So, why do communities matter, as CCPH posed in the theme for this year’s annual conference? Although the possible answers to this question admittedly go far beyond the public history realm, CCPH members gathered in Arcadia October 25 to 27 to explore its many facets and at least begin to look at the ways that history can give meaning to a community.

The conference’s opening reception at the Ruth and Charles Gilb Arcadia Historical Museum was a fitting location to kick off this exploration of the connections between community and history. This lovely local history museum is chock-full of those connections and helps Arcadians find their place both within their community and the region, and within the evolving storyline of their local history. Attendees chatted with old friends and forged connections with new acquaintances during the social event, sponsored by the Workman-Temple Homestead Museum, while enjoying a mild southern California October night on the museum’s patio. The event set a fitting tone for what was to be an entertaining, enlightening, and informative two days of speakers and sessions.

William Deverell, director of the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, served as the conference’s plenary speaker and he surely got everyone’s attention that Friday morning with a compelling, intriguing presentation on his research and analysis of one pivotal event in southern California history, one which took place only a short distance from the conference location (see story on page 3).

The plenary set the stage perfectly for the breadth and depth of sessions that followed. Although we cannot provide information on all the sessions in the space of this newsletter, the following page contains session synopses written by a few of the 2007 conference stipend recipients.

During the CCPH Awards Luncheon on Friday, those stipend recipients were honored. Through a grant from the Office of Historic Preservation, four students and one new professional were given stipends ranging from $300 to $500 to attend the conference. Stipend recipients included Stacy Kozakavich, a new professional with Jones and Stokes Associates, Bonnie Montgomery from CSU San Jose, Michelle Muro of CSU Los Angeles, Candis Sieg from CSU Sacramento, and Rene Tiongquico of UC Los Angeles. CCPH was also proud to present three professional awards this year: to Walter P. Gray III, posthumously presented with the Award of Distinction, Leslie Fryman, presented with the James C. Williams Award for Outstanding Service to CCPH, and John W. Robinson, also presented with the Award of Distinction. (For more information on the awardees, see page 3.)

The conference’s banquet speaker, Thomas S. Hines, professor emeritus of history, architecture, and urban design at UCLA, was the perfect “bookend” to Deverell’s plenary and kept the post-dinner audience (always a difficult timeslot) intrigued with his stories and slides of modernist architecture as embodied in the homes of the Hollywood film community.

So, once again those who attended the CCPH conference were informed, entertained, and intrigued—and left with a renewed energy and vigor about the value of what we do as public historians and the important part we play as members of our communities, as storytellers and teachers of those who will continue to serve history in the future.
Conference Session Summaries

Session III - Building Community, Sharing Stories: The California Stories Initiative
by Michelle G. Muro, Collections Specialist, Workman and Temple Homestead Museum

Session III, “Building Community, Sharing Stories: The California Stories Initiative,” not only incorporated this year’s CCPH conference focus on community history but also highlighted community members actively participating in the quest to empower themselves with knowledge of local history. The firsthand accounts provided during the session wove together the story of the participants’ individual experiences with their projects and was quite telling. They ranged from Luisa Miranda and her colleagues’ work with oral histories and research of the history of the city of Azusa, a community in which has lived her life; to the documentary project of Ara Oshanga and Donald E. Miller, which brought to light varying aspects of religion in the Ethiopian community of Los Angeles; as well as Chang Yu’s work in spreading Chinese cultural awareness within her community. All the participants helped bring their community’s unique history alive through very real human faces and stories. This session provided a valuable perspective in looking at the importance of public history awareness and the potential for community members to participate in their local historical research projects and organizations.

Session IV - The Multiple Property Submission: Gateway to Community Participation in the National Register Program
by Stacy Kozakavich, Jones and Stokes Associates

Thanks again to CCPH for extending the opportunity for several of us to attend this year’s annual meeting as stipend recipients. As a new professional in cultural resources management, I am very interested in learning practical strategies for integrating heritage preservation and history awareness into local community action. I therefore particularly enjoyed Session IV, “The Multiple Property Submission: Gateway to Community Participation in the National Register Program.” Patricia Ambach, of the California Office of Historic Preservation, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Stephen Miksell, and Rick Moss, Vice-Chair of the State Historical Resources Commission, presented basic instruction and illustrative examples of how multiple property submissions to the National Register of Historic Places could increase the number of listed resources in the state, and facilitate community initiatives to nominate local properties connected to broader themes. Within such a framework, at least two levels of community connection can be made. First, the complex National Register nomination process requires the work of many hands, and professional historians, OHP staff, students, and local individuals and organizations can work in partnership to research and write statements of context, and to identify and nominate resources. Second, the Multiple Property Submission’s format illuminates past communities whose actions built landscapes of meaningful linkages, in which buildings, sites, and structures share and contribute to one another’s significance. This brief session introduced me to a useful tool, and encouraged me to participate in more in-depth OHP workshops in the future.

