: Jessica Rogers; *George W. Ray Memorial Award for the study of western civilization*: Anna Pfeifler; *Robert E. Reeser Award for Classical Studies*: Kris Paul McNeely; *J. Margaret Roberts Award awarded to an outstanding senior history major*: Andrew Williams.

The following senior history majors received Certificates of Academic Excellence for maintaining stratospheric grade point averages: Kathryn Allen, Laura Beall, Melanie Cawthorn, Clark Donat, Valerie Farris, Haley Grogan, Cody Hackett, Lana Hass, Douglas Herbert, Aric Kirk, Jennifer Koenig, Sophia Lafferty-Hess, Adam Lentz, Constance Mash, Kris McNeely, Tristan Myers, David Powell, David Prater, Jessica Rogers, Grantland Rollins, Sarah Rowley, Virginia Thompson, William Watson, Heather Whelan, Carolyn Wise, Robert Wubbena.

Joining the fun was Phi Alpha Theta's distinguished lecturer for 2006, Dr. Pete Sigal of Duke University. Sigal, the author from *From Moon Goddesses to Virgins: The Colonization of Yucatecan Maya Sexual Desire* (2000) and editor of *Infamous Desire: Male Homosexuality in Colonial Latin America* (2003), had delivered an address earlier in the day titled "Tezcatlipoca: A Queer Aztec God?" Hipsters thought it was swell, while positivist troglodytes were just as impressed by Professor Sigal's shoes, which Tom Wolfe, some forty years ago, would have described as being of the "winkle-picker genre."

Of all the things there were to celebrate that evening, the assembled throng proved most intent on celebrating David Sloan upon his retirement. Spontaneous cheering and toasts erupted throughout the proceedings, at one point driving Sloan to take shelter under his table. Lynda Coon read a tribute from erstwhile colleague Michael O'Brien (it is reproduced below), while Tom Kennedy was moved to yet another poetical outburst. It follows:

David, Retiring

Let us now speak of our man Sloan
And recount the ways he stands alone
Among the professors who have passed
this way.
Some stayed way too long, some refused
to stay
But from this pack our man emerges
So we're driven on by dynamic surges

To speak of experiences that may surprise or delight
As a few of these wonders we bring to the light.

We know our Southern neighbors wish to come over
To work in our fair land of wealth and green clover
But few of you would have occasion to know
Once our man was turned back from Mexico.
It was a hot summer day close by South Padre
When he was summarily turned away
And the man at the border said loud and clear:
“Hey hippie ‘Gringo’ you can’t come in here.”
Why he was rejected of course we can’t know.
Possibly revenge for the Alamo?

Another part of his past of which few are aware,
With his calm demeanor and *savoir faire*,
There was a time our hero would rather eat glass
Than have to appear before any class.
Not because he wasn’t fully prepared
But only because he was so damned scared
He might not be able to answer some question
Or might overhear an impertinent suggestion:
“Hey, kid why’d your mama put you up there.”
Or “You might want to think about cutting your hair.”
So while others got ready by mugging and preening
They would turn to see David rapidly greening.
And let me tell you the times were a bunch
When he involuntarily gave up his lunch

And then there’s the saga of Sonny and Gunner
That all took place one week in the summer.
My wife and children being briefly away,
David stayed over at my house to play.
We spent every morning stamping out ignorance
And afternoons performing a sweet summer dance.
A table at George’s, a turn at softball
He was Sonny; I was Gunner; ah, we had

it all.
There was one special night when we’d won a ball game
We stopped for refreshment at place I won’t name.
And after we had eaten and drunk to our fill
We saw that the night was very young still
For two loose cannons like Sonny and Gunner
Who surely could find someplace that was funner.
We did just that and there found some friends.
Without bothering to bore you with all the loose ends
When we finally neared home and the sun was just rising,
We observed coming towards us a figure surprising.
The venerable professor on his constitutional walk
Who o’watched neighborhood morals like a fierce chicken hawk.
If he saw us arriving at this time in the morn,
Our characters, at least, would be objects of scorn.
Sonny, that’s David, thought fast in his seat
He whipped into the driveway and just kept on going
Passed big house and dog house, sure there’s no way of knowing
How far he’d have traveled if we hadn’t been stopped
By a stout stone wall by vegetation o’topped.
And as we sat laughing neath the fast rising sun
We knew the era of Sonny and Gunner was done.
It was a great world for that little while
And we’ll always look back at it with a smile.
So, it’s been lots of laughs and even some tears
But altogether its been a fine thirty-nine years.
And if we’re all back after thirty-nine more
Our David will still look like he’s just thirty-four.

O’BRIEN ON SLOAN

News reaches me that Sloan is retiring. I cannot see why, other than that he is pretty old, probably exhausted, somewhat deaf, and possibly bored. I presume that these considerations have finally outweighed the grim necessities arising from a life of some emotional irregularity. Nonetheless it is my impression—not knowing precisely how bored or exhausted he may be, it can only be an impression—that his going will be a loss to

the Department of History. For me, it will be a gain. Already he has proposed a golfing expedition for us to Scotland, although I am unsure whether he has realized that a links course is not designed for his temperament. He likes (or used to like) a day out enlivened by the occasional tantrum, evidenced by a club thrown into a pond, a club wrapped round a tree. But Scottish links courses do not have ponds or trees. So I do not know how we will get on.

I knew David most intimately when I worked in the History Department in the 1980s. I do not know about now, but then the History Department was a world inhabited by a very, very odd collection of people—for an account of how odd, you will need to wait for the chapter in my memoirs provisionally entitled “The Acrobat, Danny Boy, and the Strange Affair of the Florence Williams Banquet.” Almost none of these people came from Arkansas. Indeed only some of them ever acknowledged that they *were* in Arkansas. Fayetteville served as a sort of refugee camp, for those who had accidentally drifted from Ohio, Chicago, Cornwall, and California. Among the refugees, David had his own corner on oddness. He came from a canyon, it was said, even by him. He had, as a child—it was further said—gone off to join the circus, was nearly in television, had once a deep interest in sororities, and was a brilliant teacher, only sometimes incapacitated by trepidation. Of everyone around in the Department—that strange miscellany of ambitious and resentful assistant professors, melancholy and resentful associate professors, and self-absorbed and resentful full professors which made the little world—David had the widest curiosity, the greatest intensity, the most competitive instincts, the gloomiest apprehensions, the sharpest wit, and the finest critical mind. In my now regrettably long experience, I can think of few others who combine certainty and doubt in such a wild and creative profusion. At least, few outside of an asylum or South Carolina.

I was pleased then to be thought worthy of his friendship and still am. So I send him my most affectionate greetings and would like to express the hope, even the expectation, that retirement will lessen neither his certainty nor his doubt.

Michael O’ Brien

May 2006

LBJ GETS THE WOODS

TREATMENT

Randall Woods' biography of Lyndon Johnson, *LBJ: Architect of American Ambition*, released last summer by Free Press, has been eagerly awaited by just about everybody who's not a knucklehead. They knew Woods would bring to the project all the skill and perception he's exhibited in a lifetime of studying American politics and foreign relations--virtues manifested in important work on Cold War diplomacy and Vietnam, as well as in the definitive biography of Johnson antagonist, J. William Fulbright. But they ought also to have known (the man's a Taylor Duck after all) that the Woods' treatment would be informed by the intuition, empathy, and intimate knowledge that comes from growing up in Johnson country—that high-speed collision of landscapes and cultures we call Central Texas (or, more precisely, the 10th district). Even Yankee reviewers have noted now these roots give Woods a distinct advantage over Johnson's Yankee biographers. Alan Brinkley has praised his “particularly good understanding of the nexus of race, class, family and religion that shaped Johnson's life.”

In addition to being produced by a scholar and Texan of the first magnitude, *LBJ: Architect of American Ambition* also benefits by being the first Johnson biography to be published since the release of his presidential tapes. The result has been widely lauded by reviewers. The *Washington Post* listed *LBJ* among the best books of 2006, terming it “masterful.” The *New York Times* called it an “excellent biography that fully deserves a place alongside the best of the Johnson studies yet to appear.” Woods enjoys the ribald LBJ anecdote as much as the next guy (ask him, for instance, about the one involving secretary of agriculture Orville Freeman). But he moves far beyond the crudities and caricatures to understand a man he calls “unbelievably intelligent,” and possessed of an idealism of the Social Gospel variety, which drove both the passage of enduring civil rights and Great Society legislation but also the disastrous deepening of U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

LBJ: Architect of American Ambition will be published in paperback this autumn. We are hoping that it might also appear as an audio book narrated by Woods' wife, Rhoda, who has just about the best laugh in the world.

REQUIRED READING

Ask Bill Tucker. Everybody knows that. If you're going to Parkersburg and need to know a good place to eat, ask Bill. If you're going to Portales and need to know where to buy a good book, ask Bill. And if you're planning on making a major commitment of your nation's troops and treasure in the Middle East and need to know what you're getting into, you'd better ask Bill, too. Policymakers did not have the opportunity in 2002-2003 to go to the bookstore or library and snag a copy of Tucker's *Mahdis and Millenarians: Shi'ite Extremists in Early Muslim Iraq*, which is only now forthcoming from one of the world's most prestigious publishers, Cambridge University Press. But, given Tucker's lifetime of study of the Islamic Middle East, including Iraq and Iran, and his comprehensive knowledge of the scholarship of the region (which seems to reside there at the tip of his tongue), they really ought to have thought to ask Bill first.

And ask Joel while you're at it. Associate Professor Joel Gordon has recently published a much needed scholarly biography of that central figure of Arab nationalism Gamel Abd al-Nasser, who led Egypt between 1952 and 1970. *Nasser: Hero of the Arab Nation* (Oneworld Publications, 2006) displays both Gordon's comprehensive knowledge of Nasserite politics and his intimate acquaintance with Egyptian popular culture in plumbing the complexities of the man, the regime, and the legacy. Gordon writes, “A giant of post-colonial history, a leader who embodied the popular will of his people, the Arabs and others struggling for self-determination, nonetheless he remained an autocrat, surrounded by corrupt and corruptible agents of state repression.” Part of a series, “Makers of the Muslim World,” *Nasser* can be ordered at: www.oneworldpublications.com.

FRESH PHDS

The Department of History practically gave away doctorates in 2005, and you might well be hearing—off there in the distance—the steady tramp of whole platoons of candidates marching toward their defenses later this year. In 2006, however only one of our students earned History's highest degree, but it was a long-awaited and well-deserved one.

