

# California History Action

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**BEAT  
THING**  
DAVID MELTZER

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## CCPHers Venture North

This year's CCPH conference turned out to be an undeniable success. Taking place in Eureka from September 23 to 26, the conference attracted over 130 attendees with its broad range of sessions and special event offerings. Following a very well-attended pre-conference workshop on Caltrans' new programmatic agreement for compliance with Section 106 review requirements, the conference kicked off in grand style with a reception at the Morris Graves Museum of Art (housed in Eureka's marvelously restored Carnegie Library), which featured a special exhibit of the work of the late photographer, and north coast native, Peter Palmquist. The exhibit was funded by the Humboldt Arts Council, CCPH, and the State Office of Historic Preservation.



This year's conference stipend recipients: Heather McCummins, Justyna Bartkiewicz, Chris Kuzak, Blythe Wilson, and Terri Jacquemain.

The following morning, the conference program officially began with a plenary session that featured three powerful figures in the State's management of historical resources—California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman, State Historic Preservation Officer Wayne Donaldson, and State Archivist Douglas Stone. Following the plenary, break-out sessions filled the remainder of the day Friday and all day Saturday (see article on page 5 for summaries of some of the conference sessions and tours). The annual awards luncheon on Friday afternoon was extremely well attended, and in addition to this year's CCPH award



Conference attendees enjoy the opening reception amid the gorgeous wood detailing at Eureka's former Carnegie Library

winners (see article on page 3), the recipients of this year's student/new professional conference stipends (funded through a grant from the Office of Historic Preservation) were introduced to the attendees. They included Justyna Bartkiewicz of George Washington University, Amy Brewster of CSU San Jose, Terri Jacquemain of UC Riverside, and Chris Kuzak, Heather McCummins, and Blythe Wilson of CSU Sacramento. Many attendees then took advantage of another workshop offering on Friday afternoon, this time at the historic Ricks House, which promised to give firsthand glimpses into stories that local buildings can tell of their pasts and ideas of how to weave these into

practical planning for a buildings' future. The conference's first tour, a walking tour of Eureka's old town given by local historian Ray Hillman, took place Friday evening—in fact, the tour was so popular that a second "showing" ended up being scheduled for Sunday morning. Friday evening the conference also hosted a public meeting held by California State Parks and the Office of Historic Preservation to collect input about their agencies' respective plans for history and historic preservation in California.

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A newsletter for history advocacy published by the  
**California Council for the Promotion of History**  
*Bridging the Past, Present, and Future*

## CCPH Board Meets During Eureka Conference

The CCPH board met on the evening of September 23, 2004, in Eureka at the Red Lion Hotel. The evening meeting was scheduled so that board members could be able to attend the all-day tour on Sunday following the conference. President Jenan Saunders called the meeting to order at 8:07 pm. After a round of introductions, the board approved the minutes from its June 12, 2004, meeting, then moved on to discuss the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Madeline Bowen reported that our account balance is up a little due to conference attendance and increased membership, which resulted from a membership outreach drive over the summer.

Saunders then briefly discussed History Day for 2005 and handed out a lengthy explanation of next year's theme (developed by National History Day). She challenged the board to develop suggested topics in California history (with brief, one-paragraph explanations) that could be distributed to teachers and students by the Constitutional Rights Foundation, which coordinates California History Day. In relation to the History Museums Roundtable, the committee coordinators plan to discuss having one central event that could serve both the north and south regions. It was suggested that they might invite the California Cultural and Historical Endowment to discuss applying for endowment grants, which is a hot topic right now. There was no formal Legislative

Action Committee report as things are pretty quiet due to the State Legislature being out of session. The federal bill to give \$10 million to the California Missions Foundation was briefly discussed. Then a guest to the meeting, Riccardo Gaudino, asked the board about support for a legislative proposal he's working on to promote maritime history in schools and state parks in California. The board asked that he submit something in writing for the board's consideration at a future meeting. Saunders then reported that Monte Kim has stepped down as Membership Committee chair because he has moved to Savannah, Georgia. She also announced that membership is now up to 292 members, and that more people have been joining as a result of the conference, so our numbers should continue to rise.

Leslie Fryman volunteered to take over as membership chair. Saunders announced that the mini-grants for this year have been awarded and would also be announced at the awards ceremony the following day. Jim Newland reported that the board election was held and he had just

received the ballots. New board members, beginning terms in January, are Randy Beeman of Bakersfield and Abraham Shragge of San Diego. Saunders announced that the Public Sector CRM Committee chair is still open. Under this topic, she also announced that the first round of grant applications for the new California Cultural and Historical Endowment are due October 1. Fryman then told the board that she has a growing list of updates to the Register of Professional Historians, with one new listing. She will work to utilize her new position as Membership Committee chair to do further outreach for the register. In relation to the Standing Conference Committee, Heather McCummins will be working on a binder about conferences (one copy of which will be kept at the office and another copy given to each year's committee chair). Chuck Wilson mentioned that he did get a binder from Scott Hudlow and will look at the information in it in relation to creating a new, more comprehensive binder.

Fryman and Pam Conners reported that the conference appeared to be quite a success in terms of attendees and program interest, but that there have also been some snafus that can help us make changes to the way we plan and carry out conferences in the future. Saunders then reported that the local arrangements chair for the 2005 conference in Visalia will be Randy Beeman and that Meta Bunse has agreed to serve as program chair. She then asked about suggestions for the 2006 conference. Santa Rosa, San Jose, Chico, Novato, and Vallejo were all mentioned as possible locations. After some discussion, the board suggested Saunders focus in on Santa Rosa, Vallejo, and San Jose and report back at the next meeting.

The letter CCPH submitted regarding the report of the California Performance Review team was discussed next, with the board voting to support the decision of the Executive Committee to submit the letter. Under new business, CCPH's agreement with CSU Sacramento was discussed in relation to the requirement that we host one event or other activity on campus per school year. Jenan reported that plans are underway

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### Board Election Results

The results are in, and our new slate of board members, who will begin their three-year term in January 2005, include:

Randall Beeman, Bakersfield  
Mark Bowen, Sacramento  
Pam Conners, Sonora  
Leslie Masunaga, San Jose  
Abraham Shragge, San Diego



Dick Orsi (center) has an animated conversation with fellow board member Meta Bunse (left) and Stephen Wee during this year's annual conference.

### California History Action

Volume 22, Number 4  
Fall 2004  
ISSN 0882-357X

Published quarterly  
by the  
California Council for the  
Promotion of History

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California History Action

## 2004 CCPH Awards Honor Outstanding Achievement and Dedication to History

Three awards were presented by CCPH at the 2004 annual conference. The Friday afternoon luncheon was extremely well attended (filled to capacity as a matter of fact). CCPH presents awards each year to individuals, agencies, and organizations working in the fields of public history. There are three categories of awards: The Certificate of Meritorious Performance, the Award of

Distinction, and the James C. Williams Award for Service to CCPH.

This year, the Certificate of Meritorious Performance was presented to the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District's Indian Education Program. This program is dedicated to producing Native American cultural curriculum materials of the highest quality. The program's Indian Education Resource Center, at Hoopa Elementary School, is a clearinghouse for curriculum and reference materials on local history, foods, plants, baskets, housing, and more.



Sarah Supahan accepts the Certificate of Meritorious Performance Award

The program also sponsors a number of locally-developed history curricula about local Native American issues. These materials apply current educational theories and have been well-received throughout the state. Native American and non-Indian students alike have benefited from the balanced view of Indian history presented in the program's materials. The materials feature thought-provoking activities and readings, using primary and secondary sources to set the context for the activities. Activities include such things as graphing the nutritional levels of Indian and Spanish foods, making timelines and population charts, and analysis of poetry and other writings, for example. All of the materials are in line with the California State History/Social Science Framework and standards. Program Director Sarah Supahan accepted the award on behalf of the school district.