Session V - Undergraduate Public History as Community Outreach
by Rene Tiongquico, Student, University of California, Los Angeles

Perhaps the most fundamental form of outreach in promoting history is instilling an interest in, and sense of the value of, history in future generations. At CCPH’s 2007 Annual Conference, one frequently encountered the opportunity to do just that. Through the various workshops and sessions, we learned about the work that has been done in our fields and the ways local history is being promoted. One of the sessions I attended was Session V: Undergraduate Public History as Community Outreach, and I was surprised at how many ways local historians in both the public and private sectors are involved in the development of undergraduate scholarship in terms of public history. Chaired by Randy Bergstrom of the UC Santa Barbara History Department, the session discussed methodologies in promoting public history within the academic setting. Ty Smith of California State Parks and a Ph.D. candidate in the joint UCSB/CSUS public history program related his experiences as an undergraduate and how he linked public history with his prescribed curricula by involving community service. Attributing his initial interest in history to the influence of Dennis Judd, one of his instructors while at Cuesta Community College, Smith revealed how involvement in public history actually built and helped develop his (continued on page 4)
CCPH Award Recipients Represent the Best of California’s Public Historians

CCPH yet again selected a stellar group of individuals in the public history community for its 2007 awards. This year two individuals were granted the Award of Distinction, and one the James C. Williams Award for Outstanding Service to CCPH.

CCPH was proud to be able to present the Award of Distinction to Walter P. Gray III. Mary Helmich, Gray’s wife and longtime CCPH member herself, accepted the award on his behalf. For those regular readers of this newsletter, you may remember the full page we devoted to Gray (and rightly so) in an issue earlier this year after his passing in May. Gray was a true public historian in every sense and over his career became internationally renowned as an expert on railroad history and museum operations. He spent two decades at the California State Railroad Museum before moving on to serve as California State Archivist and finally as Chief of the Cultural Resources Division of California State Parks. As CCPH member, Richard Orsi, stated so well in speaking of Gray, “Few persons have had such a remarkable impact on the practice and celebration of history in this state.”

John W. Robinson was also given the Award of Distinction this year for his many years of service to the cause of public history. Robinson has been called the “eminent southern California mountain historian” and has written extensively on the Sierra Nevada, San Gabriel, and San Bernardino mountain ranges, including a wealth of historical information in his guidebooks for these regions. Robinson has contributed much to our understanding of the rugged and remote areas of our state. He also served for many years as a history teacher in Orange County.

Leslie Fryman was presented with the James C. Williams Award for Outstanding Service. Fryman is one of those rare professionals who is equally accomplished as a historian and as an archaeologist. She is also deeply respected for her work in ethnography and consultation with Native American groups and has more than 25 years of distinguished experience in cultural resource management. Fryman has served multiple terms on CCPH’s board of directors, and she has long been keeper of CCPH’s Register of Professional Historians. She co-chaired both the Truckee and Eureka conferences, in 2000 and 2004 respectively. But CCPH is not alone in the benefits we derive from the involvement of Fryman. She works closely with the Oregon-California Trails Association and serves as preservation officer for its California-Nevada Chapter. She is also active in the Society for California Archaeology.

Congratulations and our eminent respect go out to all the 2007 CCPH award winners.

Conference Plenary Recap

The conference’s plenary speaker William Deverell, director of the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, kept his audience enraptured as he told the story of three-year-old Kathy Fiscus of San Marino, who in April 1949 fell 90-feet down an abandoned well and captured the public’s imagination during the two days it took rescuers to, ultimately, retrieve her body. The widespread attention to what may seem on the surface to be purely a local event may not seem out of the ordinary to those of us living in today’s world of the Internet and the 24-hour news cycle, but for 1949 it was new, unique, and a certified phenomenon.

