

1994

## History News

Florida Historical Society  
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## HISTORY NEWS

### *Annual Meeting*

The Florida Historical Society will hold its annual meeting in Tallahassee, May 18-21, 1995. The Florida Historical Confederation will also hold its workshops at that time. The convention hotel will be the Ramada Inn North. Jerrell H. Shofner, chairman of the program committee, invites proposals for papers and sessions related to all topics in Florida history. The special emphasis will be "Women in Florida History and Florida's Sesquicentennial." Those wishing to read a paper or organize a session should submit an abstract and vita to Dr. Shofner, Florida Historical Society, P. O. Box 290197, Tampa, FL 33687-0197. Dr. Joe Knetsch is chairing the local arrangements committee.

### *Awards and Honors*

The Florida Historical Society annually awards three literary prizes for original work done in Florida history. The awards for 1993 were announced at the annual meeting held in Fort Myers, May 19-21, 1994. The Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida History was awarded to Jeffrey A. Drobney, West Virginia University, for "Where Palm and Pine Are Blowing: Convict Labor in the North Florida Turpentine Industry, 1877-1923," which appeared in the April 1994 issue of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The judges were Dr. Joe M. Richardson, Florida State University; Dr. Kenneth Kiple, Bowling Green State University; and Dr. Merlin Cox, Gainesville. The prize memorializes Professor Thompson, a Florida and southern historian who was a long-time member of the history faculty at the University of Florida. His family established an endowment to support the annual award.

The Rembert W. Patrick Memorial Book Award was given to Jerald T. Milanich, Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida, and Charles Hudson, University of Georgia, for their book *Hernando de Soto and the Indians of Florida*, published by the University Press of Florida. The judges were Dr. Larry Rivers, Florida A & M University; Dr. Jane Dysart, University of West Florida; and Dr. John W. Partin, Tampa. Rembert Patrick was secretary

of the Florida Historical Society and long-time editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. A noted Florida and southern historian, he also served as president of the Southern Historical Association and chairman of the history department at the University of Florida.

The Charlton W. Tebeau Book Award was presented to Kevin McCarthy, University of Florida, and Maxine Jones, Florida State University, for their book *African-Americans of Florida*. This book was published by Pineapple Press. The judges were Dr. Peter Klingman, Tampa; Sam Boldrick, Miami-Dade Public Library; and Susan R. Parker, Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board. Dr. Tebeau is professor emeritus of history at the University of Miami, author of *A History of Florida*, and editor emeritus of *Tequesta*.

The Florida Historical Society recognizes outstanding essays in Florida history submitted by graduate and undergraduate students. The LeRoy Collins Prize was awarded to Heather McClenahan, a graduate student at the University of South Florida, for her paper "Governor LeRoy Collins and the Senate Election of 1968." The winner of the Caroline Mays Brevard Prize was Richard England, an undergraduate student at the University of South Florida, for his paper "A History of Citrus County Florida." The Society also recognizes outstanding essays in Florida history by a middle/high school student. The Frederick Cubberly Prize was given to Flordeliza Abad of Pensacola High School for her essay "The Effect of Geography on the Timber Industry at the Port of Pensacola at the Turn of the Century" and to her teacher, Kent Rettig.

The Society awarded three Golden Quill Awards, which are given for outstanding media participation relating to Florida history. The recipients were Eliot Kleinberg, *Palm Beach Post*; Florida Trust for Historic Preservation for *Florida Heritage*; and Ironwood Productions for *Florida History in Song*.

The Society also presented five new awards: the Presidential Service Award was given to Dr. David R. Colburn, University of Florida, and the Membership Recruitment Award was presented to Richard Prescott of Fort Myers. The Director's Local Society Award and the Director's Service Award were presented to the Fort Myers Historical Museum; and the Director's Donor Award was given to Armando Mendez of Fort Myers.

Dr. Joe Knetsch has been awarded the Scientific and Research Award by the Florida Society of Professional Land Surveyors. Dr. Knetsch is a member of the society's board of directors and an expert on the history of Florida surveying and cartography. He received the award in recognition of the essays he has published in the *Florida Surveyor* journal and for the many seminars he has conducted on the history of surveys and surveyors in Florida. He received this honor at the annual convention, of the society held in Ponte Vedra Beach on September 21, 1993.

The Hillsborough County Historical Commission announces the selection of Hampton Dunn to succeed the late Tony Pizzo as the honorary historian of the county. An award-winning Tampa newspaper reporter and managing editor of the *Tampa Times*, Hampton Dunn has written eighteen books. He is currently chairman of the Historic Tampa/Hillsborough County Preservation Board and is vice chairman of the county's historical commission. He is a former president of the Florida Historical Society.

The Georgia Historical Society announces the 1994 winners of the E. Merton Coulter Award and the William Bacon Stevens Award. The Coulter Award, an annual prize for the best article published in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, was presented in 1993 to Jonathan Sarris, a doctoral student in history at the University of Georgia, for his article "Anatomy of an Atrocity: The Madden Branch Massacre and Guerrilla Warfare in North Georgia, 1861-1865," which appeared in the Winter 1993 issue of the *Quarterly*. The Stevens Award, given every second year for the best article published by a student, was presented to James Granade at the Medical College of Georgia for his article "The Twilight of Cotton Culture: Life on a Wilkes County Plantation, 1924-1929," published in the *Quarterly's* Summer 1993 issue. The Coulter Award carries a stipend of \$500, and the Stevens Award \$250. Both were presented to the authors at the society's annual meeting in Savannah on April 9, 1994.