The second award of the afternoon was the Award of Distinction, presented to Dr. Hans Kreutzberg of the California Office of Historic Preservation. It was way back in 1976, America's Bicentennial, that Hans Kreutzberg, who earlier earned history degrees from UC Berkeley and the University of Pennsylvania, first joined the staff of the Office of Historic Preservation. The Project Review Unit of the office, which Kreutzberg has capably managed for many years, can only best be regarded as a "pressure cooker" because it literally reviews billions of dollars of proposed infrastructure projects each year. Time after time, Kreutzberg has found an avenue within the regulatory compliance framework to negotiate win-win situations for project proponents and historic preservation advocates alike. Kreutzberg is a national leader in working with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to craft innovative Programmatic Agreements, including models with California State Parks, the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Emergency Manage-

*We are pleased to be able to present remarks made by Dr. Hans Kreutzberg in accepting the CCPH Award of Distinction. We trust that they will prove as moving and inspirational to our readers as they were to those of us who had the good fortune to hear them in person.*

"About three months from now, the sun will set on my almost 30-year-long association with the Office of Historic Preservation. During those decades, I have been privileged to have participated in our collective efforts to advance the idea that caring for and caring about our heritage and our heritage resources is a virtuous and noble pursuit. I truly believe this because the presence of the past, both physically and cognitively, in the consciousness and lives of each generation, is nothing less than a moral imperative. If we ignore, forget, undervalue, or dishonor the past and the inescapable legacy it bequeaths, the moral compass of society will assuredly go awry, often with catastrophic consequences. No lesson of the past is more fundamental than this.

We all clearly understand, and are motivated in our actions and decisions, by the salutary benefits that derive from heritage preservation. As public historians, we, and our colleagues in related disciplines as well, dedicate ourselves to nurturing and sustaining an awareness and appreciation of the past. But let us also be inspired in what we do and why we do it by the supremely important underlying purpose of our labors.

During my tenure at the Office of Historic Preservation, I have witnessed with great pleasure and satisfaction the growth, development, individuation, and success of the discipline of public history. Your talents and your skills are in demand. And, I have watched with equally great satisfaction the formal inclusion in law and public policy of what our profession values and advocates. Though the challenges have been great and the setbacks disappointing, we have progressed.



Hans Kreutzberg displays his award of distinction, a watercolor that features San Francisco's Old Mint Building

I am proud of the contribution made by the Office of Historic Preservation in supporting and promoting our craft, the humanistic philosophy that is its touchstone; I am equally proud of our efforts over the years to help ensure that our heritage is ever with us. But I can also tell you with unqualified honesty that without your labors and your support, this would not have been possible. I therefore thank you for all that you have done, individually and collectively to assist the office in its mission.

Now that I am long in the tooth and approaching the door marked "exit," it is especially gratifying to receive your acknowledgement. It confirms as almost nothing else can, that my service to the public, ably assisted by colleagues within and without the Office of Historic Preservation, has been eminently worthwhile. My thanks to each and every one of you."

—Dr. Hans Kreutzberg

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This year a second award of distinction was presented, in memoriam, for the work of photographer Peter Palmquist, pictured here with his dog, Max.

ment Agency, and, most recently, the Federal Highway Administration and California Department of Transportation. Designed with a purpose to streamline common and routine practices and processes, these PAs are carefully crafted to ensure the legal and ethical intent of the process is not compromised. Kreutzberg's numerous contributions over nearly three decades in the support of better cultural resources management and historic preservation has already left an indelible mark on California's heritage, one that will continue long after he retires from the Office of Historic Preservation at the end of this year.

The third award presented this year was another Award of Distinction, this time presented in memoriam to photographer and photographic historian Peter Palmquist. His award was accepted by his fiancée and partner of 26 years, Pam Mendehlson. From his initiation into photography with a brownie camera to his international recognition as a photographic historian, Peter Palmquist was a leading authority on the history of photography of the West, and on women in photography worldwide. Palmquist was a professional photographer for more than 50 years, as well as being a native of the north coast. After graduating from Ferndale High School, he enlisted in the Army, and while stationed in Paris he photographed many heads of state as well as famous stars of stage and screen. After his service, Palmquist graduated from Humboldt State University in 1965, and was also the university photographer. His interest in the history of photography was born in 1971, and it led to his amassing more than 250,000 images, including scores of rare images from the earliest days of western American photography. His extensive collection of images and research materials is housed at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University. Palmquist's principal interests were the American West, California, and Humboldt County before 1950, and the international history of women in photography. He curated scores of exhibitions, delivered hundreds of lectures on these subjects, published over 60 books and monographs and numerous articles, and served as a consultant and researcher on many projects. In the past few years, Palmquist took up his camera again and was preparing for a retrospective of his own work in 2005. His stepdaughter, Rebekah Burgess, who is currently getting her PhD in photographic history, will curate that exhibition (she also participated in a session at the CCPH conference about her work). Peter Palmquist was killed by a hit and run driver on January 13, 2003, in Oakland at the age of 66. Although cut off in the prime of his long and fruitful career, Palmquist's legacy is one that will continue to educate and inspire, as was experienced by the conference attendees who had the opportunity to view the incredibly absorbing and stimulating exhibition of his work featured at the conference's opening reception.

CCPH congratulates all our awardees and thanks them for their service to the work of public history and public historians. For more information about the CCPH awards, and a listing of past award winners, visit our web site at [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph). ■



The mosaic floor of Eureka's Carnegie Library is shown off in fine style during the conference's opening reception.

local Indian sites (see tour summary on page 5).

So, despite the alleged "remoteness" of Eureka as a conference location, those who made the trek truly enjoyed themselves and found the travel to have been worthwhile. Conference organizers Pam Conners and Leslie Fryman deserve a hearty pat on the back for their hard work and tireless pursuits in pulling together what turned out to be one of CCPH's best conferences. And thanks also go out to the conference committee, local arrangements coordinators, and sponsors and supporters, including JRP Historical Consulting, Humboldt State University, the College of the Redwoods, the Morris Graves Museum of Art and the Humboldt Arts Council, Jones & Stokes Associates, Stanislaus National Forest, and the California Office of Historic Preservation. CCPH looks forward to seeing you next year when we meet in Visalia, and we're working hard to match the quality and breadth of this year's successful conference. ■

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Saturday offered a day full of interesting and varied session topics, although many conference attendees decided to take advantage of one of two afternoon tour options. Both tours featured lunch at the Samoa Cookhouse, before splitting up to take tour goers to either Samoa and Scotia or to the townsite of Falk and the logging museum at Fort Humboldt, and to see some of the covered bridges of Humboldt County. Saturday evening's annual banquet drew a large crowd, who were well served by the banquet speaker, Gray Brechin a noted author and fellow at UC Berkeley, who discussed his newest project, the New Deal Legacy Project (see article on page 11). And, although most CCPH conferences end with the Saturday night event, this one spilled over into Sunday with an all-day tour of



Jack Surmani and Pauline Grenbeaux enjoy a moment between conference sessions

## Conference Sessions and Tours: Select Snapshots

by Tory Swim, Shaine Klima, and Blythe Wilson

### Local Indian History: The Visible, the Half-Hidden, and the Entirely Obscure

This last tour of the conference, led by local historian Jerry Rohde, was a wonderful all-day tour of local Indian sites in the Eureka area filled with insightful commentary and compelling discussions regarding how interpretation can be improved at various sites. The first stop on the tour was a replica Yurok village, Sumeg, at Patrick Point's State Park. Next, the tour visited the Indian Arrow Tree landmark and picnicked at Fort Humboldt, with a beautiful view of the bay, after which they visited the Fort Humboldt Museum. The last two stops were to the long-gone bayside site of the second largest Wiyot village in the area and to the Table Bluff Cemetery. The tour concluded by visiting a reservation that is currently occupied and two reservations that were once occupied.



- Saturday's
- tours featured a
- rousing lunch
- at the Samoa
- Cookhouse.



Tony Platt takes part in a discussion following his paper on the connection between the redwood conservation and eugenics movements.

### Mill Towns, Logging Camps & Company Towns - Scotia/Samoa

This tour visited Samoa, Scotia, and Dolbeer logging camps and company towns. Leslie Heald, Suzanne Guerra, and Jack Surmani began the tour with a meal at the historic Somoa Cookhouse, "the last surviving cookhouse in the West." Just as our great-grandfathers might have done, CCPH members enjoyed generous portions of food and fought tooth and nail to get their fair share. Entrees, side dishes and desserts floated up and down the long wooden benches. After lunch the group toured Somoa, a dilapidated redwood lumber company town established in 1893. Scotia, "one of the last company towns in the U.S.", was the next destination. This town continues to operate under the management of The Pacific Lumber Company. The museum and surrounding community provided insights into the lives of the workers and the company's methods of utilizing the natural environment. The tour's final destination, the Dolbeer logging camp, now a Boy Scout retreat, served as yet another engaging reminder of the importance and unique role of the logging and milling industries in Northern California.