Tragedy as the impetus for community building, as creator of the “we’re all in this together” mentality, was obviously not new in 1949. But the ability to broadcast coverage of tragedy, live and as it was unfolding, was new—the event was one of the first live television broadcasts. It ushered in the age of television even as it told the story of what ultimately turned out to be the death of one small girl (although rescuers remained hopeful up to the very end). One KTLA news executive is noted to have said about the event, “This is a tragedy, but it’s also television history.” And he was correct. It was the true “dawn of television” in Los Angeles, taking the television from being more of a toy or gadget to serving as a tool, of individuals and the community.

However, Deverell cautioned, historians must look beyond journalistic coverage if we seek to understand the many meanings behind the event. Instead historians need to dig deeper to answer the question of why community so often comes out only when it is tested, and why it is so rarely maintained after a tragedy is over. There is rich fodder for public historians in looking at an event like the death of Kathy Fiscus, Deverell shared—“moments of societal stress are historians’ playground” because they allow us to see more of the reality of society as facades fall away under pressure.

Attendees were riveted throughout Deverell’s presentation, in a way possibly feeling something akin to those in 1949 as they watched the compelling coverage of the event. Speaking as one of those in the audience, this author can’t wait for Deverell to complete his research and analysis and write about his findings surrounding this story—giving weight to the idea, which we public historians know so well, that the seemingly small and local stories can be as compelling as, if not more so than, the far away and exotic.
National Museum of American History Names California Historian to Its Board

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History elected two prominent historians to its advisory board. Vicki Ruiz, professor of history and Chicano/Latino Studies at the University of California, Irvine, and Ellsworth H. Brown, director of the Wisconsin Historical Society, were approved by the Smithsonian’s Board of Regents for three-year terms, effective October 5, with the option of serving a second term. Ruiz is also the director of the university’s “Humanities Out There” outreach program. She earned a presidential nomination to the National Council on the Humanities and Latina magazine’s “Woman of the Year” award in 2000. She is the first Latina to serve as president of the Organization of American Historians and was president of the Labor and Working Class History Association and chair of the Carl Bode-Norman Holmes Pearson Prize of the American Studies Association. The board currently has 27 members, including historians, community business leaders and philanthropists. Members of the board advise the director on programs, exhibitions, facilities, development and finance.

Robert K. Sutton Named NPS Chief Historian

The National Park Service (NPS) has announced the selection of Dr. Robert K. Sutton as Chief Historian of the National Park Service. The Chief Historian position in the National Park Service is one of the most prestigious historian positions in the Federal government and provides guidance and direction to the national parks as well as nationwide to the American people on the importance of verifying historical events and interpreting the significance of America’s historic places. The position provides national leadership in setting and implementing NPS standards and guidelines relating to the documentation of historically significant properties.

Sutton began his new position on October 1, 2007. He will be responsible for managing NPS history programs, which includes coordinating historical studies at the national level, managing the administrative history program, and overseeing the quality of documentation of historic places within national parks.

Sutton has been Superintendent of the Manassas National Battlefield Park since 1995, which has an annual visitation of 800,000. While at Manassas, he initiated a major symposium on the Civil War that attracted renowned scholars and developed an interpretive institute for Civil War park rangers on creating new ways to interpret the Civil War. He oversaw the restoration of a 100-acre area of the park through a creative partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, where the loss of wetlands at the new Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport was mitigated through the restoration of the Manassas land. He holds a Ph.D. degree in history from Washington State University and has decades of experience in conveying to the public the importance of preserving the nation’s cultural resources.

Sutton began his career as a park ranger with Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Subsequent positions include museum curator with the Oregon Historical Society; historian with Oregon State Parks; architectural historian with the NPS Southwest Regional Office in Albuquerque; historian with Independence National Historic Park; Assistant Professor in the History Department and Director of the Public History Program at Arizona State University; and Assistant Superintendent and historian at National Capital Parks-East. Since 1991, he has served as adjunct professor of history at George Mason University.

