

The Society for History Education, Inc.

THE HISTORY TEACHER

Volume 43 Number 1

November 2009

Published by The Society for History Education, Inc.

The History Teacher is published quarterly in November, February, May, and August for members of the Society for History Education. Editor's Office: Jane Dabel, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90840-1601; PHONE: (562) 985-8759; FAX: (562) 985-5431; E-MAIL jdabel@csulb.edu. Business, Production, and Subscription Office: Elisa Herrera, General Manager, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90840-1601; PHONE: (562) 985-2573; FAX: (562) 985-5431; E-MAIL: herrera@thehistoryteacher.org WEB: www.thehistoryteacher.org.

Subscription fees: Individuals: U.S. \$32, Canada and Mexico \$41, other foreign \$50; Institutions: U.S. \$63, Canada and Mexico \$72, other foreign \$81; Students with verification of enrollment, and retired individuals: U.S. \$22, all foreign \$31; Lifetime subscription: U.S. \$300, all foreign \$350. All checks and money orders must be in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank, and made payable to *Society for History Education, Inc.*

Single and back issues: U.S. \$12, Canada and Mexico, \$15, other foreign \$20. All back issues are available on microfilm from University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Returned or undeliverable copies of the journal and correspondence concerning subscriptions should be addressed to the General Manager at the Business, Production, and Subscription Office.

Notice of nonreceipt of an issue must be sent to the Business, Production, and Subscription Office within three months of publication of the issue. Changes of address should be sent to the Business, Production, and Subscription Office by the first of the month preceding the month of publication. The Society is not responsible for copies lost because of failure to report a change of address in time for mailing. The Society cannot accommodate changes of address that are effective only for the summer months.

The History Teacher disclaims responsibility for statements, either of fact or opinion, made by contributors.

Periodicals postage paid at Long Beach, California, and at additional mailing offices. Publication number: ISSN 0018 2745; USPS number: 957:080; LC number: 74-3356.

Postmaster: Send change of address to The Society for History Education, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90840-1601.

The History Teacher publishes articles of three general types: (1) reports on promising new classroom techniques, educational programs, curricula, and methods of evaluating instructional effectiveness; (2) analyses of important interpretations, leading historians, historiographical problems, and recent

Cover: This photograph of a young man scaling the United States/Mexico border fence near Brownsville, Texas, was uploaded to the Internet by a Wikipedia user in July 2009 <<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/78/Borderwallbrownsvile.jpg>>. With the assistance of anonymous individuals throughout the world, Wikimedia Commons increased its online collection from over 3 million to nearly 5.5 million digitized, free use media files since last November's issue of *The History Teacher*. The border fence featured in the picture is a contemporary example of the controversial physical barriers throughout history analyzed by Helmut Langerbein in "Great Blunders? The Great Wall of China, the Berlin Wall, and the Proposed United States/Mexican Border Fence," which begins on page nine of this issue.

trends in specific fields of historical research; and (3) critical review essays on audiovisual materials, textbooks, and other secondary works suitable for classroom use. Briefer items announcing conferences or workshops for history teachers, other teaching-related special events, speakers, and the like, appear in the Society for History Education's website, <www.thehistoryteacher.org>.

The History Teacher also publishes, as regular departments, reviews of audiovisual materials, textbooks, supplementary readers, and other printed classroom materials, with evaluations of their scholarly reliability, formats, and effectiveness of presentation. Reviews are commissioned in advance. Readers interested in contributing reviews should advise the Editor of their qualifications and fields of specialization.

The History Teacher does not have its own style sheet. Contributors should follow the forms of citation customary in the historical profession. Manuscripts must be double spaced (including all quotations and endnotes), and submitted in triplicate. The manuscripts should be in letter quality type. Authors are encouraged to supply or recommend illustrations that would enhance the effectiveness of their work in print. Final decisions on manuscripts usually require a minimum of 10-15 weeks. We cannot return articles which have not been accepted unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope was enclosed with the article. The editors, who are the final judges of matters concerning grammar, usage, and other conventions, will edit contributions to conform to the normal manner of presentation in *The History Teacher*.

Manuscripts prepared on electronic word processing devices can dramatically improve the speed and accuracy of text handling. *The History Teacher* can accept many popular word processing formats. Contributors should indicate at the time of first (hard copy) submission if their manuscripts are available in electronic form, identifying the word processing programs and the types of machine upon which the manuscripts were prepared. Upon acceptance, contributors will be informed if the manuscripts can be received in electronic form by *The History Teacher*.

Correspondence regarding contributions to *The History Teacher* and materials for review should be sent to the Editor, *The History Teacher*, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90840-1601.

The Society for History Education affirms that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, age, or sex. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX and other federal and state statutes may be referred to the Affirmative Action Officer, California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90840.

