

Georgia Association of Historians Newsletter



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GAH Annual Meeting in Columbus.

Historians from all over the state will gather on April 7-9 at the Wyndham Hotel in Columbus for the annual meeting of the Georgia Historical Association. Nineteen scholarly panels or roundtable discussions will address the theme “**Contacts, Contexts and Consequences: New Directions for History in the 21st Century.**” Columbus State University will host the event. Optional tours of the Columbus Historic District, the National Civil War Naval Museum, and the Little White House will be offered.



Wyndham Hotel in Columbus

At the opening session on Thursday night, **Fred Fussell**, Director of the Chattahoochee Folk Life Project, will speak on "The Chattahoochee Valley Blues Legacy." A reception at the Rankin Arts Center on Friday night will feature a talk entitled “The European Union in a World Historical Context,” by **Reneo Lukic**, the Mildred Fort Visiting Scholar at Columbus State. The luncheon before the annual business meeting will feature **Eve Troutt-Powell**, of the University of Georgia, discussing “Sudanese Refugees in the Nile Valley.”

Plan Ahead for the 2006 GAH Meeting...

The GAH annual meeting in 2006 will be hosted by Clayton College & State University in Morrow. Tours of the National Archives and Records Service Southeast Branch and the Archives of the State of Georgia will be highlights of the program. ❖

Indian Removal Research in Progress

Sarah H. Hill, Independent Scholar, has completed Phase 1 of a National Park Service **grant** for research on the removal of Indians from Georgia. She has identified the 15 military posts that were established in 1837-38 in anticipation of the Cherokee expulsion, the length of post occupation, the militia companies assigned to each post, and the number of captives sent from each. A preliminary report will be given at the spring meeting of the Society for Georgia Archaeology. ❖

Facilitating Learning Online

Will Simson has accepted a position to teach the Board of Regent's Advanced Learning Technologies **new course**, “Facilitating Learning Online.” **Georgia Southern University** will host the ten week online development seminar. The course is designed for faculty and administrators who want to learn best practices technique for teaching online. Simson will co-pilot this program with the designer **Skip Atkinson**. Simson has facilitated another course for the BOR/ALT during the 2002-2003 academic year. ❖

New FDR Museum at Little White House

[review by Lou Brackett]

The new Franklin Delano Roosevelt Museum at the Little White House in Warm Springs, GA, opened in March 2004. My family and I visited last month, and the new museum is a definite "must see" if you are interested in FDR. The former museum was a converted house on the property located some distance from the entrance gate. The new museum is right next to the gate and is arranged chronologically with one of FDR's hand-controlled cars as the centerpiece. There is also an excellent new film narrated by Walter Cronkite.

Park employees were very attentive to visitors while we were there. Since the site is on an incline, motorized scooters are available to visitors who need them. The site also includes an often overlooked flag and state stones walk. New flags have been purchased for the walk and plans are under way for new landscaping around each stone. One of the park employees has also done research into the state flags and stones and was available to answer questions on the day we visited. As before visitors can also tour the Little White House itself, but FDR's "unfinished portrait" has been moved from the Little White House into a more secure, well lighted building.

If you have never been or have not been since the new museum opened last year, I highly recommend it. Commemorate the 60th anniversary of FDR's death by taking the Little White House tour scheduled for Saturday afternoon, April 9th.

[Editor's note: We would like to include one or two items in each newsletter to inform members of interesting historic sites or museums. Please send a brief review to kathrynkemp@mail.clayton.edu.]



Chirhart Book

Ann Short Chirhart's new book, *Torches of Light: Georgia Teachers and the Coming of the Modern South*, published by the **University of Georgia Press** appeared in February. ❖

History in Film

Screening America: United States History Through Film In The Twentieth Century, by **James J. Lorence** of Gainesville College, focuses on classroom study of the motion picture as historical document. Longmans will issue it this summer. ❖

History of Technology References

Dave Morton has two books in the new Greenwood Press reference series on the history of technology. They are *Sound Recording: the Life Story of a Technology* and *Electronics: The Life Story of a Technology* (both published 2004). After spending the past year as Visiting Assistant Professor in the School of History, Technology, and Society at Georgia Tech, Morton will return to freelance writing and museum consulting projects through his firm, Brainchip ([www. Brainchip.net](http://www.Brainchip.net)). ❖

UWG Retirements

Professor **Mel Steely** has, after forty years, retired from the University Of West Georgia's history department but continues working at UWG's Ingram Library as director of the Georgia's Political Heritage program. Professor **John Ferling** has also retired from UWG but continues his research and writing on the colonial and early republic period. ❖

Newsletter Now Online

The Georgia Association of Historians Newsletter now is presented online in a PDF format suitable for printing. **Hutch Johnson** and **Marvin Thomas** recently retired from their long service as editors of the paper version. It is part of the newly redesigned **GAH website**, which now conforms to the requirements of the Americans for Disabilities Act. Much of the design work was carried out by Lou Brackett, a Clayton College & State University School of Technology faculty member, who is pursuing a second bachelor's degree in history. Members are encouraged to contact Kathryn Kemp, Website editor, with news of member activities. ❖