(continued from page 2)

interest in academia. Similarly, his instructor Dennis Judd also described his fascination with local history—reminding attendees that all history starts the local level. Smith also spurred interest in community in inner city youths with whom he worked. In an effort to spark the youths’ interest in history, he showed them alternatives and additions to the traditional facts they received in school. For example, he took them to Angel Island and explained that Ellis Island was not the only place where immigrants came into our country, and here immigrants faced an entirely different experience than those who came to the east coast. To carry on the legacies of our communities’ histories, it is important to develop undergraduate involvement in both the private and public sectors. By taking part in internships, students acquire knowledge and experience they can apply directly to their academic work. It is important and essential for us to invest in undergraduates as a tool to carry the torch. Besides the traditional elementary school curriculum we received about basic California history, public history will die if we do not promote it. Getting undergraduates to engage in productive discourse about their personal and local histories is a necessary means to provide for the continuation of our love for public history.
Omeka Program Receives Grant Funding

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has given a grant to the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) for Omeka, a next-generation web-publishing platform for smaller history museums, historical societies, and historic sites. From the Swahili word meaning “to display” or “to lay out for discussion,” Omeka is designed for groups that may not have adequate resources or expertise necessary to create and maintain their own online tools. The free, open-source tool will allow many more museums to mount well-designed, professional-looking, and content-rich websites without adding to their constrained budgets. It will also provide a standards-based interoperable system to share and use digital content in multiple contexts so museums can design online exhibitions more efficiently. CHNM will plan, design, test, evaluate, and disseminate Omeka over four phases. For more information, visit chnm.gmu.edu.

Help for the Consistency-Impaired: The Definitions Project

The National Association for Interpretation (NAI), in cooperation with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Institute for Learning Innovation, has created a website known as the Definitions Project in order to create a virtual dictionary of common terminology used by interpreters, environmental educators, historians, and others in nonformal settings such as parks, aquariums, zoos, nature centers, historic sites, and museums. Representatives from over two dozen federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private organizations came together to develop the definitions. The website is available copyright-free for download or web-based use by anyone. Direct links to the site from other organizations’ sites are also encouraged. The site address is www.definition-project.com/definitions/index.cfm.

Each year, NAI puts together a review panel from amongst agencies and organizations related to the field of nonformal education and interpretation. This panel reviews terms that have been suggested for inclusion by users of the website. Once the terms have been reviewed, the panel will determine an appropriate definition for those terms that are to be included in the glossary. The website and the glossary will continue to grow each year as new terms and examples of existing terms are added. If you have a recommendation for a term to be included, there is a form on the website you can use to submit it for review.

If you have examples or commentary for a specific term, visit that term and fill out the form for either your example or commentary. Forms to add your examples and commentary are in the respective tabs of each term/definition. Examples and commentaries for each term are reviewed as they become available, and do not need to wait until the next year’s term review.

National Park Service Certifies Centennial Challenge Projects

The National Park Service (NPS) has certified a list of proposals as eligible for Centennial Challenge funding consideration in fiscal year 2008. These proposals represent 116 parks and their partners in 40 states and the District of Columbia. Between park-specific proposals and a national effort to inventory the parks, every state with national parks benefits from this funding. These proposals are both “big dollar, big impact” and “small dollar, big impact,” and they illustrate the National Park Service’s centennial vision and goals described in The Future of America’s National Parks. They have undergone extensive professional review.

The 201 proposals represent a total investment of $369.9 million—$215.9 million from partners and $154 million in federal funding. Creation of a Centennial Challenge matching fund to make any of these proposals reality requires action from the Congress, which CCPH will watch for and keep its members informed about through this newsletter. NPS will determine which of these proposals will begin in fiscal year 2008 based on Congressional Centennial Challenge appropriations.

The following are those history-related projects that have been certified for California national parks: Channel Islands National Park—Centennial Challenge: Create video to share rich tradition of island ranching ($20,000); Golden Gate National Recreation Area—Post to Park Initiative: Design former military facilities for recreational purposes ($800,000); Lava Beds National Monument—Conduct Tule Basin oral history interviews and create video ($16,000); Manzanar National Historic Site—Replant historic vegetation at Manzanar Auditorium ($15,000).

2007 Governor’s Awards Announced

Recipients of the 2007 Governor’s Historic Preservation Awards were honored at a ceremony held in the Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park in Sacramento on November 16, 2007. California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman welcomed the honorees and State Historic Preservation Officer Milford Wayne Donaldson made the presentations. For more information, visit www.ohp.parks.ca.gov.