April L. Brown is a professional photographer and can frequently be spotted enjoying the very best vantage points at local sporting events. However odd it might seem,

she has nevertheless persisted in her dedication to the historian's craft. Brown earned a BA in history at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. She has worked the Latin American desk since arriving in Fayetteville, completing a master's thesis entitled “The Elusive Ideology: Peronism and U.S. Relations with Argentina, 1945-1952,” under the direction of Randall Woods. In the course of her dissertation research, she taught both halves of the U.S. history survey here at the U of A, presented papers at meetings of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and the Southern Historical Association, as well as in Cuba, and contributed to *Arkansas Biography: A Collection of Notable Lives* (2000). Her dissertation, “Between Nationalism and Hegemony: The United States and the Cuban Revolution,” was directed by Randall Woods. Dr. Brown now serves on the faculty at Northwest Arkansas Community College, where she teaches U.S. history, western civilization, and the history of the American frontier.

Over the past year, recent and future occupants of this column have written that they've found work. Getting a bit ahead of herself, doctoral candidate **Aneliya Barnes** has secured a tenure-track position in ancient history at Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina. Two other PhD candidates, **Derrick McKisick** and **Farid al-Salim**, have been visiting assistant professors of history at California University of Pennsylvania and Kansas State respectively. **Dr. Clea Bunch** (2004) now works as assistant professor of history at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock. After visiting at Wake Forest, **Dr. Nathan Howard** (2005) accepted a tenure track appointment at the University of Tennessee-Martin and has won a NEH Summer Institute fellowship for 2007. **Dr. Annette Morrow** (2005) has won that same fellowship for study of Roman religion at the American Academy in Rome.

DEPARTMENT HOSTS CONFERENCE, SPEAKERS

Trish Starks often impresses people as the Judy Garland “let's-put-on-a-show-in-the-barn” sort. But it required more than simply spunk to produce and stage manage the Twenty-Eighth Annual Mid-

America Conference on History in Fayetteville last September. Indeed, as with a Busby Berkeley number, the conference's elaborate choreography could probably be fully appreciated only from the air. The conference routinely draws scholars from colleges and universities in Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, but Starks put on a show that brought participants from as far away as Ohio State, Clemson, the University of Illinois, Chicago, the University of Georgia, and Carleton University in Canada. Stretching across three days, the conference featured panels that spanned late antiquity to the present day, environmental history to the Civil War. Speakers included Joel Marcus of Duke Divinity School ("The Crucifixion as Parodic Exultation"), Tyler Anbinder of George Washington University ("Which Poor Man's Fight?: A New Look at the Union Draft during the Civil War"), and Amilcar Shabazz of Oklahoma State ("The History, Structure, and Influence of the Black Struggle for Reparations"). Department members pitched in to preside over panels and comment on papers, quite a number of which were presented by our own graduate students and alumni.

The annual Timothy Donovan lecture series again highlighted fresh faces and new ideas in our field. On October 3, John Giggie, assistant professor of history and director of American studies at the University of Texas, San Antonio, gave an intriguing talk on the postbellum spread of the consumer economy to rural freed people, focusing on the role black ministers played as intermediaries between northern white manufacturers and their congregations. Giggie is the author of *After Redemption: Jim Crow and the Transformation of African American Religion in the Delta* (2007) and co-editor of *Faith in the Market: Religion and the Rise of Urban Commercial Culture* (2002) and *Race, Markets, and the Commodification of American Identities* (2007).

Later in the autumn, Phi Alpha Theta sponsored a talk by Calvin White, Holloway Dissertation Fellow at the University of Mississippi, titled "In the Beginning There Stood Two: The Formation of the Church of God in Christ and African American Religious Identity in the South." As indicated elsewhere in this newsletter, the Department is mighty pleased that this will not be the last we see of Professor White. He joins the faculty this fall.

SPLENDID SENIORS

The History motor fleet now sports bumper stickers reading "Our department's honors students can beat up your department's honors students." While our best and brightest are, in fact, too uniformly decent and well-behaved to ever make good on the threats we issue in their name, they nevertheless rate among the campus's fittest.

Among other things, more of our students completed honors theses in 2006 than in any year since 1999. They were: Kathryn Allen, "Comparing Federal Responses to Hurricane Katrina and the Mississippi Flood in 1927" (director: Bob McMath); Jason Connolly, "The Logistics of the Roman Army in Ancient Germany" (director: Donald Engels); Valerie Farris, "After the Storm: Race Relations in Phillips County, Arkansas, after 1919" (director: Jeannie Whayne); Sophia Lafferty-Hess, "Birth Control in Mid-Twentieth Century America" (director: David Chappell); Adam Lentz, "Contortions of Virtue: The Ideological Basis for John Hargrave's Formation of the Kibbo Kift Kindred in Interwar Britain" (director: Thomas Kennedy); Tristan Myers, "American Governance of the Philippine Non-Christians, 1898-1917" (director: S. Henry Tsai); Jessica Rogers, "Black Chiefs, White Collars, and Greyfriars: French Missionaries among the Quapaws at Arkansas Post, 1673-1763" (director: Jeannie Whayne); Sarah Rowley, "Courtesy, Culture, Courage: Women's Literary Clubs in Late 19th and Early 20th-Century Arkansas" (director: Charles Robinson); and Lindley Shedd, "Effigene Locke Wingo: Arkansas's Second Congresswoman, 1930-1933" (director: Patrick Williams).

The following history majors were elected to Phi Beta Kappa by the Alpha Arkansas chapter: Valerie Farris, Sophia Lafferty-Hess, Adam Lentz, Jessica Rogers, Sarah Rowley, Virginia Thompson, and Carolyn Wise.

OZARK HISTORICAL REVIEW

The thirty-fifth volume of the *Ozark Historical Review* appeared in spring 2006. As always, it featured the best in research and writing by U of A history students but also sported a stylish new look crafted by editor Beth B. Schweiger with the assistance of Michael Pierce. Articles include: "Arkansas Atlantis; or Napoleon, Arkansas, and

Changes in the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers," by Michael D. Hammond; "The Proximity of Moral Ire: The 1919 Double Lynching of George Bolden," by Thomas Aiello; "Creating the Natural State: Outsiders, Insiders and the Buffalo National River," by Jason Pierce; "'Ho! For California!': Fort Smith, Van Buren, and the Rush To the Gold Fields," by Matthew M. Stith. Though the editorial work was done almost entirely by Dr. Schweiger, faculty board members Robert Finlay and Patrick Williams nevertheless had occasion to murmur sweet nothings at one another. Published annually in Fayetteville by Alpha Chapter, Phi Alpha Theta, the national honors society for students of history, the *Ozark Historical Review* may be obtained from the Department of History, Old Main 416, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

RECOMMENDED READING

At the suggestion of an alumna, *History Newsletter* hopes henceforth to include lists drawn up by our faculty of books they have recently read (fiction or non) and think Department alums and friends might enjoy or be edified by. Professors who will admit to reading over the past year liked the following:

David Chappell: Matthew Lassiter, *The Silent Majority: Suburban Politics in the Sunbelt South* (2006)

Lynda Coon: Mary Carruthers, *The Craft of Thought: Meditation, Rhetoric, and the Making of Images, 400-1200* (2000)

Joel Gordon: Alaa al Aswany, *The Yacoubian Building* (2004) [fiction]; Rashid Khalidi, *The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood* (2006)

Beth Schweiger: Catherine Kerrison, *Claiming the Pen: Women and Intellectual Life in the Early American South* (2006)

Trish Starks: Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin, *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type* (2000) [a wonderful children's book that illustrates the power of collective bargaining]

Daniel Sutherland: Elizabeth Kostova, *The Historian: A Novel* (2005); Charles Dickens, *The Pickwick Papers* (1837)

William Tucker: Vali Nasr, *The Shi' a Revival: How Conflicts within Islam Will Shape the Future* (2007); Rajiv Chandrasekaran, *Imperial Life in the Emer-*

ald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone (2006); Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945* (2005); William Vollmann, *Europe Central* (2005); Josef van Ess, *The Flowering of Muslim Theology* (2006); Toby Dodge, *Iraq's Future: The Aftermath of Regime Change* (2005); Jane Dammen McAuliffe, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an* (2006)

Jeannie Whayne: Jack Temple Kirby, *Mockingbird Song: Ecological Landscapes of the South* (2006); Lynn A. Nelson, *Pharsalia: An Environmental Biography of a Southern Plantation, 1780-1880* (2007); Stephen Greenblatt, *Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare* (2004); William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (1983); Albert Cowdrey, *This Land, This South: An Environmental History* (1983).

Patrick Williams: Michael Kazin, *A Godly Hero: The Life of William Jennings Bryan* (2006)

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Department has thrived on the generosity of alumni and friends, but we continue to need your support to maintain our tradition of excellence in teaching, research, and service.

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 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**.

Gifts to the Department should be sent to Dr. Jeannie Whayne, Chair, History Department, Old Main 416, 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, U of A, Fayetteville 72701, while checks to the James J. Hudson Fellowship should be forwarded to Dr. Collis Geren, Dean of the Graduate School, 119 Ozark Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701.

Thank you for your support

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The Department of History has undergone some significant changes over the last few years, and this year marks a particularly interesting turning point. We hired four new faculty who will be joining us in the fall. Taking these new colleagues into consideration, fourteen of the twenty-three faculty now in the department were not here twenty years ago. We are in the midst of a generational transition, and as someone who arrived in 1990, I find myself standing on the cusp. There is no "divide" within the department, however, only the beginnings of a new identity emerging, a new leadership taking shape. These are exciting times.

Three of the four new faculty occupy newly created positions. Only one, Ben Grob-Fitzgibbon, was hired to replace a retired faculty member, and Ben seems a particularly worthy person to begin to fill Tom Kennedy's shoes (we all know that no one can *quite* fill shoes that big). Ben secured his PhD from Duke University last year and comes to us with a book already in hand. He works on, of all things, British-Irish relations. As anyone who ever spent an evening at one of Kennedy's St. Patrick's Day parties will grasp, there is something beautifully appropriate about Ben taking over our British History position. We also hired three other faculty members to occupy new positions in African History, American Labor History, and African-American History. Calvin White, an Arkansas native, who just successfully defended his dissertation at Ole Miss, will join the African-American Studies program and constitute the second person in our department teaching in that field. You will remember that Nudie Williams used to be our only African Americanist until we secured Charles Robinson. We lost Nudie a few years ago, and the demands of the growing African-American Studies program were about to overwhelm Charles, who serves as its director. Calvin writes on the Church of God in Christ, a denomination with deep roots in Arkansas. He also comes to us an award-winning teacher with substantial teaching experience. We can also thank the demands of the African-American Studies Program for the hiring of Andrea Arrington, who has a newly minted PhD from Emory University. Andrea writes on the use of Victoria Falls as a tourist attraction, first by Europeans in the nineteenth century and now by Africans. Having someone with a research specialty in African History has long been a goal of ours, and we are convinced that Andrea is a worthy person to bring that world to our students. Finally, we are welcoming an American labor historian, Dr. Michael Pierce, to the department. Michael received his PhD at Ohio State and has been associate editor of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* for several years now. He has been teaching both lower and upper division classes for us, but will soon be fashioning new courses in the history of American Labor. Even before he came to Arkansas, his work on the relationship between the Populists and industrial labor was well enough known to attract notice from some on our faculty who are in related fields. We are very lucky to be able to offer him a position.