### Regional Voices From a Turbulent Time

This session introduced members of UC Berkeley's Regional Oral History Office (ROHO). The presenters each suggested different ways of looking at and using oral histories in research, along with some new methods on how

to procure them. Shannon Page and Lisa Rubens used the oral histories taken from students who participated in the radical political and social movements at UC Berkeley during the 1960s to demonstrate other methods in which oral histories might be used. They looked beneath the questions asked and the answers given during the interview to the tone implied. Oral histories go beyond a historical moment and, if used properly, can contribute to the sociology of a time period and how it affected the following generations. Martin Meeker and Eric Vettel did focus more on the sociological impacts during their presentations. Their methods of using oral history can track

the change in communities and society over time, while learning different directions in which to take the interview, such as which questions are asked. The panel from ROHO demonstrated how oral histories could be a benefit to society, not only historically, but also sociologically and within a community. ■



- And isn't part of
- the fun of a
- conference just
- soaking up the
- local "color"?
- Well, in this
- case Lucy
- Barber and Sara
- Roberson were
- caught
- lunching at the
- Lost Coast
- Brewery the
- day before
- sessions began.

(continued from page 2)

to host a history careers workshop in mid-October and then another event in the Spring (to make up for our not having an event last year). Lee Simpson suggested that the event in the spring could have something to do with historic preservation. Next Simpson discussed a new project the university is interested in pursuing and asked about CCPH's interest in it. Kansas State University is unable to continue publication of the *Journal of the West*, and CSU Sacramento would like to submit a proposal to take



Lee Simpson (far right), an ex officio member of the CCPH board, chats with some of her Sac State students—and future board members?—Tory Swim, Blythe Wilson, Shaine Klima, and BranDee Bruce

over the publication. The board asked that Simpson return with something in writing that they could consider at their next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm, with the next board meeting planned for February 5, 2005, in Sacramento. ■

## Fordham Foundation Issues Report on Textbook Adoption

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

The Thomas B. Fordham Institute has released a report called "The Mad, Mad World of Textbook Adoption." The report is the first of a new Fordham Institute series, "Compact Guides to Education Solutions," that seeks to provide practical solutions to K-12 education problems for policy makers, legislators, school leaders, and activists. These concise guides are meant to help drive reforms at the local, state, and national levels by offering actionable policy recommendations. The report argues that the textbook adoption process used in 21 states "consistently produces second-rate textbooks that replicate the same flaws and failings over and over again." The report states that the textbook adoption process has been hijacked by pressure groups; texts are judged by the way they live up to absurd sensitivity guidelines and a "textbook cartel" controlled by just a few companies dictates what shall be published. To solve the problems, the report recommends legislators should scrap the adoption process and states should devolve funding for and decisions about textbook purchases to individual schools, districts, and even to individual teachers. However, if states opt to maintain textbook adoption procedures, the report suggests six steps towards reform. For more information on this report, visit [www.edexcellence.net/institute/publication/publication.cfm?id=335](http://www.edexcellence.net/institute/publication/publication.cfm?id=335). ■

## National Assessment Educational Process Authorization Act

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

On July 22 Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) along with co-sponsor Edward Kennedy (D-MA) introduced legislation (S 2721), the "American History Achievement Act." Alexander's bill amends the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act by requiring state academic assessments of student achievement in United States history. The bill calls for trial state academic assessments of students' achievement in United States history in grades 8 and 12. These assessments would take place in 10 or more geographically diverse states. This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions for consideration. ■

## Teaching with Historic Places Web Site is Updated

Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP), a National Park Service educational outreach program, has recently updated its web site. With the help of the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) and the assistance of two TwHP interns, each TwHP lesson now has a link that shows teachers which social studies standards from the NCSS's "Curriculum Standards for Social Studies" apply to each lesson. TwHP lessons are matched to the Performance Expectations for Middle Grades, but the lessons often also meet the corresponding or additional performance expectations for early grades and/or high school as well. These voluntary standards promote a multi-disciplinary understanding of civic issues and involvement in civic affairs. The TwHP has also created a new social studies index page, so teachers can easily see which lessons fit within a particular "theme strand" from the standards. To visit the TwHP web site go to [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/). ■

## HISTORY NOW Launched

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

The Gilder Lehrman Institute has launched HISTORY NOW, a new online journal for history teachers and students. HISTORY NOW will feature articles by noted historians as well as lesson plans, links to related websites, bibliographies, and many other resources. In each issue, the editors will bring together historians, master teachers, and archivists to comment on a single historical theme. The first issue of HISTORY NOW discusses the topic of elections. To access HISTORY NOW, visit [www.historynow.org](http://www.historynow.org). ■

## National History Day Announces 2005 Theme

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

National History Day announced that the theme of their 2005 contest will be "Communication in History: The Key to Understanding." This theme offers students the opportunity to think more deeply about the relevance of three key terms: communication, history, and understanding. This year's theme presents a wonderful opportunity for students to develop projects that will help them discover the connections between history and the way they see themselves in their own worlds today. Questioning their understanding of these key terms and then applying them to a person, moment, or event encourages students to discover their own investments in and contributions to history. Ultimately, it is this kind of challenge that may help them view history as a lens through which they can more fully understand their present and develop more informed and active approaches to the creation of their futures. For more information on the National History Day's 2005 contest, visit [www.nationalhistoryday.org](http://www.nationalhistoryday.org).

This year's CCPH award winner at History Day in California was Annie Rakich, for her paper entitled "The Watts Riots: An Encounter Between Races." ■

## SB 18 Passes, But In a Very Different Form

SB 18, a bill discussed in past issues of this newsletter, was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger on September 29. The bill language was amended a number of times in response to concerns about the authority it sought to give to the Native American Heritage Commission within the review process under the California Environmental Quality Act. In its final form, the bill made two changes that could have considerable impact in relation to preservation of historical and cultural resources of significance to California's Native Americans. First, Native American tribes were added to the list of entities authorized to acquire and hold conservation easements, an important step in ensuring tribes are able to acquire and preserve resources of significance to them. This authorization extends

- to both federally recognized tribes and those on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission.
- Second, the bill requires the Office of Planning and Research to establish guidelines by March 1, 2005, advising local governments of their responsibility as part of the general planning process to consult with tribes for the preservation of, or the mitigation of impacts to, Native American resources. These consultation requirements will come into play as part of the open space element of general plans, which, unlike the optional historic preservation element, is a mandatory element. Due to the vagueness of the bill's language, it remains to be seen exactly how this consultation process will work, so those involved in general planning will be watching for release of the guidelines to assess the true significance of this bill's passage. ■

## Senate Set To Act on Amendments To NAGPRA

*from the National Coalition for History's Washington Update*

On September 30, 2004, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO), chair of the Senate Indians Affairs Committee, advanced to the Senate floor the "Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004" (S. 2843). The legislation makes technical amendments to various provisions of federal law concerning Native Americans. A little known provision in the bill also makes an important two-word amendment to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA; P.L. 101-601). The measure inserts the words "or was" to the definition of "Native American" found in Section 2(9) of NAGPRA. Campbell believes the additional language is needed to ensure that in the future Native American groups will be able to reclaim ancient remains regardless of whether the remains can be linked to present-day tribes. As readers of this publication may recall, a recent Federal Appeals Court ruling found that NAGPRA is worded in such a way that, in the absence of conclusive evidence, Native American claims to ancestral remains can be challenged (see Summer 2004 issue). The two-word addition to NAGPRA is viewed as one way to prevent another controversy similar to the Kennewick man debate from emerging. The legislation has passed the Senate Indians Affairs Committee and is awaiting action in the full Senate. ■

CCPH thanks the National Coalition for History for many of the government news and legislative items reprinted in this newsletter. The full text of archived Washington Updates can be found online at [www.h-net.msu.edu/~ncc](http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~ncc)

## Update: Federal Historic Preservation-Related Bills

The recent tax bill signed by the president on October 22 (known as the JOBS bill) did not include the controversial amendment that would have eliminated the 10 percent historic rehabilitation tax credit. This amendment was opposed by the American Institute of Architects, among others.

Another bill covered in an earlier issue of this newsletter was S 2469 (and the related HR 3223), which is an amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act. The bill would modify membership and quorum requirements for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, allow agencies or private entities, other than the Department of the Interior, to provide financial and administrative services to the Council by agreement, authorize the Council to solicit additional property, facilities, and services, authorize the Council to enter into cooperative agreements with any Federal agency that administers a NHPA grant or assistance program to improve program administration, and authorize the Council to evaluate the effectiveness of such programs and make recommendations for improvement to agency heads, the president, and Congress. The senate bill is now in the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Parks, and its house counterpart was more recently referred to the House Committee on Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, which has requested executive comment from the Department of the Interior.