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Marco G. Prouty, in Cesar Chavez, The Catholic Bishops, and the Farmworkers’ Struggle for Social Justice, delivers exactly what he promises. This well-researched book about the pivotal decades in the farmworkers’ movement keeps a tight focus on the activities of agricultural labor organizers and their allies in the Catholic Church, particularly Chavez and Monsignor George G. Higgins, the “Labor Priest.”

Prouty’s story unfolds chronologically, beginning with a brief chapter sketching the historical background of agricultural workers in California. The bulk of the book then covers reactions of America’s Catholic Bishops to the Delano Grape Strike of 1965-1970 and the Battle of the Salad Bowl in Salinas, which stretched into the 1970s. The last quarter of the book traces the demise of La Causa in the late 1970s and 1980s and explores its interrelated causes. Prouty sets this story in the context of papal encyclicals, Vatican II reforms, and the tensions wracking American Bishops as they found themselves caught between Catholic farmworkers and Catholic growers. As Cardinal Roger Mahoney of Los Angeles noted, both groups thought, “Well since we’re Catholics, the Church must be on our side” (31).

The way in which the Church, and its most visible leaders, resolved this conflict comprises the meat of this book. Making use of previously untapped sources at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Prouty is able to trace the subtle (and not-so-subtle) differences in response to Chavez’s appeals among men in the Catholic hierarchy, with particular emphasis on the Bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee on Farm Labor. Prouty eschews the easy path of triumphantist history, which could be achieved by concluding this work as Chavez’s union reaches its peak. Instead, he continues with the darker but more interesting tale of its strangulation at the hands of the rival Teamsters’ Union. The last quarter of the book also includes some of California’s political figures, such as Governor Jerry Brown, who provided outside support for La Causa as that of the Catholic Bishops dissipated.

This work rests on thorough research. Prouty quotes frequently from revealing, private correspondence. He also astutely notes where correspondence is missing, such as the years after 1981 when Chavez and Higgins faced insurmountable disagreements over UFWA administration. By then, the American Catholic Bishops had officially relaxed their support for the farmworkers, assuming that California’s passage of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act (CALRA) would ameliorate conditions in the field. Prouty points out why it did not, but also explains that the Church had to go back to wooing growers’ dollars back into the collection plate. Its eventual pro-worker stance had severely impoverished several parishes and had caused one church-sponsored newspaper to fold.

Among all the figures in these pages, Monsignor Higgins emerges as the most heroic. The growers are seen as a block; few receive individual mention with the exception of Bud Antle, who had allowed unionization of his forces by the Teamsters prior to the creation of the UWFA (67-68). Even so, the book is peopled with dozens of characters. Sometimes it is difficult to remember which Bishop is which, since most of them lack clearly-detailed character sketches that could help fix them in the reader’s mind. A knowledge of the Catholic hierarchy would also be helpful here, since religious titles show clear lines of command only to the initiated. References to concurrent national or international events are also absent, but the book’s clear chronology facilitates easy contextualization.

In short, this is a fine, readable, scholarly work that illuminates a previously ignored aspect of the farmworkers’ struggle. It is highly recommended.

Nancy J. Taniguchi, is a Professor of History at California State University, Stanislaus.


Read in the aftermath of Arnold Schwarzenegger’s rebirth in his reelection as California’s governor in November 2006, Peter Schrag’s California: America’s High-Stakes Experiment already is in need of a new afterword or perhaps a whole new revised edition. While the book is about the broader story of California’s descent into governmental dysfunction since the late 1970s, a significant portion of the narrative is devoted to Schwarzenegger’s rise to the governorship after the Gray Davis recall and his struggles to reconcile his action-hero persona with the realities of the political world of Sacramento. The abject failure of the Governor’s fall 2005 special election is where the tale leaves off, but Schwarzenegger’s retreatment (or appearance of it) toward consensus-building, his distancing himself from President George W. Bush, the incumbent’s advantage of watching Democratic gubernatorial candidates Steve Westley and Phil Angelides batter each other in the summer 2006 primary campaign, Angelides’ weak campaign, and, finally, the staying power of Schwarzenegger’s star power, led to a resurgence culminating in his reelection trouncing of Angelides. One wonders what Schrag would make of all this in a revision.