All this talk about our new faculty should not obscure the very real accomplishments of those already in place here on campus (notice I did not say "old" faculty). Alessandro Brogi is in Oslo at the Nobel Institute this semester where he holds a fellowship and is working on his

book. We had several faculty publish books in 2006 and early 2007. Randall Woods' book on LBJ has received rave reviews, and he has now turned his attention to researching and writing a book on William Colby. Patrick Williams just published *Beyond Redemption*, about Texas Democrats. Joel Gordon's book, *Nasser: Hero of the Arab Nation*, was published to excellent reviews last year, and he has another, *Muslim Brotherhood*, under contract. Dr. Gordon was promoted to the rank of professor this past year, and on the basis of his outstanding scholarship was awarded the Fulbright College Master Researcher Award for 2007. Robert Finlay, whose book, *The Pilgrim Art: The Culture of Porcelain in World History*, will be published this year, was also promoted to the rank of professor. Finlay's book manuscript has been characterized as "breathhtaking" in scope. As one evaluator remarked, "Finlay demonstrates a profound mastery of many scholarly turfs as he unfolds his inquiry into the porcelain trade as a marker of global encounters at a high level, where art and ethnicity, culture and society met, interacted, and transformed both producers and consumers." A good many of our other faculty members have books accepted or submitted for publication or manuscripts near completion [see "Talk of the Gown" for details].

Lest this suggest that all we do is research and write books, let me assure you that we continue to be a strong teaching department. I am pleased to announce that three of our faculty have been the recipients of teaching awards. Charles Robinson and Trish Starks both received 2006 Teacher of the Year Awards by the Student Alumni Board. Both Charles and Trish had received Master Teacher Awards from Fulbright College in the recent past, a prize I just received for 2007. In all, over half the faculty in this department have won teaching awards. We have been particularly active in the directing of honors theses, MA theses, and dissertations, and have had some notable successes over the past year.

I'll let the Graduate Advisor blivate about our accomplished graduate students. But I will add that Matthew Byron has been awarded the History Department's first James J. Hudson Research grant to further his research on his dissertation on dueling during Arkansas's antebellum period. He plans to use the funds to travel to Little Rock to do research at the Arkansas History Commission and in the archives of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at the Central Arkansas Library System. The James J. Hudson Research Fund was established in 2001 by Dr. Bobby Roberts (MA 1972, PhD 1978), a former student of Dr. Hudson's who has himself become a widely recognized authority on the Civil War, having co-authored volumes on Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi for a series of photographic histories of the war, *Portraits of Conflict*, for which he has served as general editor. He is director of the Central Arkansas Library System and has worked tirelessly in efforts to secure funding for libraries across the state. For his efforts he was named Librarian of the Year in 1997. Dr. Roberts created the James J. Hudson Research Fund to aid doctoral students in their research efforts. The award goes to students who have advanced to candidacy and are working on a dissertation, preferably on a military history topic. The stipend is to assist students in traveling to do research or to purchase materials they may need (i.e. microfilm, books, etc.) for their research but that are not available in our library, or to contribute to the purchase, lease, or rental of other items or services that will further their work.

The aid we have been able to extend to undergraduates through generous alumni endowments needs also to be mentioned. The department launched an undergraduate internship program in 2003 in order to provide history majors with hands-on experience working in a history-related discipline. Utilizing the Mary Hudgins fund, we began to offer two 10-hour per week internships. Students were assigned to either the Washington County Historical Society or to the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. If they worked for the Washington County Historical Society, they did a variety of tasks, from taking groups for tours through the facility to dressing up in costume and re-enacting certain historical events. If they served with the *Quarterly*, they were put to work on the annual index or in running down and verifying quotes or other editorial matters. We have had seven students complete that program and learn skills that have prepared them for graduate school and/or for positions in a field related to history or in education: Rachel Smith (intern 2003) working on a doctorate at Ole Miss; Benjamin Purvis (intern 2003) working on a doctorate at Ole Miss; Garrick Hildebrand (intern 2003-2004) works with Fulbright College in Scholarships and Grants; Heather Walters Bettinardi (intern 2003-2004) completed the Public History Program at UALR and now has a job at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History in Little Rock; Lindley Shedd (intern 2004-2005) is now in library school in Indiana; Camille Smiley (intern 2005-2006) is now in graduate school in the Historic Preservation Program at George Washington University; Savannah Collier Lamb (intern 2005-2006) now has a job at the Delta Cultural Center in Helena. Our current interns, Cody Hackett and Lonnie Strange, are both honors students.

We thank all our alumni that have allowed us to aid and honor our students in these various ways.

Finally, I must say a sad farewell to one of our treasured colleagues. David Chappell has accepted a chaired position at the University of Oklahoma. It will be a great loss to the department. We have been celebrating the success of his *Stone of Hope* and been enthralled with what he has had to say about the book he is writing on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will miss David but wish him well. He deserves the success he has enjoyed and we wish him luck in his future endeavors.

Jeannie M. Whyne

REPORT OF THE GRADUATE ADVISOR

It has been a challenge to fill the (figuratively) large shoes left by David Sloan (for whatever else he may have left behind, consult with Lynda Coon, who now occupies his office, across from my own). But I have tried my best to serve our graduate students while learning the ropes (an escape rope is one item we know Sloan left behind). Having so many excellent graduate students makes this position all the more rewarding.

At the Ph.D. level April Brown completed her degree this past year. Michael Johnson, Tom Aiello, and Michael Riley passed their doctoral comprehensive exams and advanced to ABD status. At the M.A. level, Scott Cashion, Ross Brown, Brandon Marshall, Kristina Farabough, Emily Boggan, Justin Gage, Jon Blevins, Stephanie Haught Wade, Stephanie Hansen, and Ahmet Akturk defended their theses and completed their degree.

By the important measures of work published, scholarly papers presented, and honors achieved, it has been a solid year of achievement. Doctoral student Geoffrey Jensen delivered "The First Black Students at the University of Arkansas" as part of a Washington County Historical Society lecture series. Krista Jones was named co-director of the Arkansas Delta Oral History Project and presented the paper "It Was Awful but It Was Politics: Crittenden County and the Demise of Fusion" at the Mid-America Conference on History. Kim Harper was selected as a summer intern with the Department of Defense. Rob Bauer received the Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship and published the article "Making the Cut? Grays Harbor, Washington, the Spotted Owl Crisis, and the Myth of the Economy or Environment Debate" in the *Ozark Historical Review*. His book, *Those Deservedly Commemorated Characters: The History of the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission 1997-2006*, was published in November by the U.S. Forest Service. Julie Courtwright presented the paper "Play the Savage: Prairie Fire and Race on the Great Plains" and has an article in the upcoming issue of the *Western Historical Quarterly* entitled "When We First Came Here It All Looked Like Prairie Land Almost: Prairie Fire and Plains Settlement." Tammy Byron presented the paper "Sexuality and Social Control in Antebellum Slave Catechisms" at the Missouri Valley Historical Conference and will be publishing a chapter "Daoistic Relationships: Chinese Theories and Application," in *Business Leadership in China: Philosophies, Theories and Practices*, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. Michael Hammond presented the paper "A River Ran Through It: The Great Ambition and Eventual Destruction of Napoleon, Arkansas" at the Mid-America Conference on History and published "Arkansas Atlantis: The Lost City of Napoleon" in the Autumn 2006 edition of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. Hammond also presented a paper entitled "The Meaning of Freedom: Christianity Today and the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s" at the 2006 Conference on Faith and History. Matthew Byron received the James J. Hudson Doctoral Prize for 2007 and the Mary Hudgins Travel Research Grant for 2006-2007. Matt has also just been honored with the Yowell Award for outstanding graduate student-teacher. He presented the papers "For Mere Show: The Impotency of Anti-Dueling Laws" at the Mid-America Conference on History and "No-Man's Land: State Boundaries and Anti-Dueling Laws" at the Missouri Valley Conference. He published two book reviews: "A Tenderfoot in Montana" in the *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* and "Sugar Masters," which is forthcoming in the *Historian* and wrote entries for the *Encyclopedia of South Carolina* on William Aiken, John Means, and John Richardson.

Derek Everett was a very busy man this past fall, reading papers or making presentations at the Colorado Historical Society, the Architect of the US Capitol's office, the Mid-America Conference on History, the Filson Historical Society, the US Capitol's Historical Society, and the Missouri Valley History Conference. His article "Modern State Houses for Modern States: Edward Durrell Stone's Capitol Architecture in North Carolina and Florida" will appear in next month's *Southern Historian*. He also received a faculty appreciation award from the University of Arkansas Student Alumni Board and the Associated Student Government, and served as a historical consultant for a new historical exhibit at the Colorado State Capitol. Misty Landers presented the paper "Christianity and the Origins of the Cold War" at the Mid-America Conference on History and published the article "Just Discrimination: The Catholic Church in Arkansas and School Integration After Brown v. Board of Education" in the *Ozark Historical Review*. Natalie Hall also had an essay in the *Ozark Historical Review*: "On the Recent Historiography on the Demise of Rome." Her article "The Topographical Evolution of Rome's Caelian Hill" appeared in *Foundations*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. She also presented a paper at the Mid-America Conference.

Matt Stith published an article in last year's *Ozark Historical Review*, and followed it up with another in this year's, entitled "Combating a 'Fiendish Gang': Union Response to Guerrilla War in Jasper County, Missouri, 1861-1865." He also published a book review in *Pacific Northwest Quarterly*. He gave a talk on "Black Bears, People, and Extirpation in Arkansas, 1860-1927" at the Mid-America Conference on History, another on the coming of the Civil War at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History last February, and yet another guest lecture at the Powers Museum in Carthage, Missouri. His paper on black bears in Arkansas, published in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* this month, won the Arkansas Historical Association's Violet Gingles Award for Best Essay on an Arkansas history topic.

It "bears" noting that this list of accomplishments of our graduate students is almost certainly not exhaustive. Congratulations to our productive and busy graduate students.

Richard Sonn

THE TALK OF THE GOWN

Alessandro Brogi, assistant professor, reports that with a tenure decision coming up, "there hasn't been much tango going on." But he and his wife, Elayne, nevertheless managed to dance on the banks of the Seine in Paris, so we don't really feel sorry for him. 2006 saw Brogi publishing "Competing Missions: France, Italy, and the Rise of American Hegemony in the Mediterranean" in the premier journal *Diplomatic History*, and completing several book chapters explaining why Italians liked Ike and the French, well, not so much. The manuscript, "Confronting America," is the first in Brogi's recollection to receive a translation contract (from Italian publisher Carocci) before its original version was completed. Most of his year was spent catching up with French sources for this project, which concerns left-wing anti-Americanism in France and Italy--including the (finally reopened) Communist Party archives, where he spent two full months thanks to a Fulbright College summer research stipend. He says his Paris sojourn

could be described as follows: airfare Fayetteville-Paris peak season: \$1,200; apartment in Montmartre: \$1,000 per month; getting the PCF archivists to cooperate: \$500 in undisclosed funds; dining experience at La Fermette Marbeuf: \$250 (for two); watching Italy's World Cup triumph vs. France (and Zidane): priceless; "accidentally" encountering Catherine Deneuve: priceless. Before lighting out for Oslo this winter, Brogi played James Madison in the redesign of the Department's constitution and taught his step-granddaughter, Olivea, her first dance steps.