A third piece of federal legislation dealing with preservation issues is S 2543, which would establish a program and criteria for the designation of National Heritage Areas. The bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide technical and financial assistance to local coordinating entities to support the establishment of National Heritage Areas and specifies criteria that the Secretary must apply to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating proposed Areas. The bill further states that designation of a National Heritage Area must be by an act of Congress and contingent on the prior completion of a suitability-feasibility study and an affirmative determination by the Secretary that the area meets such criteria. The bill passed the Senate in September and is now in the House Committee on Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands where it is awaiting hearing. ■

## California State History Museum to Become Women's History Museum?

Most readers are by now probably aware of the brouhaha that erupted over a plan to convert the California State History Museum (which had its name changed from the Golden State Museum earlier this year) to a facility that focuses exclusively on the women of California rather than our state's history in general. The *Sacramento Bee*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Los Angeles Times*

### Contacting your Representatives

California State Assembly	<a href="http://www.assembly.ca.gov">www.assembly.ca.gov</a>
California State Senate	<a href="http://www.senate.ca.gov">www.senate.ca.gov</a>
U.S. House of Representatives	<a href="http://www.house.gov">www.house.gov</a>
U.S. Senate	<a href="http://www.senate.gov">www.senate.gov</a>
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger	<a href="http://www.ca.gov">www.ca.gov</a>
President George W. Bush	<a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov">www.whitehouse.gov</a>

### Tracking Legislation

California Legislation	<a href="http://www.leginfo.ca.gov">www.leginfo.ca.gov</a>
Federal Legislation	<a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">thomas.loc.gov</a>

have covered the story in numerous articles (as have other newspapers in the state). The news leaked out to a select group in mid-September after the museum board voted on September 13 to adopt a proposal put before them by First Lady Maria Shriver, and it became news to a wider audience later that month. Those who value the California State History Museum for its stated role of interpreting the wider history of our state by utilizing the resources of the State Archives were heartened by the press coverage of this story, which almost exclusively came down pretty hard on the museum board and the First Lady for this move.

While many folks have a real beef with the idea of changing the focus of the museum in the first place, many more are upset by the manner in which the museum board acted on the first lady's proposal. As Assemblywoman Judy Chu (D-49th) stated, "An issue as important as this needs to be put in the public eye." However, the board's decision to accept the proposal to change the focus of the

museum was anything but public. In fact, the latest news that the board has reaffirmed their commitment to make this change comes as a result of a conference call meeting that the board refused to open to reporters and the public. In this secretive atmosphere, the board also voted to ensure "the ongoing preservation, enhancement, and display of the collections of the California State Archives." Although this added commitment may be somewhat reassuring to those who value the museum as an institution that supports and educates the public about the importance of the State Archives, it further leads one to wonder how a museum dedicated to interpreting the history of women in California can carry out this commitment without coming across as a hodgepodge of themes and ideas without any common thread to unify it. In a statement released after the meeting, Shriver applauded the board's vote, stating, "The California State History Museum board considered today the option of closing its doors or moving

forward with a sound business plan to give the museum a clear vision, identity, and marketing strategy." One has to wonder who is to blame for the museum not currently having a "clear vision, identity, and marketing strategy" (if that is in fact the case) if not the very board that seems so anxious to make this change. It should be noted, as well, that three of the board's trustees have resigned from the board since this entire episode began.

The decision's apparent conflict with public process laws and regulations (in spirit at least, if not in letter) was further emphasized by two moves that didn't make much press but should be concerning to history professionals. The first is that it appears to be have already

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## Bill to Create New Commission on African-American History Vetoed by Governor

There has been movement on a bill that had been discussed in previous issues of this newsletter. Unfortunately, that movement was not in a positive direction. AB 59, which sought to create a new California Commission for the Preservation of African-American History, Culture and Institutions, which was to be housed in the California African-American Museum in Los Angeles, was passed by the State Legislature in August, but vetoed by the governor in late September. In his veto message to the Legislature, the Governor stated, "The establishment of a new commission is not necessary. The Legislature and the Administration can create commissions to advise them without the need for legislation. As I said in my State of the State I am going to 'blow up the boxes;' this bill creates new boxes without explaining the need for a new commission. The Legislature and the Administration have many resources to advise them on the issues that this commission is being created for." ■

an action plan for the establishment and maintenance of the museum, for developing a fundraising plan, and crafting a legislative proposal to carry out the plan. The commission would also be responsible for holding a national conference to address the diverse issues expected to arise in the course of planning. If enacted, the Secretary of Interior is to provide the commission with administrative support and facilities. The commission is required to submit a final report and plans no later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the act. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on House Administration for action. ■

## National Museum of the American Latino

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

On July 20, 2004, Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA) along with 28 other cosponsors, introduced legislation (HR 4863), the "Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2004." As drafted, a 23-member commission would be responsible for establishing

## NARA Efficiency Act Passes—NHPRC Reauthorized

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

On October 11, 2004, the Senate passed the National Archives and Records Administration Efficiency Act of 2003 (H.R. 3478). Adam H. Putman (R-FL) introduced this bill on November 7, 2003, and it passed the House in mid-September 2004. The measure is now on its way to the White House for the president's signature. HR 3478 makes technical amendments to records retention regulations and streamlines the present process for retention of government records. More importantly, the bill grants the Archivist of the United States the authority to charge fees for public use of NARA facilities and authorizes the agency to enter into cooperative agreements with state and local governments, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations in order to assist in carrying out NARA programs. Finally, the bill provides a statutory reauthorization of appropriations for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) through FY 2009. A total of \$10 million is authorized for each year through FY 2009. ■

### Bill to Open Previously Restricted Records at State Archives Signed Into Law

AB 2719, which was covered in the last two issues of this newsletter, was passed by the State Legislature in August and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger on September 24. The bill establishes a maximum period of restriction for records held by the State Archives and requires the Secretary of State's web site to include a public notice about the bill's provisions as a means of notifying individuals and agencies that might be donating materials to the State Archives in the future. CCPH took a position in support of this bill, as it will greatly assist historians and other researchers seeking access to records that had previously been restricted indefinitely. This legislation will be effective January 1, 2005, opening all records created before 1931. More detailed information will be available on the State Archives web site at [www.ss.ca.gov/archives/archives.htm](http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/archives.htm). ■

## CPB and IMLS Partnership

from the California Association of Museum's *E-News*

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) recently announced the creation of a broad initiative to spark collaboration among local public broadcasters, museums and libraries, harnessing community educational resources in new and more meaningful ways. Partnership for a Nation of Learners, a multi-year, \$3 million initiative, will provide resources to bring together libraries, public broadcasters, and museums to leverage community assets and create new pathways to learning, discovery, and exploration. The initiative will offer competitive grants to support existing collaborations and to create new ones, encourage professional development, and conduct project evaluations to measure effectiveness. Grant application guidelines and more information about the initiative are available at [www.cpb.org/partners/](http://www.cpb.org/partners/). ■

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been decided that the new museum will be designed by none other than the first lady's cousin, Edwin Schlossberg of ESI Design in New York. Why the singularly important decision as to who would design the new museum wasn't put through a public process is highly questionable. If, as a result of requesting proposals and reviewing them, the board made the decision to go with Schlossberg, so be it, but at the very least why not get some competition involved in the process? The second is that the museum board made the decision to immediately begin searching for an executive director for the new museum, absent any sort of enabling legislation endorsing their decision, which is a requirement for making this change. The California Association of Museum's *E-News* featured a link to the position announcement on the web site of Museum Management Consultants, Inc. Someone must have immediately questioned the appropriateness of this move, for the company removed the item from its list of available positions (for those who are interested in reading the five-page announcement, the link is gone, but the announcement can still be found at [www.museum-management.com/content/case\\_studies/newpdfs/CWM%20job%20descrip.pdf](http://www.museum-management.com/content/case_studies/newpdfs/CWM%20job%20descrip.pdf)).

In the first lady's defense, the California State History Museum has not been doing well financially since its opening, and the prospect that it will have to soon close its doors absent some sort of funding to continue operations is very real. The success of the Remarkable Women exhibit that opened earlier this year is surely something that helped the board make the determination to accept Shriver's proposal. But the success of one exhibit does not necessarily mean that dedicating the entire museum to this subject would translate into increased revenues, despite Shriver's commitment to raise \$10 million to fund the transformation. In fact she argues that the museum board has to become more aggressive in its fundraising, a suggestion with which few would argue. It leads one to wonder what the board has been doing with its time thus far, and if it may be time to look at changing trustees rather than the museum itself. The whole story is a long way from being over, as the State Legislature must approve the board's decision. Steve Merksamer, a board member and Sacramento lawyer, has said they plan to introduce a bill when the Legislature returns to session in December. The CCPH board is currently considering a proposal to oppose the museum board's decision and the manner in which it came about. Look to the next issue of this newsletter for updated information. ■

# History, Film and Video

by Eve Goldberg

Digital video is a technology whose time has come. Those involved in historical activity can hardly afford NOT to use it. Whether you work with a museum, historical society, archives, business, government agency, or educational institution, video is a superb medium for historic preservation, marketing, fundraising, and education.

The Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research has successfully used video in a number of ways. Says director Sarah Cooper, "We had a short video made on the history and programs of our special library, whose mission is to use history to advance social justice. The video has been a very effective way to introduce the library to new users, to show potential donors and foundations what we're about, and to reward established donors with a special library gift. People really respond to it and it deepens their appreciation for what our organization is and does."

Amy Boyd, program director of the Society of California Pioneers in San Francisco, has used video to "orient" patrons before they begin viewing a new exhibition. "We've had great success in creating low-cost videos that run about 10-15 minutes and provide viewers with a general introduction to the subject matter they're about to immerse themselves in . . . My primary goal is to provide a memorable educational experience for museum visitors of all ages. Our video projects have consistently proven to be the most effective means of engaging our audience and enticing them to return for future exhibitions . . . and future videos!"

These are but two of the creative uses of video available to today's history professional. However, historic preservation and the moving image have been fast friends for over a century. From the late 1890s, when Thomas Edison first recorded on his Kinetoscope a train rounding a bend and bearing down the tracks toward the camera, film (and later, video) has been used in an attempt to document historical reality. At the turn of the century in France, the Lumiere brothers, captivated by the new medium of "moving pictures," were filming street scenes, military parades, workers leaving factories, native dances, and other aspects of the world around them.

In the 1930s, small film collectives all over America, calling themselves the Los Angeles Film and Photo League, the New York Film and Photo League, etc., set about documenting the lives of working people struggling in the Great Depression. Their short, silent, black-and-white documentaries of workers picking cotton in the fields, hobos gathered around a campfire, and unemployed people lined up at a soup kitchen provide us today with a moving, living glimpse into the past. Half a century later, Ken Burns used film to chronicle American history and culture in several epic television series: *The Civil War*, *Baseball*, and *Jazz*. His work has been a benchmark of the breathtaking uses of film to educate ourselves about our history.

While the impulse to honor our past has endured through the years, waves of technological change have altered the form, availability, and accessibility of using film and video to chronicle the world in which we live. As a producer, writer, and editor of historical documentaries for over 20 years, I've experienced many of these changes first hand. I remember when video was considered by most to be the "ugly stepchild" of film. I remember when it took a hefty budget to produce even a short documentary or educational film. Budgets included costly film stock and film processing, expensive camera rentals, pricey editing suites, sound mixing, and film prints. The advent of videotape and small video cameras cut down on some of the time and expense involved in producing documentaries. Finally, with advances in digital cameras and editing, video producers have been able to lower their overhead drastically. Now even the smallest institution or organization can probably afford to create a video.

"We had a video made in conjunction with a special library history project," says Sarah Cooper of the Southern California Library. "We hired a professional documentarian to produce a video for us on the history of the immigrant labor movement in Los Angeles entitled 'Picking Up The Torch.' The video has really worked to fulfill one of our main goals: to connect the history of social movements with ongoing social concerns today. The video is screened at the library from time to time, as well as being checked out by students learning about L.A. labor history. We also showed it at one of our fundraising dinners which highlighted the history of the labor movement. The labor crowd who attended cheered continuously!"

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The Freedom Archives in San Francisco, originally founded to preserve and distribute a vast collection of unique audio recordings from progressive movements, has also employed video in the pursuit of their mission. "Quite frankly, we can reach more people with video than with audio only," says director Claude Marks, himself a longtime radio professional. "We have now produced three videos about historic figures. The latest focuses on the life of Charisse Shumate, a woman who championed the cause of battered women when few were rallying to their support. We felt her story was important and needed to be told. With a couple of modest grants, and using inexpensive digital technology, we were able to produce a high quality, professional video."

All in all, video is a great way to make history come alive. Combining picture and sound, using old and new visuals, narration, music and sound effects, video has a unique capacity to excite and involve viewers. Whether distributed on VHS, DVD, television, or over the Internet, video is an excellent tool for fundraising, education, exhibition, and public outreach.

*Eve Goldberg is a video producer who specializes in historical documentaries as well as videos for non-profit, television and corporate clients. She can be reached at eve-goldberg@sbcglobal.net or 707 571-1870. ■*

## and speaking of preservation projects involving video . . .

# The New Deal Legacy Project

With the sponsorship of the California Historical Society and the Columbia Foundation, writer Gray Brechin, photographer Robert Dawson, and filmmaker Christopher Beaver have undertaken an ambitious two-year project to document the forgotten legacy and lasting impact of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal on the State of California. The project will serve as a model for what those in other states could do, and ultimately for a national inventory.

Within the span of less than a decade, a multitude of federally sponsored "alphabet soup" agencies transformed the Golden State. The CWA, WPA, PWA, and others constructed hospitals, schools, auditoriums, firehouses and police stations, post offices, amphitheatres, university buildings, rose gardens, and recreational centers. While the CCC planted and managed forests, built theaters and trails, and improved national, state, county, and municipal parks, the FSA created migrant farm labor camps which achieved international recognition and amassed a magnificent photographic record of a nation in crisis. Public investment built a vast infrastructure of roads, bridges, airports, sewers, military bases, dams, power lines, and canals which greatly aided the nation in the Second World War and laid the foundations for the post-war economic boom. Inspired by William James' essay "The Moral Equivalent of War," New Deal programs put millions of destitute men and women to work providing useful services and vastly expanding the concept of the public realm. Moreover, an exceptionally high level of craftsmanship identifies much work of the period; New Deal structures are often richly embellished with publicly financed paintings and sculpture.

Gray Brechin likens the legacy to a vast buried city, which the team intends to reveal like an archaeological dig. Opponents of Roosevelt's programs and reforms sought not only to erase them but even the memory of their accomplishments as an option. Records of those accomplishments are thus scattered and spotty, so, in addition to archival data, the team and research associate Harvey Smith will rely upon newspaper and magazine accounts, the memories of New Deal participants, local historians, and preservation organizations. They plan to involve knowledgeable citizens and students to become engaged in and contribute to the inventory.

The project will produce a book and photographic exhibition by Brechin and Dawson and a DVD by Christopher Beaver. It will compile a web site and database whereby citizens can identify how New Deal workers aided specific communities while also serving as a statewide guide to projects of interest. As federal agencies once revolutionized California, the Legacy Project intends to revolutionize the way that Californians see their own state, as well as honor the labor of those forgotten legions upon whose shoulders we unwittingly stand today.

A web site is currently under construction. Meanwhile, those who know of New Deal projects, participants, or records are invited to contact Dr. Gray Brechin, Research Fellow, UC Berkeley Department of Geography, 501 McCone Hall, Berkeley CA 94720; gbrechin@berkeley.edu. ■

## The FY 2005 Federal Budget: For History and Archives It Could Be a Lot Worse

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

Now that the House and Senate have announced virtually all of the FY 2005 budget figures that are of prime interest to the history and archives communities, at last we can provide a little analysis and comparison. Overall, the House took a pragmatic approach to appropriations for next year—Republicans are generally supporting the president's recommendations for most federal agencies. The Senate, which is also operating under tight fiscal limitations, overall did a much better job in allocating resources for history and archives programs. None of the bills has yet gone to conference, and some have yet to pass their respective houses. In some cases legislators are not expected to take them up for formal approval until after the election.

For the Department of Education's "Teaching American History" initiative the House failed to provide any funding for the program in spite of the president's request for funds. The House opted to rely on the key sponsor of the initiative in the Senate, the ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Robert C. Byrd (D-WV) to ensure the continued vitality of the initiative. Byrd came through with another \$120 million for this program that provides competitive grants to Local Education Agencies to "augment the quality of American history instruction and to provide professional development activities and teacher education in the area of American history."

For the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which is also funded out of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill, the House recommended \$261.743 million, of which \$169 million is set aside for state grants; full funding is provided for the "21st Century Librarians Initiative." On the museum side of the IMLS, the House recommended \$20.7 million for the "Museums for America" program and \$450,000 for museum assessment programs. In the Senate, a total of \$262.242 million is recommended for the IMLS with similar funding allocations being set aside for the various IMLS program components.