Still, the fundamentals of what, to Schrag, makes California essentially ungovernable remain, and will, regardless of what Schwarzenegger does in his second term. As a cogent, trenchant, and well-structured analysis of just what has transpired to
Betty Goerke has assembled one of the most significant Native American biographies in recent years with *Chief Marin: Leader, Rebel, and Legend*. The protagonist of the book, for whom the northern California county of Marin is named, had received virtually no attention from scholars before Goerke began her ambitious search to find out who this captivating and important, yet illusive, Native American leader actually was. In fact, the paucity of work on Chief Marin, the Coast Miwok leader whose actual name was Huicmuse, has been riddled with errors and was relegated to the footnotes of historical publications, beginning and quite nearly ending with Hubert Howe Bancroft's influential works. With *Chief Marin*, Professor Goerke has, for the first time, shed light on the real Marin, though this book also offers a great deal more.

This is a most ambitious work that uncovers and brings to life Chief Marin and the world in which he lived, in particular the era of Spanish colonization of Alta California. Goerke's admirable research and impeccable analysis permitted her to unequivocally demonstrate that Native Americans did not passively submit to the Spanish and adopt their European culture or Christianity, or accept the role of servant or slave. However, other forces of change, such as the Mexican Revolution and the subsequent military defeat of Mexico by the United States, which brought Alta California under the American flag, proved to be inescapable and quite destructive for the Coast Miwok.

Goerke, a professor of anthropology and archaeology, begins the book with a stunning presentation of the natural world of the Coast Miwok, their political boundaries, and their pre-contact culture. This foundation affords the reader the opportunity to see the Indians for who they were, and then fully digest the incredible changes that took place once Europeans arrived, and their ensuing attempts to conquer, colonize and subjugate the Indians. Central to this Spanish colonization effort was the establishment of a mission, in this case, San Rafael, which served as the hub in their effort to eradicate the Native American culture through forced and coerced conversion into the Roman Catholic Church. This period of Spanish colonization, filled with brutalities and met with strong resistance movements by the Coast Miwok, comprises the heart of the book. The author’s attention to detail during the Spanish era is masterful. Of particular note is Goerke’s ability to explain the complex realities without confusing the reader. She manages this through her clear and crisp prose which, thankfully, is also free of academic jargon.

Beyond her highly informative narrative, Goerke also provides an exceptional set of illustrative plates that permit those who are not familiar with the beautiful lands of the Coast Miwok the opportunity to see the homeland of these California Indians. The plates also include several illustrations rendered by the Europeans of the Coast Miwok during the Mission period and outstanding examples of the material culture and artisanship of the Coast Miwok. The appendices are a treasure trove and include a highly useful cast of historical characters, a reference timeline, and an insightful collection of mission song lyrics as well as traditional Coast Miwok songs. Mission records and censuses and exquisitely drawn maps of the Coast Miwok as also included. Goerke's notes, nearly sixty pages, illustrate both the variety and impressive scope of sources she consulted, and which informed her landmark work.

In sum, this work delivers a brilliant biography of one of the most significant California Indian leaders of the first half of the 19th century, and it opens a gateway to the greater shared history of the Indians and the colonizing Europeans. Even though this is a scholarly work, it is also very accessible for the general reading audience. The depth of understanding Goerke demonstrates, along with her erudite wit and a keen sense of how to tell a story, places this work in the realm of being a gold standard in the field of Native American historical scholarship.

*Thomas Maxwell-Long is Assistant Professor of History at California State University, San Bernardino.*

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create a California that seems the very antithesis of the progressive state that rose to extraordinary heights before 1970, the book is a valuable history lesson.

Schrag pinpoints several essential elements in California’s current state that must be addressed in the future, including:

- The effects of Asian and Latino immigration;
- Economic globalization that uses cheap immigrant labor for unskilled or low-skilled work, and highly-skilled migrants from India, China, and other Asian nations in high tech jobs, particularly those centered around the Silicon Valley and its southern California counterparts in Orange and San Diego Counties;
- The broad impacts of direct democracy, especially via the initiative, in ways not intended by its Progressive-era creators in 1911 and with respect to the disproportion of older, more affluent, white voters;
- Unstable systems of government with respect to legislative and fiscal issues, particularly as the virtual guarantee of “safe districts” has made primaries more partisan, and a legislative two-thirds super-majority required for passing budgets, raising taxes or approving other spending measures practically guarantees legislative gridlock; and
- The antitax phenomenon, now essentially established as an orthodoxy, that leaves public programs of all kinds underfunded, while initiatives incurring massive indebtedness are relied upon to fund infrastructure and programs.