Evan B. Bukey, professor, continues his work on Jewish-Gentile married life in Nazi Vienna, having completed a section of the manuscript dealing with intermarried divorce. At the German Studies Association meeting in Pittsburgh last September, Bukey participated in a round-table discussion, "Intermarriage, Divorce, and Gender in the Nazi Era," and commented for a second session, "Grossdeutsch? Kleindeutsch? Comparative Social-Military Aspects

of German-Austrian History, 1866-2006." Bukey also reviewed books for the *Journal of Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, *Austrian History Yearbook*, and *Journal of Modern History*, proving yet again to unheeding colleagues that one is never too busy and never too smart to dress nicely.

David L. Chappell, professor, wants you to believe he'd have been whacked had he not lately accepted a job offer from the University of Oklahoma that will afford him all the leisure of the theory class. Chappell has completed nearly 500 pages of his next book, "Waking from the Dream: The Battle over Martin Luther King's Legacy," which is slated for publication by Random House in 2008. Not pausing for even a minute, he has been awarded an NEH Fellowship to support his next project, a history of segregationist propaganda and strategy. In lieu of paying an overdue debt to the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Chappell published "Disunity and Religious Institutions in the White South," in Clive Webb, ed., *Massive Resistance* (Oxford University Press), a brief article on Coretta Scott King in *Books & Culture*, and a review in the *Journal of American History*, and gave a paper comparing Jesse Jackson to Orval Faubus at the St. George Tucker Society in August. With C. Fred Williams of UALR, Chappell is co-organizing an international conference to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Little Rock desegregation crisis of 1957. The conference will take place in Little Rock, Sept. 6-8, 2007, with opening night--featuring speaker David Levering Lewis--at the Clinton Library. All readers are invited to attend that event and the subsequent sessions at UALR. With the passing of James Brown, Chappell has succeeded to the title of "America's Funky President."

Lynda L. Coon, associate professor, reports the following as her misadventures and servitudes. She published "Collecting the Desert in the Carolingian West," in the June 2006 number of *Church History and Religious Culture* and doubtlessly tip-toed beyond the bounds of decency in delivering several papers: "Dark Age Bodies: Gender and Monastic Practice in the Carolingian West" (MARCO Institute, University of Tennessee, March 2006) and "Power and Eroticism in the Early Medieval West" (Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, April 2006). Coon and Kim Sexton (School of Architecture) won an Honors College Curriculum Grant to subvent travel to Europe this summer. They will photograph and document sites relevant to the teaching of "Sacred Bodies, Sacred Spaces," an Honors colloquium they are offering this fall. These will include late Roman circus basilicas, Carolingian monasteries at Corvey and Fulda, and Charlemagne's palace-complex at Aachen. Coon served as a member of the American Historical Association's James Henry Breasted Prize Committee, which honors the best book in English in any field of history prior to 1000 C.E. She happily read and evaluated 25 submissions, and reports the winner as "that good man of the left," Chris Wickham for *Framing the Early Middle Ages* (2005).

Donald W. Engels, professor, continues work on a number of projects, including ancient economics, classical canines, public health, and essays on ancient logistics, Alexander's death, and postmodernism and the classics. Engels advises junior history majors and is the Department's United Way coordinator.

Robert G. Finlay, associate professor, is still snubbing *History Newsletter*. We cry our eyes out every morning before home-room. The kids in the hall say the popular University of California Press will be publishing Finlay's *The Pilgrim Art: The Culture of Porcelain in World History* late this year. His essay, "Weaving the Rainbow: Visions of Color in World History," appears this spring in the *Journal of World History*.

Joel S. Gordon, associate professor, recently published *Nasser: Hero of the Arab Nation* (Oneworld Press). He has also been draping his conference papers in Dylan allusions, such as "No Direction Home: Displacement and Death in Egyptian Pop-Culture Consciousness" (delivered at a symposium on Exile and Displacement, Ben-Gurion University) and "Blood on the Tracks: The 'Real' Cairo in Yusuf Chahine's *Bab al-Hadid*" (presented to the Middle East Studies Association as part of a panel on "Re-Winding a Classic Film"). Any similar effort on the part of your newsletter editor would likely yield only "Too Much of Nothing" and "Mixed-Up Confusion." Gordon also presented "Whose Nile? Whose Narrative? Symbolic Sites and Egyptian Pan/Nationalist Imaginings," at a conference, "Narrating the Nile," at Tel Aviv University. Fortunately his trips to Israel, the West Bank, Egypt, and Turkey last summer came before the war in Lebanon. Closer to home, he spoke at a UALR forum, "Current Political Issues in the Middle East," last April and discussed Egyptian pop culture and screened Egyptian film at Tennessee Tech in February 2006. On campus, Gordon continues to orchestrate Diwan Baghdad, a bi-weekly forum on Middle East affairs, and Nadi Cinema, the Middle East film club. He still serves as book review editor for the *International Journal of Middle Eastern History*, and continues research on singer-film idol Abd al-Halim Hafiz, cineaste Youssef Chahine, and (now for something completely different) the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. His essay "The Slaps Heard around the Arab World" has been accepted for publication in *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Megan Hickerson, visiting assistant professor, has been teaching British history and Honors World Civilization this year. Hickerson, who earned a PhD at Syracuse, is the author of *Making Women Martyrs in Tudor England* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005). She has published in *Sixteenth Century Journal* and has an article forthcoming in *Gender and History*.

Thomas C. Kennedy, professor *emeritus*, writes: "In response to the perennial question, 'What do you do all day?' Let me say that after retirement Mary and I took up residence in a cave. We seldom come out because of the bright lights. There is not much to do in there, but I manage to keep busy working on a history of Southland College and on the Conservative Party and Ulster. The *Journal of British Studies* is even going to publish my essay 'Troubled Tories' next July. We both worry a lot about Houston Nutt, the state of the nation and the world. Then, there is grandparent duty. So, send money if you get work, but don't expect much from us because we are not working and don't have much to do all day." Yeah, right.

Bob McMath, professor and dean of the Honors College, tells us: "Appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, I have been working fulltime with students, faculty, and staff to enhance the Honors College and the Honors experience of our students. Development of interdisciplinary honors courses and research experiences has been a particular focus for the year." He manages nevertheless to steal away to our greener pastures on occasion. Last spring, he taught an honors colloquium, "American Politics Since 1968," and in the fall handled a section of "History of the American People since 1877." He also found time to direct Kathryn E. Allen's honors thesis, "The Federal Response to the Mississippi River Flood of 1927 Compared to the Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina of 2005." McMath delivered the Julian Stanley Distinguished Lecture, "Religion and American Higher Education in an Age of Culture Wars," at the State University of West Georgia in February 2006, and "Poverty and Agency: Woodward's Populists

and Woodward's South, 1880-1937," at a conference, "Dueling Souths: The World Views of Tom Watson and Vann Woodward," sponsored last August by the St. George Tucker Society. In addition to reading manuscripts for various journals and university presses, he is consulting for a PBS series on the Gilded Age and Progressive Era produced by Bill Moyers and Chana Gazit.

Michael C. Pierce, "visiting" assistant professor, resisted the temptation to take a few months off before the tenure clock begins ticking [see related story]. Last April, he traveled to Bolivia on behalf of the State Department to deliver a series of lectures on U.S. Populism. He gave a paper at the St. George Tucker Society's annual meeting in August, examining Tom Watson's fear that trade unionists were taking over the Populist party. At the annual meeting of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers, he presented a paper based on his new project examining the Fort Smith general strike of 1917. Pierce also continues to assist Patrick Williams in the production of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. With the passing of James Brown, he has succeeded to the title of "the Godfather of Soul."

Charles F. Robinson, associate professor, never tells the newsletter anything. But we read the papers so we know that he is involved in an extraordinary range of university and community activities. He chairs the African-American studies program, and, among many other things, is faculty advisor to the Black Students Association, serves on the Fulbright College 2010 strategic planning committee, the Old State House Commission, and the Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History advisory board, and is a central figure in local celebrations of MLK Day. As noted in last year's newsletter, Robinson won the U of A Student Alumni Board's Teacher of the Year Award for 2006 and more recently received the Black Students Association's Lonnie R. Williams "Bridging Excellence" Award for vision and leadership in multiculturalism and service. Not letting his scholarship slip, Dr. Robinson has a book manuscript, "Forsaking All Others: A Story of Interracial Love, Violence and Revenge in the Post-Reconstruction South," under review at a major scholarly press and has begun a study of integration at the University of Arkansas between 1948 and 2000. In 2006, he also reviewed for the *Journal of Southern History* and commented for a panel at the Organization of American Historians annual meeting.

Beth Barton Schweiger, associate professor, neglects to mention that she was granted tenure and promotion in 2006, edited the *Ozark Historical Review* with aplomb, and did splendid work organizing and running a seminar last summer that prepared graduate students to teach our U.S. history surveys and western civilization classes. Instead, Schweiger reports: "I was very pleased to have a long essay on print culture in the trans-Allegheny region accepted by the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* for publication in 2007. In 2004, I spent a month as a fellow at the Antiquarian Society, a rare treat for a historian of early America, as the Society holds the single most important collection of early Americana in the country. It is the kind of place where you easily lose track of time in the reading room and lunch is an unwelcome intrusion because the collections are so rich, the staff so accommodating and gracious, the colleagues so stimulating. My essay is based on research I conducted at the AAS, the Library Company of Pennsylvania, and the Huntington Library, and is related to my larger study of print culture and the history of reading in antebellum America. I hope to take a sabbatical year in 07-08 to complete this book. Most of my time has been devoted to shepherding graduate students. I am the principal advisor for four doctoral

students, and also advise five others. Two students--Matthew Byron and Tammy Johnson Byron--will complete their doctorates this spring. Matt is writing on the political culture of early Arkansas, while Tammy is completing a very original study of slave catechisms that combines social history, history of the book, and bibliographical analysis. I'm also very pleased to be working with David Prater, whose senior honors thesis on antislavery sentiment in early national South Carolina was the only history project in the state that received a SURF grant this year."

