

Georgia Association of Historians

Newsletter

Fall 2013

Upcoming Events

September 28, 2013
Morrow, Georgia

The Friends of Georgia Archives
and History Annual Meeting

More information can be found
at <http://fogah.org/id13.html>

October 12, 2013
Kennesaw, Georgia

Symposium on New
Interpretations of the Civil War –
“1863: The Struggles Continue”

The Civil War Center at
Kennesaw State University, in
conjunction with the Kennesaw
Mountain National Battlefield
Park, presents renowned Civil War
historians A. Wilson Greene,
George Rable, and Brian Wills, on
Saturday, October 12 at 9:00 a.m.
Greene will discuss “Burnside’s
Mud March,” Rable will provide
insights on “Jackson The Christian
Soldier,” and Wills will lecture on
“The Rock of Chickamauga.” For
additional information, please visit
www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera

February 27 - March 1, 2014
Athens, Georgia

2014 GAH Annual Meeting



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Message from 2014 Program Chair

Greetings, Historians!

I am excited about our upcoming annual meeting in Athens – at the new Richard B. Russell Special Collections Library of the University of Georgia. Various persons, including John Inscoe, our local arrangements chair, have been arranging excellent speakers and special receptions.

What we need to make the meeting complete is your presence and your sharing of your scholarly endeavors. Don't be shy! Submit a paper proposal or assemble a panel, and encourage your colleagues and graduate students to do the same (<http://gaassociationhistorians.org/conferences-and-events/2014-gah-annual-conference/>). Let's celebrate our intellectual work, fellowship with other historians, young and old, and learn something new.

More information on registration, hotel, etc., will be available soon on the GAH website.

I look forward to your proposals, and to seeing you in Athens.

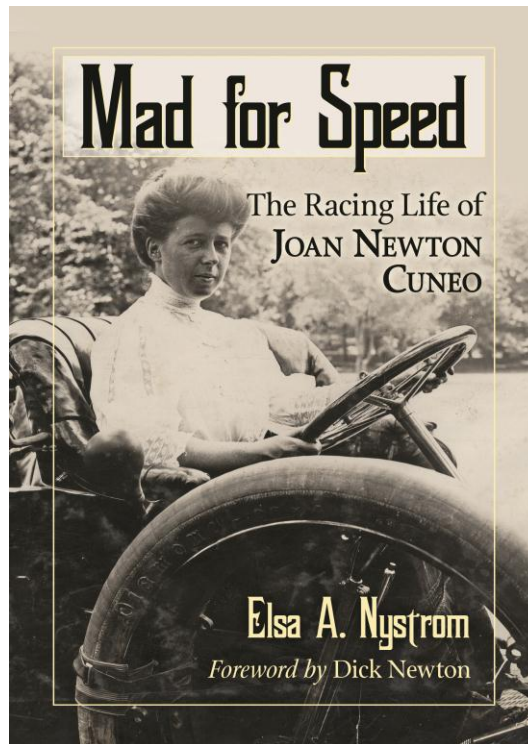
Kenneth Wheeler
Program Chair

New Academic Programs

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) approved a new baccalaureate degree program for the College of Coastal Georgia's School of Arts and Sciences, a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies. Given the rich historical and natural resources of local communities, the American Studies degree is considered a perfect fit for Coastal Georgia which is honored to become one of more than 300 top-ranking colleges and universities across the country that offer this signature degree.

The American Studies degree will offer two areas of concentration: Environmental and Regional Studies (ERS) and Cultural Studies and Communication (CSC). The two main components of the program are 60 credit hours of required common core curriculum followed by 60 program hours that immerse students in the critical issues facing the United States. The rich opportunities for service learning offered by the coastal region significantly enhance the program. Students in the ERS track will benefit from proximity to the coastal ecosystem that is also a major transportation and shipping corridor. The acquisition of Cannon's Point by the St. Simons Island Trust provides unique field-learning resources. Students in the CSC track will benefit from literary and cultural resources of the barrier islands ranging from literary and artistic resources, to the Gullah-Greechee culture and a wide range of historical preservation, museum and archival settings.