The History Teacher is abstracted or indexed in *Historical Abstracts*, *America: History and Life*, *Current Index to Journals in Education*, and *Multi-Media Index*.

© THE SOCIETY FOR HISTORY EDUCATION
Affiliated with the American Historical Association
All rights reserved

— Editorial Board, *The History Teacher* —

Editor

Jane Dabel

Managing Editor

Richard H. Wilde

Reviews Editor

Arlene Lazarowitz

Computer Editor

Daniel M. Ringrose

Members

Linda Alkana • Houri Berberian • Albie Burke • Douglas M. Haynes
Troy Johnson • Eileen Luhr • Nancy Quam-Wickham
Daniel M. Ringrose • Peter Snetsinger • William A. Weber

Business, Production, and Subscription Director

Elisa Herrera

Graduate Student Intern

Michael Miller

— Board of Directors, The Society for History Education —

President

Troy Johnson

Secretary

Sharon Sievers

Treasurer

Open

Members

Dorothy Abrahamse • Simeon J. Crowther • Jane Dabel
Nancy Quam-Wickham • Richard H. Wilde

— National Advisory Board, The Society for History Education —

Suzanne Wilson Barnett	<i>University of Puget Sound</i>
Edward Berenson	<i>New York University</i>
David A. Berry	<i>Essex County College</i>
Ron Briley	<i>Sandia Preparatory School</i>
Joan Catapano	<i>University of Illinois Press</i>
Ross E. Dunn	<i>San Diego State University</i>
Leon Fink	<i>University of North Carolina</i>
Noralee Frankel	<i>American Historical Association</i>
Sandra B. Freitag	<i>University of California, Santa Cruz</i>
David Gould	<i>Durham Academy</i>
Robert L. Harris	<i>Cornell University</i>
Donald T. Hata	<i>California State University, Dominguez Hills</i>
David M. Kennedy	<i>Stanford University</i>
David Kobrin	<i>Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School</i>
Mark L. Kornbluh	<i>Michigan State University</i>
Loretta Lobes	<i>NHEN, Carnegie Mellon University</i>
Steven H. Mintz	<i>University of Houston</i>
Michael A. Morrison	<i>Purdue University</i>
Amanda Podany	<i>California State Polytechnic Univ., Pomona</i>
John Pyne	<i>West Milford Township High School</i>
Elaine Wrisley Reed	<i>National Council for History Education</i>
Gary W. Reichard	<i>California State University, Long Beach</i>
Eric Rothschild	<i>Scarsdale High School</i>
Gloria Sesso	<i>Patchogue-Medford School</i>
Howard Spodek	<i>Temple University</i>
Peter N. Stearns	<i>George Mason University</i>
David Trask	<i>Guilford Technical Community College</i>
John Tyler	<i>Groton School</i>
Judith P. Zinsser	<i>Miami University</i>

— Staff, The Society for History Education —

President

Troy Johnson

Director

Elisa Herrera

CONTENTS

November 2009

GENERAL

- 9 *Great Blunders? The Great Wall of China, the Berlin Wall, and the Proposed United States/Mexican Border Fence*
by Helmut Langerbein
- 31 *“Connecting the Dots”: Munich, Iraq, and the Lessons of History*
by Peter Conolly-Smith

THE CRAFT OF TEACHING

- 53 *So Many Choices, So Little Time: Strategies for Understanding and Taking Multiple-Choice Exams in History*
by Robert Blackey

THE STATE OF THE PROFESSION

- 67 *The Challenges of Primary Sources, Collaboration, and the K-16 Elizabeth Murray Project*
by Patricia Cleary and David Neumann

NOTES AND COMMENTS

- 87 *Preparing Student Teachers for a World History Curriculum in New York*
by Jacqueline Swansinger
- 97 *Using Philosophical Liberalism and Philosophical Conservatism as an Organizing Theme in the First Half of the American History Survey*
by Richard J. Morris

SPECIAL FEATURE

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2009 PRIZE ESSAYS

- 103 *Introduction*
by Jane Dabel, *The History Teacher*
- 105 *Cholera and the Pump on Broad Street: The Life and Legacy of John Snow*
by Laura Ball, Senior Division

- 121 *Leader and Spokesman for a People in Exile: Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce*
by Samvit Jain, Junior Division