Kathryn Sloan, assistant professor, survived the August monsoons while a visiting scholar at the University of New Mexico's Latin American and Iberian Institute. Though not swept away in a flooded arroyo, she was sincerely depressed by the loss of the green chile crop. All the same, she worked in the Mexico collection of the Center for Southwest Research and presented a lecture entitled: "Making Love in Mexico: Courtship and Popular Culture in 19th Century Mexico." She has two publications forthcoming: "Disobedient Daughters and the Liberal State: Generational Conflicts over Marriage Choice in Working Class Families in Nineteenth-Century Oaxaca, Mexico," which will appear in *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Inter-American Cultural History* this April, and "Defiant Daughters and the Emancipation of Minors in Nineteenth Century Mexico," which will be included in Jennifer Hillman Helgren and Colleen A. Vasconcellos, eds., *Girls in the World: A Global Anthology* (Rutgers University Press). Sloan also bagged a Fulbright College Research Incentive Grant and presented papers in San Juan, Puerto Rico and Vancouver, BC. While in San Juan, she tried to order a mojito just as Puerto Rico faced off against Cuba in the World Baseball Classic. "The bartender told me no Cuban drinks tonight, only Puerto Rican beer!"

Richard D. Sonn, associate professor, replaced David Sloan as associate chair and graduate advisor on July 1, 2006--and two days later took off for Europe for the rest of the summer. He participated in an NEH Summer Seminar on Modernist Paris, which met at Reid Hall of Columbia University Abroad, located in Montparnasse. He was the sole historian among 17 faculty, and enjoyed reading modernist literature and hanging out at the Montparnasse bars and cafes frequented by Picasso, Hemingway, and co. Sonn presented at two conferences this fall. For a Western Society for French History meeting in Long Beach, he organized a panel entitled "Patriarchy and Extremist Politics in Interwar France," and gave a paper, "Anarchism and the Action Francaise: The Strange Death of Philippe Daudet." Two weeks later at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, he gave a paper called "Americans in Paris: The Myth of Jazz Age Paris" at the conference "From Paris to the World." Sonn has been appointed to a three-year term on the governing council of the Western Society for French History.

Tricia Starks, associate professor, only recently tenured, confessed to the following: "No longer behind the eight ball, this Jane wasn't no bunny, but instead pocketed the cabbage and gave the clean sneak. Still, she pulled one over on the mugs in her class, being awarded the Master Teacher Award and one of the Student Alumni Board's Teacher of the Year awards. Then she stuffed the mud-pipe down the mush of the faculty and muscled 'em into the Mid-America Conference on History in the fall -- without a bit of the eel juice to make it go down easy. She didn't have to burn powder on none of the bindle stiffs and the rest of the year was all silk. She ratted on tobacco with an article on cigarettes -- "Red Star/Black Lungs"-- for the *Journal of the Social History of Alcohol and Drugs*, a talk on tobacco and the big sleep in Russia to the G-men in Washington DC, and a sit down with a bunch of wise heads at the

University of Kansas. She then took a powder with her good eggs on some fast-moving getaway sticks." She's some twist, ain't she?

Daniel E. Sutherland, professor, spent the first half of 2006 as a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, University of Cambridge. Rumor has it he gave talks on James McNeill Whistler in London and Glasgow and worked long hours on a biography of said artist. All we know is that he now calls soccer "football." He returned to England in September to give yet another talk on Whistler, this time at the University of Oxford, which does not say much for his loyalties. He claims to have nearly completed a book manuscript about (American) Civil War guerrillas, but no one has seen it.

Shih-shan Henry Tsai, professor, conducted research on Taiwan's maritime history at the Academia Sinica in Taipei during an off-campus duty assignment last spring. Taiwan's Vanguard Press published a Chinese translation of his latest book, *Lee Teng-hui and Taiwan's Quest for Identity* (2005), in December, and China's Linking Publishing Company will release a translation of *Perpetual Happiness: The Ming Emperor Yongle* (2001) this year. Tsai has been elected to the editorial board of *Taiwan Historical Research*, a quarterly. He delivered invited lectures at National Chiang Kai-shek University and National Communication University, both in Taiwan. More recently, he kicked off the London School of Economics and Political Science's 2007 Asian Studies Forum series with an address entitled "Revisiting the Nineteenth Century Anglo-Taiwanese Relationship."

William F. Tucker, associate professor, has lately received word that Cambridge University Press will publish his book *Mahdis and Millenarians: Shi'ite Extremists in Early Muslim Iraq* [see related story]. Steeling himself against the coming hoopla, Tucker made his accustomed rounds last summer, visiting research collections at McGill, Cornell, Princeton, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Elliott West, Alumni Distinguished Professor, has nearly completed a first draft of the book he's tentatively titled "The Nez Perce War and the New America." He and his back-up band, the Famous Flames, have been touring the country, leading colloquia for public school teachers supported by federal Teaching American History grants. West played Fairbanks, AK, Broomfield, CO, Concord, NH, Aurora, MO, Bozeman, MT, Topeka, KS, Greeley, CO, and Wichita, KS. He was also lead historian on five symposia for teachers funded by the Mellon Foundation in honor of David McCullough, which were held in Fayetteville, San Antonio, TX, Charleston, WV, Long Island, NY, and Newport News, VA. West conducted a Gilder-Lehrman Seminar, "The Great Plains: American Crossroads," at the University of Colorado and delivered public lectures at the Colorado State Historical Society, the University of Colorado, Amherst College, Lewis and Clark College, and at the annual meeting of Missouri social science teachers. Besides publishing four book reviews, he delivered panel

presentations at meetings of the Organization of the American Historians and the Western History Association. Anybody else who did this much would be grouchy as hell.

Jeannie M. Whyne, professor and chair, has polished off five chapters of her book on the R. E. Lee Wilson plantation and is currently working on what she is desperate to believe will be the last chapter. She's agreed to write a 15,000 word introduction to a book on Arkansas architecture edited by Cyrus Sutherland and is also contemplating a revised edition of *Arkansas: A Narrative History*. Whyne is working as a consultant with the Woodrow Wilson Library and the Farm Credit Council to create an archives of the farm credit system in the United States. This has involved meetings at the Willard Hotel in D.C., where she has had her eye out for ghosts of the namesake lobbyists. Whyne has been working hard with the Washington County Historical Society in planning an "Arkansas Statehood Day" commemoration for June 16, 2007 and, with David Edwards, arranged a lecture series this winter on race relations in nineteenth-century Arkansas that included associate professors Charles Robinson and Patrick Williams and Department graduate student Geoffrey Jensen. We history professors being so extraordinarily well-behaved, Whyne has had the time and energy to also chair the Campus Faculty and has accordingly been attending more meetings than the sky has stars.

Patrick G. Williams, associate professor, seems likely to become a long-term burden on the taxpayers of Arkansas. He was awarded tenure this past year and continues to edit the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. Williams' book, *Beyond Redemption: Texas Democrats after Reconstruction*, "appeared" this spring. He is already hard at work on a successor project, "Memoirs of a Punch-Drunk Beauty Queen." With the passing of James Brown, Williams has succeeded to the title of "Dr. Please Please Please."

Randall B. Woods, Distinguished Professor, has been very much in the public eye, outshining even Britney Spears' chrome dome. Publication of *LBJ: Architect of American Ambition* [see related story] has had Woods speaking at the Johnson Library in Austin and the Clinton School in Little Rock, appearing on the History Channel and C-SPAN's Booknotes, and holding forth on assorted public radio programs and Bob Edwards' show on satellite. His presidential address to the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations last June has been published as "The Politics of Idealism: Lyndon Johnson, Civil Rights, and Vietnam" in *Diplomatic History*. His next project, a covert operation, has already cleared Old Main of its VC infrastructure. Woods was a Fulbright senior specialist this past fall, and taught contemporary U.S. history at the Catholic University of Argentina and the National University of Argentina. He has recently moved into a hill-top villa that he calls "The RBW Ranch," but which looks more like Burt Lancaster's place in *The Leopard*.

ALUMNI ROUND-UP

Note: The roundup is organized alphabetically. Adam A. Kreuter (BA 1936) is again our ranking reporting alumnus.

Barry Allen (BA 1969) is a pediatrician at Lowell Medical Center in Lowell, AR. His son, Spencer, is pursuing a PhD in biblical studies at the University of Pennsylvania, while daughter

Katie holds a doctorate in occupational therapy from Washington University. Allen lists his activities as fishing, reading, and attending Razorback football and basketball games.

Justin Allen (BA 1995), a partner at Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP in Little Rock, became Chief Deputy Attorney General for the state of Arkansas at the beginning of the year. He and his wife, Nikki, live in

Sheridan and have two children, Blake (3) and Sophie (2), and a third on the way ("Busy, busy," writes Allen). He belongs to the U of A Alumni Association, sits on the UALR School of Law Alumni Board, serves on the Sheridan Parks and Recreation Committee, and is a past member of the Arkansas Bar Association Legislation Committee.

Ray Baker (BSE 1961, MEd 1971) is giving both Richard Daleys a run for their money, having been elected to a fifth term as mayor of Fort Smith last November. He also teaches American history at Southside High School. Among his recent honors are the Woodmen of the World Honor for Outstanding Citizen, a Joint Committee Award from the American Legion, and the Polly Crews Hospitality Person of the Year Award.

Lisa Beckenbaugh (PhD 2002) and **Terry Beckenbaugh** (PhD 2001) are both historians with Dynamics Research Corporation, working for the U.S. Army at the Combat Studies Institute in Fort Leavenworth, KS. They have co-authored *On Point II: Transition to a New Campaign*, about U.S. Army operations in Iraq, which will be published this summer, and are now working on a book about Army operations in Afghanistan. Last May, they bought their first home—in Lansing, KS.

Amanda Berry (BA 2000) is a receptionist for a lobbying firm in Washington DC and is also working on a master's thesis in the museum studies program at Baylor. She enjoys watching the Razorbacks play with the DC Alumni chapter. Berry has a new nephew, George Noah Berry.

Bob Besom (MA 1971, PhA 1976) purports to be retired, but he and his wife, Patty, have begun writing a newspaper column for the *Northwest Arkansas Times*. "We explore a different local history subject each time. It usually involves some research, which I particularly enjoy. The column only comes out once a month, but that is plenty often enough! I've enjoyed welcoming the new Fayetteville bike path that goes right by our place."

Heather (Walters) Bettinardi (BA 2003) is finishing a master's degree in public history at UALR and is outreach coordinator and educator for the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History in Little Rock. She and her husband live in Conway with three sons (12, 10, and 8). She is active in her children's schools and the Arkansas Museum Association, and is assisting the Central High National Historic Site with an oral history project marking the fiftieth anniversary of the desegregation crisis.

David Boling (BA 1987, JD 1991) is a lawyer with the firm of Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard in Little Rock. Last fall, he participated in a

symposium at the Clinton Presidential Center on preparing the U.S. and Japanese work forces for the global economy, which featured former U.S. Senator and Ambassador to Japan Howard Baker. Boling's wife, Mine Sasaguri, teaches at the Saturday School for Japanese children in Little Rock. They have two children, Christopher (4) and Ellen (2). Boling currently serves on the board of the U of A Alumni Association.