The degree provides an interdisciplinary, community-centered approach to understanding history, ecology, economic development and resource sustainability, which can be studied in a region steeped in tourism, industry and global trade. It will prepare students for a variety of careers in management, technical writing, journalism, diplomatic service, law, archival/museum studies, emerging media, and "green" industries.



Elsa Nystrom, Kennesaw State, has just published *Mad for Speed: The Racing Life of Joan Newton Cuneo* (pictured above). Cuneo was the most famous female auto racer in the U.S. a century ago. The book examines her life and her role as spokeswoman for women drivers and good roads.

Michael Morris has joined the faculty of College of Coastal Georgia in an Atlantic World History position.

On October 9, 2013, Kennesaw State University celebrates the 50th anniversary of the approval of the institution's charter by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. On that day, Professor Emeritus **Thomas A. Scott** will present his new book, *Kennesaw State University: The First Fifty Years, 1963-2013*.

GAH Member News

Michael K. Shaffer, Assistant Director for the Civil War Center at Kennesaw State, was named to the Board of the River Line Historic Area (RLHA), an organization that embraces historic and natural resources near the Chattahoochee River. The Area links Vinings, Smyrna, and Mableton, Georgia, and contains remnants of the Chattahoochee River Line, a six-mile long series of earth works and unique fortifications designed by General Francis A. Shoup. Shaffer lectures on Shoup and the River Line and leads various tours of the area.

This November, the University of Georgia Press will publish *Johnny Mercer: Southern Songwriter for the World*, by **Glenn T. Eskew** (Georgia State University). Mercer wrote the lyrics for "Moon River," "Days of Wine and Roses," "Satin Doll," "That Old Black Magic," and dozens of other songs. As the subtitle suggests, Glenn's biography shows how Savannah-born Mercer "spread a southern multiracial culture across the nation and around the world" (from the publisher's catalog description).

New Academic Programs (cont.)

The Department of History at Georgia Southern University will add a Public History Graduate Certificate to its existing Master of Arts program beginning in the fall of 2013.

Public history is a growing field that focuses on the practical application of academic knowledge through federal and state historic sites, museums, media productions, the Internet, popular publishing, and other public venues. These programs provide an alternative career path to traditional teaching and have become increasingly popular during the struggling academic job market of the last decade. By creating opportunities to study public history the department hopes to increase enrollment and further promote the unique resources available at our university.

Dr. Michael Van Wagenen, who was hired to create the program last fall, will be coordinating the certificate.

Send news, updates, and other information for the next newsletter to Megan MacDonald at mmacdon3@kennesaw.edu

GAH Spotlight

The University of Georgia Press, which always has a friendly presence at GAH conferences (and has published books by many GAH members), celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. The primary mission of the press has been to support and enhance the University of Georgia's place as a major research institution by publishing outstanding works of scholarship and literature by scholars and writers throughout the world. The press also has a long history of publishing books about the state and region for general readers.



"The University of Georgia Press reaches its 75th year having established an international reputation for excellence in scholarly and regional publishing," said P. Toby Graham, UGA's deputy university librarian and director of the Digital Library of Georgia. "We are fortunate to have such a vibrant, creative, and distinguished press at UGA."

Founded in 1938, the UGA Press is the largest book publisher in the state. It has been a member of the Association of American University Presses since 1940. With a full-time staff of 24 publishing professionals, the press currently publishes 80-85 new books a year and has more than 1,500 titles in print.

It has well-established lists in Atlantic World and American history, American literature, African-American studies, southern studies and environmental studies, as well as a growing presence in the fields of food studies, geography, urban studies, international affairs and security studies.

The press is also a founding partner of the New Georgia Encyclopedia, the state's award-winning, online-only, multimedia reference work on the people, places, events, and institutions of Georgia.

The NGE is a project of the Georgia Humanities Council and is published in partnership with the University of Georgia Press, the University System of Georgia / GALILEO, and the Office of the Governor.

In 2008 the press received the Governor's Award in the Humanities "for enriching the life of the humanities through a distinguished record of publications, for serving as an important resource to libraries and other community discussion groups, and for building partnerships that contribute to enlightened communities of readers in Georgia and the nation."