Louisiana State University Press announces that Winthrop D. Jordan has won the 1994 Bancroft Prize for his book *Tumult and Silence at Second Creek: An Inquiry into a Civil War Slave Conspiracy*. The volume tells the story of an abortive slave rebellion in the area around Natchez, Mississippi, in the spring of 1861 and of the sub-

sequent lynching of at least forty slaves. Jordan is the William F. Winter Professor of History at the University of Mississippi and the author of several other books, including *White Over Black: American Attitudes Toward the Negro*.

The Pensacola Historical Society announced at its annual meeting that Dr. William S. Coker of the University of West Florida has received the Heritage Award. He received this honor in recognition of his many contributions to Pensacola history, especially for his long involvement with the Panton Leslie Papers Project. This project has resulted in the publication of *Indian Traders of the Southeastern Borderlands: Panton, Leslie and Co. and John Forbes and Co., 1783-1847*, and many articles dealing with the economic and social development of the Spanish borderlands.

#### News

The Tampa Bay Regional History Museum Preview Center was opened to the public on March 12, 1994, at Harbor Island. A private preview reception, hosted by the board of directors and trustees, was held for the press, representatives of the city and county government, local historians, and initial contributors to the museum's efforts the evening before the opening. The Preview Center examines the Tampa Bay area's 450 years of recorded history. Through photographs, displays, and exhibits the Center attempts to provide visitors with a sampling from the richness of materials available in the full museum.

An ambitious microfilming project has resulted in the preservation of *The Dade City Banner*, according to Bill Dayton, chairman of the Dade City Historic Preservation Advisory Board. Microfilm copies will soon be available for purchase. The film covers the years 1914 through 1970. Contact Melanie Cooksey, Collection Development Librarian, Pasco County Library System at (904) 567-3576 for further information.

The Tampa Historical Society announces the completion of repairs and renovation to its headquarters in the former Peter O. Knight cottage at 245 Hyde Park Avenue. The house began as the first Tampa home of Peter O. Knight and his wife Lillie Frierson shortly after their arrival to the city in 1889. Knight played a prom-

inent role in Tampa's early growth as an organizer of the Tampa Suburban Railway Company. He later served as president of the Tampa Electric Company for twenty years. The house became the official home of the Tampa Historical Society in 1978, and over the years many members and benefactors have contributed toward its maintenance. The refurbished building features a library and new displays of the society's collections. For information contact the society at 305 South Hyde Park Avenue, Tampa, FL 33606; (813) 259-1111.

The Museum of Southern History in Jacksonville was recently opened at 4304 Herschel Street (at Lexington Avenue). A group of Jacksonville Civil War history buffs created the museum in 1975 to preserve what Director Michael B. Snyder calls "the most misrepresented period of American history." For a number of years the museum shifted among the homes of board members. What started as an accumulation of Civil War memorabilia has grown to a collection of southern history extending through 1900. Two unique items in the collection are the Confederate battle flag used in the 1864 Battle of Olustee and a miniature scene of the Battle of Antietam built by a Jacksonville man, which contains about 2,000 hand-painted soldiers, 250 horses, and 130 cannons. Of special note, the museum contains a 2,500 volume research library. The museum is supported by private donations and contributions from the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Hours of operation are 10:00 A.M. to 6 P.M., Tuesday through Saturday, and admission is free.

The Pensacola Historical Museum has opened a new exhibit entitled *Collectibles*. The exhibit includes cameos in crystal, historical pewter figurines, and art glass paperweights. There are also many spoons and historic maps of Pensacola. The museum is open every day except Sunday and is located in Old Christ Church on Seville Square.

The Clewiston Museum, founded in 1984, is an expanding museum, collecting and displaying a variety of items that deal with the history of Clewiston and its environs. During the fall of 1994 the museum will mount exhibitions featuring the *Tampa Tribune* and the logging industry of the Big Cypress Swamp. For information contact the museum at 112 South Commercio Street, Clewiston, FL 33440; (813) 983-2870.

*Meetings*

The University of Georgia will sponsor a symposium entitled "Black and White Perspectives on the American South," on September 29-30, 1994. The two-day conference at the University's Center for Continuing Education in Athens will include sessions devoted to "The Historical Development of Southern Race Relations," "Class, Race, and Gender," "Culture," and "Justice and Power," in which participants will explore the differences and commonalities of white and black experiences in, perceptions of, and impacts on the region. Speakers include John Boles, William Chafe, James Cobb, Melissa Fay Greene, Daryl Dance, Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, Vincent Harding, Trudier Harris, and George Wright. For more information contact Professor William Holmes, Department of History, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602; (706) 542-8848.

The 38th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, March 9-11, 1995. Proposals for papers and sessions in all areas of history are welcome. Proposals, accompanied by a one-page abstract and vita, should be sent by October 15, 1994. Contact Dale Gaeddert, Chair MVHC, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182.

*Grants*

Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for scholars of all disciplines whose work examines the Irish-American experience are available from the Irish American Cultural Institute, an educational foundation based in St. Paul, Minnesota. The next deadline for proposals is August 15, 1994. For further information call or write the Institute at 2115 Summit Avenue #5026, St. Paul, MN 55105; (612) 962-6040.