Benjamin Boulden (MA 1992) is a business reporter for the *Times Record* in Fort Smith and also writes a weekly column, "Inquire Within," in which he answers readers' questions, many of which pertain to local and Arkansas history. He's well prepared for the task. Boulden serves on the board of the Fort Smith Museum of History and on the editorial board of the *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*. He is vice president of the Fort Smith Historical Society, webmaster of www.fortsmithhistory.com, and contributed articles on Gen. Frederick Steele and Fort Smith to the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. Boulden married Jennifer Armstrong of Little Rock in November 2005. They've adopted a border collie named Marlowe.

Bruce Breeding (BA 1984, MA 1996) is adjunct instructor in history at Bluegrass Community College in Lexington, KY. He is also a PhD candidate in history at the University of Georgia. His dissertation deals with the integration of Hoxie schools in 1956.

Paul Brewster Sr. (BA 1986) is a pastor at Barlow-Vista Baptist Church in Hampstead, NC. He is finishing a dissertation titled "Andrew Fuller (1754-1815): Model Baptist Pastor-Theologian," and will earn a PhD in systematic theology at Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, this May. He is a member of an editorial team overseeing *The Works of Andrew Fuller* project, a fifteen-volume collection that will be published by Paternoster Press. This summer, he will be delivering a paper at a Fuller conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Upon earning his doctorate, he hopes to begin researching Andrew Fuller's impact on Baptist theology in the nineteenth-century U.S.

Loren L. Butler II (BA 1949, MA 1950) lives in Lumberton, NC, and is professor *emeritus* of Byzantine history at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke. He enjoys reading and manufacturing Civil War uniforms. Butler's wife of fifty years, Mary Meachum Butler, died this past October. Their daughter, Lorell A. V. Butler, works at Northwestern University in Chicago.

Jay Carney (BA 1999) is a PhD stu-

dent at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and is focusing on modern African mission history. A paper he wrote, "Reconsidering John Paul II's *Ecclesia in Africa* in the Shadow of the Rwandan Genocide," was selected for inclusion in the 2006 American Academy of Religion conference, while a piece on papal infallibility won the Washington Theological Consortium's ecumenical essay competition. His first child, Ruben James, turned one this past November. Carney writes: "I continue to kick the old soccer ball around and pull out the jazz trombone whenever possible. I also ran a half-marathon this year. Greetings to Profs. Coon, Kennedy, and Woods! Thank you for an outstanding grounding in historical analysis that continues to shape my graduate studies."

Jean Turner Carter (BA 1977, JD 1980) is Executive Director of the Center for Arkansas Legal Services in Little Rock.

Jon David Cash (BA 1979, MA 1983, PhD [University of Oregon] 1995) divided the 2005-2006 academic year between South Arkansas Community College, where he taught Arkansas history and Introduction to Geography, and North Georgia College & State University, where he taught the U.S. history survey sequence. He published an essay on the history of the St. Louis Cardinals in the *Encyclopedia of Major League Baseball Clubs* (Greenwood Press 2006). "The \$15,000 Slide," which Dr. Cash co-wrote, was named a finalist for Feature Screenplay at the 2006 International Moondance Film Festival. It is based on his earlier book, *Before They Were Cardinals: Major League Baseball in Nineteenth-Century St. Louis* (University of Missouri Press, 2002), a finalist for the 2003 Seymour Medal, which is awarded to the year's best book of baseball history or biography. He now lives in his hometown of Crossett, works as a front desk clerk for the Lakewood Inn, and seeks the full-time teaching position that has eluded him.

Ellen Compton (MSE 1960, MA 1963) is still working in the Special Collections Department of the University of Arkansas Libraries, where she is now "the oldest employee except on the days when Ethel Simpson comes in part-time." Her primary responsibility is the Fay Jones Collection of drawing, slides, correspondence, books, and models (see <http://libinfo.uark.edu/SpecialCollections/>

manuscripts/FayJones). Compton writes for and enjoys the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. Both her sons are married to lovely dark-haired women. She has two grandchildren, girl 10, boy 7, and “they are smart, loving, healthy, and good-looking.”

Harold Coogan (BSE 1961, MA 1966) of Mena still says he is retired and is still on the Rich Mountain Community College adjunct faculty. He serves as a j.p. on the Polk County quorum court, and enjoys horse racing, fishing, performing weddings (when they don’t interfere with the horse racing), traveling and “struggling with the spouse for control of the remote.” His third son will soon be graduating from Oxford University with a PhD in hydrology. “That’s just a fancy title for water witching. He should be able to make a pretty living during dry spells.”

Holly Harrison Cooper (BA 1995) is in her ninth year of teaching history and French in Memphis, where she is chair of the foreign language department at Kingsbury High School. She writes: “My husband & I love parenthood. Our son is 15 months, and we are expecting another child this spring. Family has become my priority and, while I still enjoy teaching, I have really enjoyed becoming a mother.” Cooper is a member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Blair Muller Cromkrom Cromwell (BA 1996) is communications and event development director for the Bentonville Advertising and Promotion Commission and also teaches history classes part-time for the University of Phoenix Northwest Arkansas Campus. She serves on the board of Heritage Trail Partners, co-chairs the hospitality committee for the NWA Business Women’s Conference, and chairs Bentonville’s Multicultural Festival and the Bentonville Art Walk’s media committee. She lives in Fayetteville with her husband, Joseph Richard Cromwell IV. They have two cats and a dog.

Jeffrey T. Cumpston (BA 1991) is administrative assistant and human resources manager for Nabholz Construction Corporation but also plays guitar and sings in the blues duo JC/BC. They went to Memphis in February to compete in the International Blues Challenge. He lives in Wesley, AR, with his wife, Tricia, and various four-legged companions. Their son, Marine corporal

Travis R. McKenna, was honorably discharged last July, having completed three tours of duty in Iraq. Cumpston writes, “I wish the best to all in the History Department, in particular my former professors. I would like to make special mention of Nudie Williams. He was an inspiring and challenging teacher.” He adds, “Come see JC/BC on Dickson Street.”

John Kyle Day (BA 1996, MA 1999) is visiting assistant professor of history at Quincy University in Quincy, IL, having earned his PhD at the University of Missouri last May. His wife, Rena Orujova Day, has been training to be an investment representative with Edward Jones Investments. She is opening a regional office just across the river from Quincy in Palmyra, MO. The Days’ daughter “is growing like a weed.”

Thomas A. DeBlack (PhD 1995) is associate professor of history at Arkansas Tech and president of the Arkansas Historical Association. He sure has a cute daughter.

Tom W. Dillard (MA 1975) heads the Special Collections department at the University of Arkansas Libraries. His history column “Remembering Arkansas” appears every Sunday in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

Richard B. Dixon (MA 1954) is assistant professor *emeritus* of history at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where he taught between 1969 and 1973. He had served its predecessor institution, Little Rock University, since 1957. Mr. Dixon lives in Benton.

Susan Dollar (PhD 2004) is assistant professor at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches, where she teaches in the undergraduate program in history and the graduate program in heritage resources. She chaired a session at the Louisiana History Association meeting last May and in November presented a paper, in the company of Department alum Joe Key, at the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association. In addition to being interviewed for a documentary film on the African-American experience after Reconstruction, she completed her portion of a National Park Service project, “Ethnographic Overview and Assessment: Cane River Creole National Historic Park—Phase I,” wherein she developed historical overviews of various communities with traditional connections to the park and the national heritage area. Dollar sits on the board of directors of the Louisiana Historical Association and will chair the Phi Alpha Theta state committee. In January, the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame honored her for her efforts, thirteen years ago, in helping get the museum established.

She writes, “I’m doing well, feeling well, but working too hard. My dogs—Bud & Lucky—are fine & all is well with the world. I’m most grateful.”

Gerald Wayne Dowdy (MA 1991) has recently published a book, *Mayor Crump Don’t Like It: Machine Politics in Memphis* (University Press of Mississippi, 2006). He also contributed articles on Ash Flat, Cherokee Village, and Hardy to the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture* and appeared in a documentary, *WKNO: The First 50 Years*. Dowdy is senior librarian and archivist with the history/social sciences department at Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library in Memphis and has been elected vice president of the Society of Tennessee Archivists.

Brenna Orr Drindak (BA 2005) is a substitute teacher and tutor. She enjoys motorcycle riding, hiking, teaching, and reading history books. Drindak’s stepson has recently come home after a sixteen-month tour in Iraq. She writes “This degree has *not* helped me at all. I regret spending so much money, time, and energy on it!”

Roger F. Farrer (BA 2006) is currently a project manager for PB2 Architecture and Engineering in Rogers. He has been a Civil War reenactor for the past six years and a horse/cattle rancher. As a student, he earned membership in Phi Alpha Theta and the Golden Key National Honor Society and won two academic awards in history.

Randy Finley (PhD 1992) is professor of history at Georgia Perimeter College in Dunwoody. He published “Crossing the White Line: SNCC in Three Delta Towns, 1963-1967” in the summer 2006 edition of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*.

Dennis Michael Finnigan (BA 1974) is disabled now but in his working years served in the military. He also worked at one time as a reporter for the *Arkansas Democrat* and later as a psychiatric nurse for the state.

Alice Usdin Fleeman (BA 1978) is office manager for the Family Dental Center in Morrilton. Her son graduated from Vanderbilt last spring and is in the graduate program in public health at UAMS. Her daughter is a senior at the U of A, where she majors in speech pathology.

Matthew W. Fleming (BA 1975, JD 1978), Judge Advocate General Corps, Arkansas Army National Guard,

is currently deployed to Afghanistan for a six-month tour in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He is the staff judge advocate to Task Force Phoenix, which is training the Afghan national army. This is LTC Fleming's second tour of active duty in support of the war on terror. He served with the 39th BCT, Arkansas Army National Guard, when it was deployed to Iraq in 2004-2005. Fleming is also assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Arkansas.

Mary Floyd (BA 2005) received her Master of Arts in Teaching degree in secondary social studies from the U of A last spring. She teaches civics at West Fork High School.

Tom Forgey (MA 1966, PhD 1974) is associate professor *emeritus* of history at Southern Arkansas University, where he taught from 1965 to 2002. He also served in the Arkansas House of Representatives between 1989 and 1993.

Buck T. Foster (BA 1997, MA 1998) has recently published *Sherman's Mississippi Campaign* with the University of Alabama Press.

Charles E. Gray (MA 1950) is professor of history *emeritus* at Illinois State University and lives in Springfield, MO. He writes: "In reading recent History Department newsletters, I notice that each year the entries become fewer and fewer for the late 1940s and early 1950s. So, in order to preserve that portion of the newsletter, I thought it appropriate for me to submit a brief entry. I began my graduate work in history in 1949 and received my MA in 1950. Bob Reeser was my advisor. Not many of us still standing! Everything I see and hear about the History Department and the University of Arkansas is positive. Hence, I continue to be proud of that old 1950s vintage sheepskin. Although my other degrees are from Missouri State and the University of Illinois, I'll have to admit that there is just something extra special about having your name in concrete on a university sidewalk!"