For the National Archives and Records Administration the House recommended \$318.281 million, a decrease from the president's FY 2005 request of \$320.041 but \$9 million above the FY 2004 enacted operating budget. The House recommended the president's request of \$3 million for the National Historical Publications and Records Administration (NHPRC). If permitted to stand, these numbers would ensure significant belt-tightening for most NARA programs. By contrast, in the Senate, in response to a concerted effort by supporters of the NHPRC, the funds set aside for grants were elevated to \$5 million, with NARA set to get \$320.041 million. NHPRC funding may well rise when the Treasury bill goes to conference. In both the House and Senate, funding of about \$36 million is provided to advance the electronic records initiative. Other funds are present to address other storage and preservation

needs, to enhance technology infrastructure, and to construct or improve NARA and presidential library facilities.

In the Congressional reports for the massive Department of Interior bill, the House is recommending for the National Endowment for the Humanities some \$141.8 million for grants and administration—an increase of nearly \$6.5 million above the 2004 level. Due to "inadequate resources to expand [the program this year]" the House recommended against the administration's recommended \$23 million increase sought for the "We the People" American history initiative. The Senate recommended an appropriation of \$135.3 million, in essence "flat funding" for the NEH. The Senate also stated that "[B]udget constraints have prevented the Committee from providing additional funds to expand the agency's 'We the People' American history initiative." Chairman Cole and his staff, nevertheless, will continue to do what they can to expand and advance the program initiative within the framework of Congressional directives.

The same can be said for the agency that furthers the national policy of preserving historic and cultural resources—the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. For this small agency the House recommended \$4.6 million for operations, an increase of \$649,000 above the FY 2004 level needed to cover fixed costs. The Senate concurred in this funding level.

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) is a special pool of money that supports a variety of historic preservation service related functions, including grants to the states. For FY 2005 the House recommended \$71 million for the HPF—a decrease of just over \$2 million below last year's enacted level. If the House funding scenario is adopted, some \$34.57 million would be allocated for the state historic preservation offices, \$2.963 million for tribal grants, and \$30 million for the "Save America's Treasures" program. Much to the chagrin of the administration, the committee provided zero funding for the new "Preserve America" program, a new preservation initiative strongly supported by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. By contrast, the Senate recommended only \$100,000 more than the House did for the HPF—\$71.250 million—but the upper chamber allocated the funds far more creatively. For the stateside program the Senate responded favorably to a concerted effort by preservationists to increase grant funding: a \$3.430 million increase for state grants is proposed. The Senate recommended a decrease of \$10 million to the Preserve America initiative, but in order not to totally kill the administration's new program, the Senate made a stipulation that \$2 million out of the Save America's Treasures initiative be used to fund Preserve America pilot grants.

For the National Park Service the House is recommending \$1.609 billion for "operations" of the National Park System. In its

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## Update: Federal Funding for Preservation Projects:

In late September, the House passed a bill (HR 4469) to provide \$15 million in federal funding for the restoration of the Immigration Station on Angel Island. An identical bill (S 2833) was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on September 23. The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation has already started raising money to restore the complex, and, to date, has raised about \$16 million, with State help, towards the project's estimated costs of more than \$30 million. The 740-acre island, including the 15-acre immigration station complex, has been a state park since the 1960s. It is believed the bill has a good chance of passage in the Senate.

On October 10 the Senate passed the California Missions Preservation Act (HR 1446 and S 1306), legislation that authorizes funds to restore and repair the California missions and their artworks and artifacts. The measure has been criticized by some as possibly violating the Constitutional doctrine of establishment of religion. The National Park Service opposes the legislation because the agency does not support the creation of new pass-through grant programs. According to provisions in the legislation, up to \$10 million could be channeled through the California Missions Foundation for the repair and rehabilitation of California's 21 historic missions, nineteen of which are owned by the Catholic Church. Before any funds are distributed, however, the Senate bill mandates that a cooperative agreement must be drafted between the Secretary of the Interior and the foundation. That agreement must be approved by the Attorney General, who must determine that it

does not violate the establishment clause of the first amendment of the Constitution. A House version of the bill passed on October 20. Because the Senate version amends the House bill, when Congress returns after the elections, the House will need to consider the Senate amendments and vote on the legislation once again if it is to become law. ■

## State Park Acquisitions Halted

All the talk about State public works officials putting the kibosh on continued acquisitions of lands for state parks has got some environmentalists, nature lovers, and historic preservation advocates worried. For a number of years California State Parks has lamented that continued acquisitions of park land do not come with corresponding changes to the department's budget. What this means is State Parks must manage these new lands using only existing funds, which leads to either inadequate staffing or an inability to actually open the new acquisitions for public use. In October the *San Jose Mercury News* reported that the State Public Works Board had, very quietly at a meeting in March, virtually shut down all expansion of California's state parks. "The action isn't a commentary on the wisdom of purchasing land, the issue is the cost to the State to maintain it," said H. D. Palmer, a spokesman for the Department of Finance. So far in 2004, the Public Works Board has approved acquiring 4,075 acres of land for state parks, mostly in small segments adjacent to existing parks. In 2003, by comparison, the board approved the acquiring of a total of 62,969 acres. Opponents of the decision are quick to note that no California governor, even during the Great Depression, has shut off additions to the state's park system, and they question the policy's applicability only to parks, while approvals continue for such acquisitions as property for prisons or DMV offices, for example. State Parks Director Ruth Coleman pointed out that acquisitions can continue of property for which the department can show it has the funding, or has secured outside funding, to operate. "It's not that they are telling us you can't buy land, but they are saying you have to show how to manage it without new resources," she said. "The burden is on us to partner with private groups to figure out a way through." What this means for historic properties, which often carry higher price tags in terms of restoration, maintenance, and security than do sites acquired for the significance of their natural resources, remains to be seen. ■

## CPR Team Releases Report, CCPH Comments

Amid much publicity (and a fair amount of skepticism) the California Performance Review (CPR) team released its report on recommended changes to State government. Over the course of the summer, the team held a number of public meetings throughout the state in order to solicit comments. Although CCPH did not testify at these hearings, the organization did submit a lengthy comment letter, which was then distributed to our members via the CCPH list serve (want to sign up?—Just contact the CCPH office at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu)). Navigating the various portions of the CPR report in order to assess potential impacts to history and historical resources can be more than a little daunting, although now that the report's search engine is working (it wasn't for the first few weeks after the report was released), the task is not quite so strenuous. CCPH's letter addressed what the board felt were significant recommendations in need of comment, these included: 1) The elimination of the State Historical Resources Commission—CCPH opposed this recommendation; 2) The consolidation of history programs under a new Department of Natural Resources—CCPH suggested this department should bear a

name that indicates history as part of its responsibilities; 3) The administrative relocation of various history-related programs to be under the jurisdiction of California State Parks—CCPH supported this change, with the caveat that these programs come with adequate funding and staffing, and; 4) The creation of a statewide "non-profit public corporation under state control" to fund and operate museums, historic sites, and programs—CCPH suggested this move requires substantial research and analysis to ensure it will accomplish what is anticipated. To receive the full text of CCPH's letter, email us at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu). To view the CPR report, visit [www.cpr.ca.gov](http://www.cpr.ca.gov). At this point the CPR commission is considering the comments collected over the summer and will present a final report to the Governor, who will then assemble his own recommendations based on the information in the report. The Governor's recommendations will be analyzed by the Little Hoover Commission before being presented to the Legislature for a vote. It remains to be seen how long this process will take, and how much more time will pass before there are any significant changes in State government as a result of the CPR team's work. ■

### History Channel to Award Grants to Historical Organizations

The History Channel is proud to announce the first year of its Save Our History National Grant Program. This year, \$250,000 in grants will be awarded to historical organizations that partner with educators on unique, rewarding projects that help students learn about and appreciate the history of their local communities. The History Channel has recognized and is focusing on the needs of organizations whose mission is to preserve and maintain the fabric of our nation's history. The grants program is an extension of the Save Our History philanthropic initiative. Through December 3, historical societies, preservation organizations, museums, historic sites, and other history organizations that partner with schools on Save Our History projects can apply for Save Our History grants, which will range between \$1,000 and \$10,000. Grant

applications can be found and submitted at [www.saveourhistory.com](http://www.saveourhistory.com). Projects must be in progress by February 1, 2005, and completed by May 15, 2005. Judging will be handled by a panel comprised of members from the AASLH, history professionals, and representatives from The History Channel.