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National Archives Announces Fees Increases

A final rule published in the Federal Register August 17, 2007, amends the fees for reproduction of archival materials in National Archives facilities nationwide. In addition to Federal records, this includes donated historical materials, Presidential records, and records filed with the Office of the Federal Register. The rule became effective on October 1, 2007. The fees were changed to reflect current costs of providing the reproductions. Examples of the new fees for reproduction of commonly-requested genealogical records using the National Archives order forms include: Federal Census Requests, $25; Land Entry Records, $40; Pension Documents Packet, $25; Passenger Arrival Lists, $25. Self-service copies are 25 cents per page in the Washington DC area and 20 cents per page at regional archives and Presidential libraries. NARA-made copies are 75 cents per page. This is the first fee increase in seven years.

Job Announcement: Architectural Historian

EDAW Inc., a world leader in landscape architecture, planning, and environmental services, has an immediate opening for an Architectural Historian to support historic preservation and cultural resource management projects in their San Diego office. Duties include conducting research, preparing historic contexts, gathering and analyzing historic maps, aerial photographs, etc. Project work includes a variety of historic resource surveys, building assessments, National Register/California Register evaluations, and cultural landscape projects. EDAW's cultural resources group specializes in Section 106 compliance, California Environmental Quality Act compliance, land and natural resources-related historical research, and other general historical consulting services. This position requires exceptional research and writing skills, as well as good communication and organizational skills. Knowledge of and interest in 20th century architecture, military history, and federal/state cultural resources laws and regulations necessary. Applicants must have two or more years experience conducting field architectural surveys or performing similar work and be capable of conducting independent research and field work. For more information, visit www.edaw.com.

New Museums Advocacy Website

The American Association of Museums (AAM) has announced the release of their new advocacy website, www.speakupformuseums.org. The site has been designed to be a one-stop resource for information about key legislative issues affecting museums, AAM legislative updates and alerts, resources for advocacy, and contact information for members of Congress. The new site does not require membership with AAM. Please share or forward any ideas, suggestions or questions you have about the new website to Ember Farber, Legislative and Advocacy Assistant, 202 218-7703 or efarber@aam-us.org.

Further, the Governor’s tightrope walk between his Republican Party affiliation and his often substantive points of agreement with Democrats, particularly on social issues and the environment, has proved to be problematic. At this juncture, it would appear that, while Schrag’s dissection of California’s ills are plenty reason to read California: America’s High-Stakes Experiment, there is also ample reason to counsel patience for interested readers and wait until Schrag examines the issues again with some hindsight after Schwarzenegger is out of office and a new governor grapples with the behemoth that is California.

Paul Spitzzeri is Collections Manager at the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum in City of Industry.
Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities

The Conference of California Historical Societies’ Winter Symposium will take place February 15-17, 2008, in Arcadia. For more information, visit www.californiahistorian.com.


The Organization of American Historians will hold its annual meeting in New York City March 28-31, 2008. The theme of the 2008 meeting will be “Bringing Us All Together: The One-Hundred First Meeting of OAH.” For more information, visit www.oah.org/meetings.

The National Council for History Education will hold its national conference, with the theme “Leadership in History,” April 3-5, 2008, in Louisville, Kentucky. For more information, visit www.nche.net.

The National Council on Public History will hold its annual meeting, with the theme “Public Histories of Union and Disunion,” to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, April 10-13, 2008. For more information, visit www.ncph.org.

The Society for California Archaeology’s Committee for Advanced Annual Meeting Planning has contracts in place for their next annual meeting to take place in Burbank, April 17-20, 2008. For more information, visit www.scahome.org.

The Southwest Oral History Association will hold its annual conference April 18-20, 2008, in Tempe, Arizona. For more information, visit www.southwestoralhistory.org.

The 2008 California Preservation Conference, “Balance and Complexity: The Vineyard and Beyond,” will be held in Napa April 23-26, 2008. For more information, visit www.californiapreservation.org.

The American Association of Museums will hold its annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, April 27-May 1, 2008. The meeting’s theme, “Leadership: An Open Mic for New Ideas,” seeks to motivate attendees to come prepared to share their perspectives in a search for innovation and creativity. Early bird registration deadline is February 1. For more information, visit www.aam-us.org.

The Society of California Archivists’ Annual General Meeting will be held April 30-May 3, 2008, in Monterey. For more information, visit www.calarchivists.org.