Richard L. Gray (BA 1989) recently moved from Kansas City to Saint Louis, where he practices law with Moser & Marsalek, doing medical malpractice defense. His wife, Tara Jensen, is getting her LL.M. degree in tax law. Their son, Avery, 6, is in first grade and doing great. Daughter Olivia is 4 "and raring to go to school." Gray, as always, sends his special regards to Dr. Bukey.

Matthew Gunn (BA 2005) is in

his second year of law school at Columbia University (roar, lion, roar!). He will be a summer associate at Clifford Chance LLP in New York City.

Patrick D. Hagge (BA 2005) is a Department of Energy intern at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. He plans on starting graduate school in geography next year.

Jill Hatley (BA 1976, MA 1980) is division order analyst at Stephens Production Company in Fort Smith. Her favorite thing is her annual trip to London.

Mary E. Heber (BA 1960) is a retired teacher and lives in Cammack Village. She is a KidLife helper at her church, a mentor at Crisis Pregnancy Center, and treasurer and home group leader for the Lydia Prayer Fellowship. "Jesus is coming soon," she says. Her son, Christopher Heber, works in France as financial manager for Tetra Pac.

Suki Lin Highers (BA 1997) is enrolled in the MAT program at the U of A, preparing to become a secondary education social studies teacher on scholarship from the John and Jane Donaldson family. Last fall, she finished an intern rotation at Fayetteville High School teaching tenth-grade American history and eleventh-grade world history, "which was amazing," and is now interning at Holt Middle School, teaching seventh-grade geography, "which is so much fun!" One son, Kaid (8), is in the third grade at Washington Elementary in Fayetteville, and another, Jack Simon, is 4. "Family and school are all I have time for these days."

Nathan D. Howard (PhD 2005) served as a visiting professor at Wake Forest in 2005-2006, teaching world civilization and Greek history. Last April, he received a tenure-track appointment at the University of Tennessee-Martin and is teaching world civilization, Roman history, and Late Antiquity/Medieval history. Last year he presented his research at the North American Patristics Society conference in Chicago and the Southeastern Medieval Association conference in Oxford, Mississippi. But he will be traveling to Oxford, *England*, this summer to read a paper at the International Congress on Patristic Studies. "My research continues to focus on the Cappadocian bishops of the fourth century and changes in the episcopal office of that period. Currently I am studying how the life of Macrina, eldest sister of two of the Cappadocian bishops, shaped the careers of her brothers in the clergy." Moving to Martin has required something of an adjustment, given its small size, but is a homecoming of sorts since most of Howard's family lives nearby in Memphis. He has purchased his

first home and works with the UTM cross country team on a voluntary basis. While living in Winston-Salem, Howard enjoyed traveling to Monticello, Appomattox, Gettysburg, Antietam, and, on the advice of Lynda Coon, the Outer Banks.

Susan E. Carrell Huntsman (BA 1996) says she's "still an attorney." She now lives in Sheboygan, WI.

Elizabeth Jacoway (BA 1966, PhD [University of North Carolina] 1974) has recently seen her long-awaited magnum opus, *Turn Away Thy Son: Little Rock, the Crisis that Shocked the Nation*, published by Free Press/Simon & Schuster. In 2006, she delivered papers at the Organization of American Historians meeting in Washington, DC, a National Coalition of Independent Scholars conference at Princeton, and the Oral History Association meeting in Little Rock, and had an article, "Richard C. Butler and the Little Rock School Board: The Quest to Maintain 'Educational Quality'," published in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. One son, Timothy Watson, is in law school at the U of A, while the other, Todd, is getting an MA in journalism at New York University and recently had an article published in the *New York Times*. Dr. Jacoway lives in Newport, AR, and serves on the editorial board of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*.

Paul J. James (BA 1979, JD 1982), an attorney, is a partner at James & Carter, PLC, in Little Rock, a firm that has been in continuous existence for over twenty years. He is married to Sarah Lewis James who is an attorney with the U of A system in Little Rock. They have three children—Frances (12), Drew (10), and Caroline (7).

Ben Johnson (PhD 1991), associate professor of history at Southern Arkansas University, continues as vice president of the Arkansas Historical Association and sits on the board of editors of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*.

Kyle Johnson (BA 2001) is project coordinator with Mental Health America, formerly the National Mental Health Association, a leading advocacy non-profit for the rights of the mentally ill. He has enjoyed exploring Europe, including the U.K., Germany, and Bulgaria, over the past two years, and belongs to the Washington DC chapter of the U of A Alumni Association. He says he loves DC but travels back to Arkansas frequently to visit family, friends, and

old colleagues.

Thomas E. (Pete) Jordon (BA 1988/2000) is a screenwriter with thirteen full-length screenplays to his credit. In 2006, the University of Arkansas produced his long-form documentary on Silas Hunt, who desegregated the school in 1948. Among other things, Jordon has also been working on scripts for Liberty Studios, based in San Diego, and has had two short stories, "Time on His Hands" and "A Pocket Full of Hours" selected for anthologies. He writes the "Arkansas Frontier" blog for the *Arkansas Times*. Jordon lives in Lincoln, AR, and his youngest child is "tearing into kindergarten."

Joseph P. Key (PhD 2001), assistant professor of history at Arkansas State University, has been elected to the board of trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association.

Adam A. Kreuter (BA 1936) lives in Sturgeon Bay, WI, and is a retired attorney. He lists his activities as "mostly seeing the doctor. On paper, he tells me I am in great shape." Kreuter writes: "In my 92nd year, the future is too close and the past gets better with age and the telling of its history. My family is perfect (overlooking a few faults). My wife, Jane, and me are happy to have lived long enough to become a 'problem' to our children."

Joe Lindsey (BA 1972) and Barbara L. Lindsey (BA 1972) of West Fork are both caterers and like to travel. Joe had both hips replaced in Bangkok last summer.

Barbara J. Love (MA 1967, EdD [University of Massachusetts], 1972) is professor of social justice education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. The university's School of Education has named her outstanding teacher of the year.

Bobby L. Lovett (MA 1969, PhD 1978) is professor of history at Tennessee State University. His most recent book, *The Civil Rights Movement in Tennessee: A Narrative History* (University of Tennessee Press, 2005), won the 2006 Tennessee History Book Award from the Tennessee Library Association and the Tennessee Historical Commission. Dr. Lovett has been elected to the board of editors of the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*.

John Monroe (BA 1990) is vice president in the Professional Banking Division at Metropolitan National Bank in Little Rock. He has been with the bank

since March 2004. Last year, *Arkansas Business* named him one of their "40 under 40," and he is a member of the current Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce leadership class. Monroe is married to the former Leslie Vaught, who received her BA in zoology from the U of A and is a dentist in private practice with Richardson and Monroe in Little Rock. They have one son, William, who is five. Monroe currently serves as a deacon at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock and writes, "In the little free time I have, I enjoy golf, fishing with my son, hunting, and travel."

Donald R. Montgomery (BA 1974, MA 1977) of Prairie Grove retired on July 31, 2006, after twenty-eight years with Arkansas State Parks. He sits on the board of trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association and is program director and newsletter editor for the Civil War Roundtable of Northwest Arkansas. Montgomery enjoys writing Arkansas and U.S. history, computer surfing, movies, and sports. He has three grandchildren.

John H. Morris (BA 1959, MA 1969) has been teaching American history and western civilization at Northwest Arkansas Community College but declares himself "now more permanently retired." He had knee replacement surgery last fall. Morris lives in Farmington.

James R. Moulton (BA 1982, MA 1986, PhD [University of Denver] 2000) is assistant professor and social sciences coordinator at Johnson & Wales University in Denver. He has recently published *Peter the Great and the Russian Military Campaigns during the Final Years of the Great Northern War, 1719-1721*, based primarily on eighteenth-century Russian language sources. The book is available from University Press of America (www.univpress.com). Dr. Moulton enjoys fly fishing, skiing, Swiss-German cuisine, and quail hunting.

Lester Niblock (BA 1981) has been a officer in the Marine Corps for over twenty-five years. Currently, he is the chief of plans for the European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. He received a Legion of Merit for his service as dean of students/deputy director at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, 2003-2005, and director of the Marine Corps War College, 2005-2006. He lists his activities as "skiing in Switzerland and Austria, acting as a 'pack mule' as my wife searches for the best deal in chez crystal, Italian pottery, and European antiques, and attending kids' sports—soccer and wrestling." Niblock is looking forward to attending the U.S.-French dedication on Memorial Day at

the Belleau Wood cemetery ("a special place in the hearts of all Marines").

James E. Page (MA 1975, PhD 1979) lives in Lady Lake, FL, and is a history professor at American Military University and the Villages Lifelong Learning College. Last autumn, he introduced a new course, "The Glory of Greece."

Marianne L. Park (Brooks-Pryor) (BA 1986) lives in Cabot, where she is the mother of five children, the eldest of whom is a senior and the youngest of whom is in kindergarten. She belongs to Cabot Country Cruisers, a running and biking group, and completed the L.A. Marathon last March and the Ford Ironman Florida in November. She is a member of Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock and is involved in this church planting a new one in Cabot.

Sarah Monroe Priebe (BA 1998, JD 2001) is deputy prosecuting attorney for the Sixth Judicial District of Arkansas (Pulaski County). She had a son, Jeffrey Thomas Priebe, last August.

Mark Pryor (BA 1985) represents Arkansas in the United States Senate.

Benjamin H. T. Purvis (BA 2003) is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of Mississippi. As a second year PhD student, he lists his activities as "lots of reading, writing, and coffee swilling." He sends his greetings to Dr. Wayne, Dr. Starks, and Dr. Pierce.

Lyndsey (Duckworth) Randall (BA 2005, MAT 2006) teaches world history and civics at Bentonville High School.

Cortney Don (Rakestraw) Rogers (BA 1998) has been a marketing associate for SYSCO Food Services of Arkansas for six years. She is also a cheerleader for the ABA professional team, the Arkansas Aeros. He has been married to Travis Rogers for three and a half years.

Budd Saunders (BA 1963, MA 1965, ABD) writes that he is retired but continues "to bother Republican thugs" by writing a weekly column for the *White River Valley News*. He reports his activities are "same as last year. Active in support of Troopies and veterans. Yeller Dawg Democrat." He counts his honors and awards as "Republicans don't like me. Like I give a damn." Saunders is a grandfather for the first time. #1 son, a graphic artist and martial arts master and guru, is the father, while the mother of Leo Madison Drey-Saunders (future as-

tronaut) is an MD from Harvard. Saunders' other son has a landscape business and is a US Navy vet, who is married to a teacher. Saunders' step granddaughter is a bright, beautiful fourteen year old. Saunders has been married for twenty-five years to Nancy Armitage Miller, who is retired from U of A. They still live in the woods in an old house and are still involved with Vietnam Veterans Against the War. Budd Saunders likes to quote another VVAW member, John W. Kniffin, Sgt. USMC: "I have taken an oath 'to defend the government and constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic.' What do I do when my government becomes the greatest enemy of the constitution?"