History organizations that apply but do not receive Save Our History grants are encouraged to participate in the Save Our History Program, and will be eligible for the Save Our History National Awards Competition, for which submissions can be made until April 8, 2005. The Save Our History National Awards honor the local communities and classrooms that demonstrate outstanding commitment to history education and preservation of local history. ■

### Los Angeles Landmark to be Razed

from the National Coalition for History's *Washington Update*

According to *The Washington Times* (October 14, 2004) most of the Ambassador Hotel, where Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated 36 years ago, will be demolished to make room for a school. Contrary to the wishes of several of Kennedy's children, portions of the hotel, including the famed Coconut Grove nightclub and parts of the Embassy Ballroom, where Mr. Kennedy gave his last speech, will be preserved. For over 83 years the Ambassador Hotel was part of the city's celebrity history. On its stage and dance floor, performers such as Joan Crawford and Nat King Cole entertained throngs. The hotel accommodated the likes of Charles Lindbergh, Nita Khrushchev, John F. Kennedy, and Ronald Reagan. The board of the Los Angeles Unified School District's decision ends a 15-year debate over the fate of the landmark property. ■

### Comments Sought on Updated CHRIS Manual

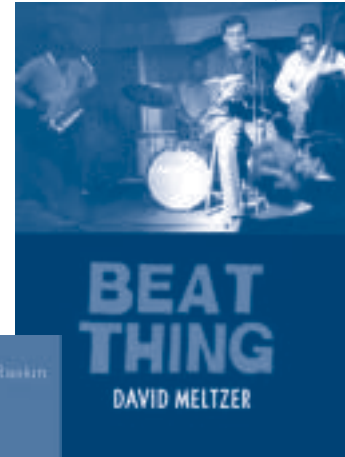
The California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) has revised and updated the *Information Center Procedural Manual, November 20, 1995*. The new manual, *California Historical Resources Information System Information Center Rules of Operation Manual*, was developed in response to growing demands upon the CHRIS. This manual specifies rules of operation for the CHRIS and its constituent Information Centers with respect to access to information, processing of historical resource records and reports, record searches, referral listing of historical resources consultants, fees, hours, and exclusionary and miscellaneous activities. With guidance provided by the State Historical Resources Commission Information Center Procedural Advisory Committee, the *Manual* reflects over two years of intense consultation between the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and Information Center Coordinators to refine the CHRIS and its role in the protection and preservation of historical resources, addressing management responsibilities of government agencies and the broad array of concerns inherent to Native American communities, archaeologists, historians, architectural historians, land-use planners, and commercial developers. The manual is available on the Office of Historic Preservation's homepage at [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/). The CHRIS is requesting comments on the manual during a thirty-day period from November 1 through November 30. Please email your questions or comments to John Thomas, Coordinator, at [jthom@ohp.parks.ca.gov](mailto:jthom@ohp.parks.ca.gov). ■

### Museum Assessment Program Grants Available

MAP grant applications are now available to museums of all types and sizes for the annual December 1 postmark deadline. Museums choose one of four types of assessments offered by the American Association of Museums: Institutional, Collections Management, Public Dimension, and Governance. IMLS grant funds pay for most assessment costs. Download the application forms at [www.aam-us.org/map](http://www.aam-us.org/map). Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible institutions. If you have eligibility questions, contact Jeannette Thomas, Program Specialist, at 202 606-8548 or [jkthomas@imls.gov](mailto:jkthomas@imls.gov). Demand is expected to be high this year owing to the recent revision of the Public Dimension Assessment, the continuing success of the new Governance Assessment, and a change in policy allowing museums to repeat an assessment after seven years, so museums are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. For more information, visit [www.aam-us.org/map](http://www.aam-us.org/map), call 202 289-9118, or e-mail [map@aam-us.org](mailto:map@aam-us.org). All deadlines for FY 2005 IMLS grant and award program applications can be viewed at [www.imls.gov/grants/dedln/index.htm](http://www.imls.gov/grants/dedln/index.htm): November 15 - Museums for America; December 1 - Conservation Assessment Program; December 1 - Museum Assessment Program; December 15 - 21st Century Museum Professionals. ■

David Meltzer. *Beat Thing*. Albuquerque: La Alameda Press, 2004. 160 pp.; paper, \$18.  
 Jonah Raskin. *American Scream: Alan Ginsberg's Howl and the Making of the Beat Generation*.  
 Berkeley: University of California Press. 324 pp.; notes and sources, index; cloth, \$24.95.

*Howl* is a yelp  
 A cry an admonition  
 An excoriation  
 HowlHowlHowl  
 It echoes down the decades  
 Blows the dust from cobwebby memories  
 Of button-down gray flannel conformist  
 Cold War America  
 Seeing through smudged black plastic eyeglasses  
 A wine and weed fogged evening  
 In a San Francisco gallery  
 Where beats and squares and wannabes  
 Dug what Alan and Gary and Michael and Lawrence  
 Were saying and singing and shouting and  
 Whispering  
 City Lights risked legal opprobrium  
 To publish the pocket paperback and  
 Send it into literary orbit  
*American Scream* shouts deep background  
 Cracks the spines of Ginsberg's journals  
 Lets the ideas flow  
 Creativity and ego and madness pulsing on the pages  
 David Meltzer's *Beat Thing* is  
 Beat prosody  
 Rhythmic lyrical funny  
*Beat Thing* is the real thing  
 History politics poetry  
 From Cold War to Immoral War  
 Meltzer melds and welds  
 The years  
 Calendars compressed  
 What's changed  
 Nothing's changed  
 Read them and laugh weep sing shout  
 Howl



Robert Pavlik is an environmental planner and historian with the California Department of Transportation in San Luis Obispo.

(continued from page 12)

report the House expressed concern about allocation of resources within the NPS and the impact that such allocations are having on core operating programs of the parks. Thus, the House recommended against "any new initiatives or expanding non-essential programs." The Senate recommended almost \$1.69 billion for park operations, a slight increase over the budget request and some \$79.355 million over the FY 2004 enacted level. The Senate increase, however, provides for a doubling of the administration's request for park base operations, a move welcomed by field rangers but sure to cause consternation among program managers who will absorb the impact of the base park increases.

With nearly all the budget recommendations now in place, agency managers are relieved to know what they can expect to have appropriated to their agencies when Congress finishes work on the budget after the election, although they are not necessarily happy about it. But given the enormous deficit, the increasing cost of the Iraq war and other "untouchable" social programs (medicare and social security for example), most history and archive agency managers can be grateful their programs were not zeroed out entirely as were many other domestic programs. ■

## New Resource: Smithsonian Folklife and Oral History Interviewing Guide

This new online educational resource presents guidelines that Smithsonian folklorists have developed for collecting folklife and oral history from family and community members. It features a concise, easy-to-use guide to conducting an interview, as well as a sample list of questions that may be adapted to each interviewer's own needs and circumstances. The Guide concludes with a few examples of ways to preserve and present one's findings, a selection of further readings, a glossary of key terms, and sample information and release forms. Visit the Smithsonian Institution Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage web site at [www.folklife.si.edu](http://www.folklife.si.edu) to download the Guide at no cost. ■

## AASLH Introduces PATHWAYS

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) has developed a new program that delivers products members can use to develop greater interest in local history in their communities. The result is *PATHWAYS: Discovering Your Connections to History*. *PATHWAYS* assists history institutions in demonstrating the value of history to their audiences and provides community-based organizations with materials to implement a nationally-developed program at the local level. *PATHWAYS* provides programs that help state and local history institutions better serve their audience members who are interested in family and community history; use the resources of historical organizations, museums, and libraries to make a personal connection between the past and present; improve services and operations of institutions lacking the resources to assist their publics and their schools with research and programs related to family and community history; and, through training and materials, expand the skills of public history professionals and volunteers. *PATHWAYS* consists of three different components that can be used by your organiza-

tion or its audience. The first piece of *PATHWAYS* is a general history reader called the Pathfinder Kit. It covers basic information you can use to teach your audience how to participate in doing local and family history projects. The *Pathfinder Kit* also includes sample forms and a timeline. The second component of *PATHWAYS* is the *Model Programs Book*. The four models in this publication were written and tested by history professionals and provide a basic structure for organizations to use to develop their own programs. Each model is designed so that programs can be implemented with modest resources. Each *PATHWAYS* model is designed to be used by history organizations of all sizes and types in an effort to better serve their communities. Finally, a *Communications and Media Kit* provides information on how to create a successful marketing campaign to promote your *PATHWAYS* program. There are also examples of press materials to guide you in creating good press releases, PSAs, etc. The *Model Programs Book* and *Communications and Media Kit* are sold as a set. For more information, visit [www.aaslh.org/pathways.htm](http://www.aaslh.org/pathways.htm). ■