The Vernacular Architecture Forum will hold its annual meeting in Fresno, May 7-10, 2008. The conference theme is “In the Garden of the Sun: California’s San Joaquin Valley.” For more information, visit vernaculararchitectureforum.org.


The Society for Commercial Archeology will hold its annual conference September 11-14, 2008, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to be run concurrently with the Preserving the Historic Road conference. Presentation proposals and one-page paper abstracts are now being accepted. For more information, visit www.sca-roadside.org/index.php or www.historicroads.org.

The Western Museums Association will hold its annual meeting September 17-21, 2008, in Anchorage, Alaska. For more information, visit www.westmuse.org.

The California Council for History Education will hold its third annual conference, September 25-27, 2008, in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Santa Clara. For more information, visit www.csuchico.edu/cche/.

Loyola Marymount University (LMU) invites submission of papers for a conference on water and politics in southern California, “Water and Politics in Southern California: A Retrospective on the Centennial of the Los Angeles Aqueduct.” The conference will take place on October 4, 2008, at LMU. The deadline for proposals is January 31, 2008. For more information, visit shotnews.net/?p=181.

The Oral History Association will hold its annual meeting October 15-19, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information, visit alpha.dickinson.edu/oha.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation’s National Preservation Conference will take place in Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 21-25, 2008. Session proposals that present critical issues that challenge communities across the country and cutting-edge historic preservation strategies and models that address these are due by January 11. For more information, visit www.nationaltrust.org.

On October 22-25, 2008, the Western History Association will gather in Salt Lake City for its 48th annual conference. For more information, visit www.umsl.edu/~wha.
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.

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 ccpph@csus.edu or 916 278-4296.

American Association of Museums (AAM)
Open
American Assoc. for State and Local History (AASLH)
Mike Bennett
California Association of Museums (CAM)
Carola Rupert Enriquez, 805 861-2132
California Historical Society (CHS)
Dick Orsi, 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@parks.ca.gov
Society for California Archaeology (SCA)
Steve Mikesell, smike@parks.ca.gov, 916 757-2521
Society of California Archivists (SCA)
Patricia Johnson, pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org
Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA)
Susan Douglass Yates, syates@coh.org
Southwest Mission Research Center (SMRC)
Linn McLaurin, 619 435-7394
Western History Association (WHA)
Ken Owens, owensk@csus.edu
Western Museums Association (WMA)
Rebecca Carruthers, reb2000@surewest.net

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
CCPH, Dept of History, 6000 J St, 
Sacramento CA 95819-6059
caiforniahistoryaction@hotmail.com
At this gift-giving time of year, why not break out the checkbook for ole’ CCPH and do yourself a favor at the same time? Don’t wait until April to think about your taxes, especially when now couldn’t be a better time.

Your donations to CCPH are tax-deductible, and we can provide you with a receipt for your records upon request.

Just mail your check to CCPH, CSU Sacramento, Dept of History, 6000 J St, Sacramento CA 95819-6059. And may you and yours have a safe and joyful holiday season.

CCPH Committees

Awards
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California History Day
Patricia Ambacher (pambacher@parks.ca.gov)

Standing Conference Committee
Chuck Wilson (c wilson@library.ucla.edu)

Conference 2007 - Arcadia
Paul Spitzzeri (p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org)

Keeper of the Register
Leslie Fryman (archaeo44@yahoo.com)

Legislative Action
Jenan Saunders (jsaunders@parks.ca.gov)

Membership
Leslie Fryman (archaeo44@yahoo.com)

Mini-Grants
Meta Bunse (mbunse@jrphistorical.com)

Nominations
Jim Newland (jnewland@parks.ca.gov)

Public Sector CRM
Janet Hansen (janet.hansen@lsa-assoc.com)

Publications/Newsletter
Jenan Saunders (californiahistoryaction@hotmail.com)

Standards and Professional Register
Chuck Wilson (c wilson@library.ucla.edu)

Website
Heather McCummins (irishlass_99@hotmail.com)

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.

Name___________________ Affiliation__________________ Position_________________

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Membership Categories: ____ Patron/Corporate $100 ____ Colleague $50
____ Institutional $40 ____ Individual $30 ____ Student $15

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 78-495, ccph@csus.edu, www.csus.edu/org/ccph.

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Lillian Choy, City of Industry
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