Roger Schultz (PhD 1989) was recently named dean of the college of arts and sciences at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA.

Annamarie Slikker (BA 2002) is legislative associate with Earthjustice in Washington, DC. She is a member of the state bar of California.

Betty Newton Smith (MA 1971) retired in 1999, after teaching history for twenty-eight years at Fayetteville High School. She enjoys traveling, sewing baby quilts, and taking pictures, and is active in mission projects at her church and volunteer services for the elderly and sick. Mrs. Smith has received the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Award from the U of A (1993), the J. C. Penney Golden Rule Award (1997), the PBS Club Service Award (1999-2000), and the Northwest Arkansas Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee Award (2002). She is married to Leortice Smith, and they have two sons: Leortice, Jr. (married to Tonia) and Trebus (married to Alana), and a grandson, Xavier, who is two. The Smiths cruised to Alaska last May and had a wonderful trip, then spent time in Redmond, WA, enjoying their grandson.

Carrie M. Smith (BA 2005) teaches U.S. history and sociology at Greenwood High School. She coaches varsity co-ed cheer and pom there and has been honored as NCA rookie coach of the year. She will marry her high-school sweetheart this May.

Emily Jordan Smith (BA 2003) is a fourth-year pharmacy student at UAMS in Little Rock. She is engaged to be married to Rob Yoder of Little Rock this June.

Rachel J. Smith (BA 2002, MA

2004) is currently working on a PhD in history at the University of Mississippi and teaches two classes a semester as a graduate assistant. All she reports under activities is "studying for comprehensive exams in April."

Dena Alter Spears (BA 1975) of Little Rock has been a teacher for fifteen years and in pharmaceutical sales for seven. She's married to Ronnie Spears and has three children: Corbin Levin (27), Catherine McGlothlin (24), and Jacob Spears (20), who is currently enrolled at the U of A.

Steve Straessle (BA 1992) teaches social studies and is principal of Catholic High School for Boys in Little Rock. He and his wife, Ann Louise, celebrated the birth of their fifth child, Kathleen Louise "Kate" Straessle, on October 30, 2006. Straessle enjoys running and reading.

Jesse Taylor, Jr. (MA 1966, JD 1968) has retired after thirty-four years with the May Department Stores Co. and Federated Retail Holdings, Inc., where he was senior counsel working primarily in the loss prevention/security, employment, and risk management areas. He lives in Kirkwood, MO, and says that now that he is retired he plans to catch up on his reading (history, of course), grow a beard, and continue to play on the senior softball circuit (including in national tournaments). After earning his masters degree in the History Department, Taylor graduated from the U of A Law School and then spent three years in the Marine Corps as a captain in JAG. He is still in contact with fellow classmates and good friends Dr. Tom Young and Dr. John Barham and would like to hear from more in his class. He has fond memories of the Department but "cannot say the same for Law School."

Christopher T. Teter (BA 1987) of Fort Smith is Family Services Coordinator for the State of Arkansas. He enjoys photography, poetry, fishing, guitar, and camping, and is a member of the Beer Can Collectors of America. His daughter, Carolanne (13), was recently inducted into the Bill Alverson Honor Society at Chaffin Junior High in Fort Smith. Teter writes that he recently saw Elliott West on a television documentary about Annie Oakley. "He looked great!!"

Tommy R. Thompson (MA 1965), professor emeritus at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, is working on a Civil War article and family genealogy and also reads history and nineteenth and twentieth-century American and British literature. Last fall, he took part in the Annual Juvenile Diabetes "Walk to Cure Diabetes" in Colorado Springs (his granddaughter there has diabetes). He

visited his daughter and her family in Orlando twice this year, visiting historical sites along the way.

Kermit F. Tracy (BA 1985) is a Union Pacific locomotive engineer based in North Little Rock and also chief warrant officer 2 with the Arkansas Army National Guard. He served with the 10th Mountain Division in the Kosovo Force Rotation, September 2001-May 2002, and is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, August 2003-May 2005 (39th BCT, Arkansas Army National Guard, with 1st Cavalry Division, USA). He and his wife, Annette, have been married sixteen years and have two daughters, Eryn and Morgan.

Gilbert P. Verser (BA 1999, MA 2001) recently took the bold step of leaving his position in admissions at the University of Missouri (what he calls "the mock political world of university administration") to work as an adjunct instructor of history. He teaches three classroom courses at Moberly Area Community College in Missouri, an online course through MACC, and online courses for U of A CC-Morrilton and ASU-Beebe. He writes: "Since most of my work is home-based I now find ample time to read what I wish. For the last several months I've been captivated by biographies of our early presidents, diplomats, justices, etc. My eyes have caressed Chernow's *Hamilton*, McCullough's *Adams*, Nagel's *JQA*, Remini's *Jackson*, and Unger's *Lafayette*." Verser's wife, Rebecca, just completed a degree in communication at Missouri, so they don't know where they'll end up next. Their beautiful little girl, Claudia Mae Verser, is two. "Parenthood certainly does change your outlook on life."

Jerry Vervack (BA 1966, MA 1977, PhD 1990) is dean of social and behavioral sciences and education at Northwest Arkansas Community College. He's published an article on the desegregation of Hoxie schools in the online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. He has two daughters, Natalia and Alexandra, who are from Kazakhstan. They are nine and six.

Dennis M. Wagemann (BA 2004) is admissions advisor at Northwest Arkansas Community College. You might recall that in last year's report he insisted "2006 is the year of the Cubs!!" Undeterred, he's saying the same thing about 2007. Wagemann describes his activities as "voting Democratic and bask-

ing in the glow of victory.”

Robert E. Wahlman (BA 1978) has served as chief financial officer of Merrill Lynch Bank USA, a \$60 billion institution, since 2003. He has published two books, *A Guide to Accounting, Financial Reporting and Auditing in the Federal Government* (1990) and *The Bank of New England: Failure and Resolution* (1991). A Certified Public Accountant, Wahlman was appointed U.S. Government Accountability Office Accounting Fellow in 1990 to investigate bank failures and bank examination practices. He has been married to Patricia Lyon since 1984. The couple have three sons (17, 15, and 12), and Wahlman coaches their soccer, basketball, and baseball teams. Since leaving Arkansas in 1981, he has lived in New Orleans, Washington, DC, Columbus, OH, Aron, CT, and now New Hope, PA. He writes, “While my career path has deviated from original research and writing, the investigative, analytical, and writing skills I started developing as a history student at the University of Arkansas have been key to my career successes. I use these skills every day in my current tasks.”

Elizabeth Salisbury Warren (BA 1994) is a health law attorney at Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC, in Nashville, TN, and was recently named member of that firm. She and her husband, Kevin, have two sons, Jude (3) and Xavier (1). She writes, “I’ve just started to try to interest Jude in history. One of the main roads in Nashville is called ‘Old Hickory.’ He keeps asking where ‘New Hickory’ is. My attempts to explain that ‘Old Hickory’ was a nickname for Andrew Jackson and that there is no ‘New Hickory’ have not been persuasive.”

Tawana Phillips West (BA 1968) is library/media specialist but plans to retire from teaching at the end of this school year. Last year, she was selected Teacher of the Year at Walker Elementary School in Springdale. West’s husband, Leon, is a professor of mechanical engineering at the U of A, son Jason (U of A BSE) is a systems analyst at Texas Instruments in Dallas, and daughter Cara (Wellesley 2003) is attending graduate school at the University of Chicago. West is active in the American Library Association, the American Association of School Librarians, the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media, and the Smocking Arts Guild of America.

Shanna Wilcox (BA 2002) is a

registered dental hygienist in Missouri but has been taking extended maternity leave to care for her baby daughter, Kathryn “Katy” Shayne Wilcox, born last June. “I love being a mommy!” she says.

Emily Boggan Wineland (MA 2006) married Andre Wineland, a third-year medical student at UAMS, last June. They live in Little Rock. She is a lobbyist with DBH Management Consultants, a contract lobbying firm. When she’s not working (“which is rare”) she rock climbs, slalom skis, and volunteers with a number of nonprofit and political organizations.

James A. Wooten (MA 1950) of Shreveport is retired, having been a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He lists his activities as hunting and looking after his grandchildren.

Patrick Zollner (BA 1989) has been promoted to director of the Cultural Resources Division of the Kansas State Historical Society. This division contains the State Historic Preservation Office staff as well as the Archeology Department. He has also served as the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer since February 2006. Zollner and his wife, Lynne, who is Historic Resources Administrator for the city of Lawrence, live in Lawrence with their children, Elizabeth (second grade) and Joseph (pre-K).

Deaths

Suzanne Maberry (BA 1980) died November 23, 2006 in Fayetteville. Born in Dallas and well-traveled before her arrival here, she remained a presence in our department long after earning a bachelor’s degree with honors. Suzanne worked in the office and on the college staff, and served as assistant editor of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* in the early 1990s. She also worked for Lou-

isiana State University Press, was treasurer of the Southern Association for Women Historians, and befriended many on our faculty. In a moving eulogy, Lynda Coon recalled Suzanne’s “smoky, throaty, devilish laughter,” and the special place she held on “Pill Hill,” Fayetteville’s own Left Bank (so known for the neighborhood’s proximity to an earlier incarnation of Washington Regional Medical Center). “Suzanne became a repository of local memory, a sage advisor to Pill Hill’s assorted inhabitants and a creator of festive space. Her death has left a tear in the social fabric of Pill Hill that will require a long time to mend.”

Efton G. Swain (MA 1953) died November, 7, 2006, at his home in Wesley, AR. He was born on March, 27, 1920 in Porum, OK, and joined the Marines Corps on November 6th, 1941. During the Second World War, he was a radio operator and served as sergeant for a the group that repaired radio equipment for all planes at Henderson Air Base in the Solomon Islands. He received a commendation for air raids conducted in September 1943. He married Leta Avis Counts while in the Marines, and was honorably discharged in November 1945. Swain obtained a BA in History and English from Harding College, and later earned a master’s degree in our department at the U of A. He began a long career of teaching and coaching basketball in 1949. He worked as principal of the Winslow and Elkins schools, moved to Oregon, and then to Sacramento, CA. In 1968, he returned to his wife’s hometown of Wesley. He subsequently taught English and coached for the Huntsville public schools, retiring in 1984. Swain also coached summer Razorback basketball clinics at the U of A until 1986.



NEWLETTER

Editor: Patrick Williams

Assistant Editor: Rebecca Wright

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Jeanne Short for their assistance.**

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