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## Travel Web Site Invites Attraction Information from the California Association of Museum's E-News

The founders of [www.aviewofamerica.com](http://www.aviewofamerica.com) invite California attractions and museums to create a profile of their organizations on their web site. This site features information on points of interests, historical sites, and cities in the United States. Each museum can write their own profile and include up to 15 photographs free of charge. For information, contact Darryl Franklin at 727 942-7906 or email [avo911@aol.com](mailto:avo911@aol.com). ■

## National Council on Public History Calls for Story Submissions for Quarterly Newsletter

The National Council on Public History is calling for article submissions for its quarterly newsletter, *Public History News*. Submissions should deal with news or developments in the field of Public History. Recent articles have examined the challenges of addressing community history, the opening of new museums, and the processes of preserving historic sites. Submissions and questions should be addressed to Bethany Natali at [nph@iupui.edu](mailto:nph@iupui.edu). ■

## Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities

The **Pacific Northwest Historians Guild** will hold a conference entitled "Trails and Treaties in the Pacific Northwest: Time for Reconsideration" at the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle, Washington, **March 5, 2005**. The conference's goals is to encourage a diverse group of presentations on the expected and unexpected consequences and repercussions of trail and treaty history in the Pacific Northwest up to and including present day commemorations. For more information, visit [www.pnwhistorians.org](http://www.pnwhistorians.org).

The **Organization of American Historians** will hold its annual meeting at the San Francisco Hilton **March 31-April 3, 2005**. The meeting has the theme, "Telling America's Stories: Historians and their Publics." Travel assistance grants are available for pre-collegiate teachers to attend the meeting. Applications are due February 10, 2005. For more information, visit [www.oah.org](http://www.oah.org).

The **Southwest Oral History Association** will hold a Joint Annual Meeting with the **Society for Applied Anthropology** in Santa Fe, New Mexico **April 6-10, 2005**. The meeting has theme of "Heritage, Environment, and Tourism," with something sure to please just about everyone. For more information, visit [soha.fullerton.edu](http://soha.fullerton.edu).

The **Society of California Archivists** will hold a joint meeting/conference with the **Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists**, the **Northwest Archivists**, and the **Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists** **April 14-16, 2005**, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting will take place at the Alexis Park Hotel. For more information, visit [www.calarchivists.org](http://www.calarchivists.org).

The **Society for California Archaeology** will hold its 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting **April 21-24, 2005**, at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento on Capitol Park. The meeting begins with an evening reception, followed by a morning plenary session entitled "Native American Influences on the Structure and Composition of Prehistoric Ecosystems," featuring Drs. Charles Kay and William Hildebrandt. The Saturday night banquet speaker will be Dr. Paul Koch, a paleontologist at UC Santa Cruz and internationally recognized expert on Pleistocene extinctions. Deadline for proposals for organized symposia and workshops is January 1, 2005. Deadline for abstracts for contributed papers and posters is February 1, 2005. For more information, visit [www.scahome.org](http://www.scahome.org).

The 37<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the **Western Association of Women Historians** will be held **April 29-May 1, 2005**, at the Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Award deadlines are January 15, 2005. Application forms are required. More detailed information will be posted to the web site as it becomes available. Check back at [www.wawh.org](http://www.wawh.org).

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual **Western Archives Institute** will take place **July 10-22, 2005**, at UC Davis. For more information, visit [www.calarchivists.org/wai.html](http://www.calarchivists.org/wai.html).

The **Society of American Archivists** will hold its annual meeting **August 15-21, 2005**, in New Orleans, Louisiana. More information will be forthcoming. Visit [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org).

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation's** National Preservation Conference will take place **September 27-October 2, 2005**, in Portland, Oregon. With the theme, "Sustain America: Vision, Economics, and Preservation," the conference will highlight preservation endeavors specific to the northwest region, share cutting-edge ideas and tactics for adaptive use, infill, and mixed-use projects, and allow attendees to engage with peers in roundtable discussions on cultural tourism, historic sites, heritage education, and sustaining a healthy organization. For more information, visit [www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org).

The **Oral History Association** will hold its annual meeting **November 2-6, 2005**, in Providence, Rhode Island. For more information, visit [www.dickinson.edu/oha](http://www.dickinson.edu/oha).

The National Interpreter's Workshop will take place **November 8-12, 2005**, in Mobile, Alabama. Coordinated by the **National Association for Interpretation**, the workshop will feature the slogan, "Full Speed Ahead," and will seek to reflect the energy NAI has gained recently and the momentum it builds as it passes its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. More information will be forthcoming at [www.interpnet.com](http://www.interpnet.com). ■

## Advertising

*California History Action* accepts advertising for heritage-related services and products. (Bulletin Board items are listed free of charge, but may be edited for length.) Contact the *CHA* editor for a copy of our new **Advertising Policy**.

## CCPH Liaisons

The following is a list of CCPH liaisons with state and national heritage organizations. This list of representatives has been established so that liaisons can supply important information to the CCPH membership and so members will have an appropriate contact should the need arise. Are you a member of a state or national association and want to serve as a CCPH liaison? Contact us at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu) or 916 278-4296.

**American Association of Museums (AAM)**  
Open

**American Assoc. for State and Local History (AASLH)**  
Mike Bennett, [michaelbennett@sanjoaquinhistory.org](mailto:michaelbennett@sanjoaquinhistory.org)

**California Association of Museums (CAM)**  
Carola Rupert Enriquez, 805 861-2132

**California Historical Society (CHS)**  
Dick Orsi, [rorsi@csuhayward.edu](mailto:rorsi@csuhayward.edu)

**California Mission Studies Association (CMSA)**  
Linn McLaurin, 619 435-7394

**California Preservation Foundation (CPF)**  
Anthea Hartig, 909 683-1573

**Conference of California Historical Societies (CCHS)**  
Nan Hauser Cotton, 916 644-2610

**National Council on Public History (NCPH)**  
David Byrd, [dbyrd@jsanet.com](mailto:dbyrd@jsanet.com)

**Northwest Oral History Association (NOHA)**  
Alan Stein, 916 447-7071

**Society for California Archaeology (SCA)**  
Steve Mikesell, [smike@ohp.parks.ca.gov](mailto:smike@ohp.parks.ca.gov), 916 757-2521

**Society of California Archivists (SCA)**  
Patricia Johnson, [pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org)

**Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA)**  
Susan Douglass-Yates, [douglass@library.ucla.edu](mailto:douglass@library.ucla.edu)

**Southwest Mission Research Center (SMRC)**  
Linn McLaurin, 619 435-7394

**Western History Association (WHA)**  
Ken Owens, [owensk@csus.edu](mailto:owensk@csus.edu)

**Western Museums Association (WMA)**  
Rebecca Carruthers, [rcarr@parks.ca.gov](mailto:rcarr@parks.ca.gov)

CCPH encourages the reprinting of articles published in this newsletter. To do so, use the credit line - Reprinted from *California History Action*, the newsletter of the California Council for the Promotion of History. To inquire about using photographs, contact the CHA editor.

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## California History Action Editorial Information

*California History Action* is the official publication of the California Council for the Promotion of History. Its purpose is to disseminate news to the membership. The organization's numerous committee chairs provide much of the information herein. It is the responsibility of the general membership to provide input to the newsletter. This sharing of information is critical to the well-being of the organization.

Issues will be produced quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Deadlines are the first of the month of publication. This late deadline is designed to provide information to the membership in the most timely manner. Material must be received prior to the deadline to be

printed in the current issue and should be submitted directly to the editor at the address below.

It is preferred that articles and other material be submitted electronically by email (either in the text of the message or as an attachment). However, typewritten printed material is also accepted via fax or mail.

Views expressed herein are solely those of their authors. Their publication does not constitute an endorsement by CCPH.

**Jenan Saunders, Editor**

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(p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org)

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### Join the California Council for the Promotion of History

All members receive issues of *California History Action*, the CCPH newsletter for history advocacy, notices of CCPH conferences and workshops, and other CCPH publications. Corporate and Institutional members also receive membership rates for two individuals at conferences and other events. Annual dues are due January 1; those received from new members after August 1 will be credited to the next year.

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All dues and contributions are tax-deductible. Send this form and payment to CCPH, CSU Sacramento, Department of History, 6000 J St, Sacramento CA 95819-6059. For more information contact 916 278-4295, ccph@csus.edu, www.csus.edu/org/ccph.

Fall 2004

## Welcome New Members

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Alpine County Museum, Markleeville  
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Gilroy Museum, Gilroy  
Hayward Area Historical Society, Hayward  
Museum on Main Street, Pleasanton  
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