REVIEWS

- 141 Anderson, Julie, dir. *Mr. Conservative: Goldwater on Goldwater*
by Eileen Luhr
- Cook, James W., Lawrence B. Glickman, and Michael O'Malley, eds. *The Cultural Turn in U.S. History: Past, Present and Future*
by Brett Mizelle
- Critchlow, Donald T. and Nancy MacLean. *Debating the American Conservative Movement: 1945 to the Present*
by Nicholas Katers
- Guibert, Emmanuel. *Alan's War: The Memories of G.I. Alan Cope*
by Linda Kelly Alkana
- Hale, John R. *Lords of the Sea: The Epic Story of the Athenian Navy and the Birth of Democracy*
by Ryan Horne
- Helfferich, Tryntje, ed. *The Thirty Years War: A Documentary History*
by Mairi Cowan
- McDonald, J. Fred. *The History Shoppe*
by Marjorie Hunter
- Miller, James Edward. *The United States and the Making of Modern Greece: History and Power, 1950-1974*
by T. Michael Ruddy
- Nicholas, David. *The Northern Lands: Germanic Europe, c.1270-c.1500*
by Abbe Allen DeBolt
- Rigg, Bryan Mark. *Lives of Jewish Soldiers: Untold Tales of Men of Jewish Descent Who Fought for the Third Reich*
by Amy R. Sims
- Sutherland, Daniel E. *A Savage Conflict: The Decisive Role of Guerrillas in the American Civil War*
by Randall M. Miller

CONTENTS, cont.

November 2009

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 7 Contributors to this issue
- 157 Questionnaire for potential reviewers
- 158 Subscription information
- 160 Submission guidelines for *The History Teacher*

ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

- Cover 2 Facts on File: *Encyclopedia of American History*
- 30 Association for Asian Studies: *Teach About Asia, Learn About Asia*
- 52 Organization of American Historians: *Interested in the history of the U.S.?*
- 120 Seven Stories Press: *Howard Zinn's Alternate U.S. History*
- 140 Bedford/St. Martin's: *A History of Western Society*
- 156 Society for History Education: *Advertise in The History Teacher*
- Cover 4 Northern Illinois University Libraries: *Mark Twain's Mississippi*

CONTRIBUTORS

November 2009

Laura Ball is now a junior at the University School of Milwaukee. She attended the National History Day (NHD) competition with individual documentaries in 2006 and 2008. Her first historical paper for NHD became the prize-winning 2009 Senior Division entry. In addition to her historical studies, Laura also enjoys fiction writing and competing on her school's math team.

Robert Blackey (Ph.D., New York University, 1968), Professor of History at California State University, San Bernardino, is author/editor of articles and books on history teaching and learning, comparative revolutions, and British history. He has been vice president of the American Historical Association (Teaching Division), a long-time editor of the teaching column in the AHA's *Perspectives*, and Chief Reader and chair of the Test Development Committee for AP European history. He received the AHA's Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award (2001) and CSU's Wang Family Excellence Award (2003). Currently, he is the only non-arts member of the Steering Committee that is leading the College Board's national Task Force on the Arts in Education.

Patricia Cleary is Professor of History at California State University, Long Beach, and author of *Elizabeth Murray: A Woman's Pursuit of Independence in Eighteenth-Century America* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2000). **Dave Neumann** is Director of the History Project, based at California State University, Long Beach, and former U.S. history teacher at Wilson Classical High School in Long Beach, California.

Peter Conolly-Smith teaches American history at CUNY-Queens College in New York. He has published articles on war, immigration, ethnicity, theater, and film. His book, *Translating America: An Immigrant Press Visualizes Popular American Culture*, was published by the Smithsonian Press in 2004. He received his Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University in 1996.

Samvit Jain is a student at Redmond Junior High School, where he enjoys researching and writing about historical and contemporary topics. In addition to historical subjects such as ancient history, American involvement in the Vietnam War, and the geopolitical and domestic forces that shaped that conflict, Samvit is interested in mathematics and the sciences, having participated in competitions since fourth grade. Outside of academics, his interests include guitar, piano, painting, traveling, biking, and soccer. Samvit hopes to have a profession as a physicist or an engineer.

Helmut Langerbein received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Santa Cruz. He is the Chair of the History Department at the University of Texas at Brownsville and teaches classes in United States, European, and world history. His publications include *Hitler's Death Squads: The Logic of Mass Murder* and "The Power of Print: The West German Leaflet Propaganda Campaign, 1961-1972."

CONTRIBUTORS, cont.

November 2009

Richard Morris is Professor of History at Lycoming College. He received his Ph.D. from New York University. He has published articles on Revolutionary America in the *Journal of Urban History*, the *Journal of Social History*, and the *New England Quarterly*.

Jacqueline Swansinger is a Professor of History at SUNY Fredonia, an institution known for teacher education. Her work in world history teacher preparation dates to 1996, when Fredonia's history department undertook a world history track for social studies. In 2000, she worked as Project Investigator for "Establishing a Teaching Field," an NEH/College Board/World History Association grant to train world history teachers. Recently, she completed 18 months as interim associate vice-president for research and graduate studies.