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## Book Reviews

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## Book Reviews

*Lucy Audubon: A Biography.* By Carolyn E. DeLatte. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2008. Foreword, preface, epilogue, bibliography, index. Pp. 280. \$23.00 paper.)

Carolyn DeLatte's biography of famed naturalist John James Audubon's wife, Lucy Bakewell Audubon, illustrates the dramatic events that changed a genteel girl into an indomitable wife and mother. Capable of supporting her family on the American frontier as she dealt with economic hardship and stormy relationships, DeLatte points out that while much has been written on John James Audubon little exists about his wife. In the original preface (reprinted from 1982) DeLatte contends that a biography on the "strong and admirable" woman "deserves telling" (xxi). More importantly, DeLatte illustrates how Lucy's life complicated gendered spheres (the cult of domesticity) in the early nineteenth century and provided a constant source of support throughout her husband's harrowing journey for fame and fortune.

In her work DeLatte overcomes a biographer's biggest obstacle: the lack of a sufficient source base. Lucy did not write an autobiography, left no journal, and her manuscript—a memoir of her husband's papers and journals co-authored by a friend—fell victim to the scrutiny of an editor. Instead, DeLatte is left with one major source: Lucy's letters. But DeLatte is very resourceful. She makes use of a number of detailed accounts left behind by other women living on the frontier, John James's journals and papers, and letters that circulated among family members and friends.

Born to a wealthy British family that immigrated to America in 1801, Lucy was an educated, poised, and adventurous young woman who demonstrated a love for the outdoors and was an accomplished equestrian. Raised by a father who believed in

women's exposure to education (even though he maintained their inferiority), Lucy's relationship with him dramatically shaped her life thereafter. DeLatte lays the foundation for her work in the first chapter, which explains Lucy's character and her first encounter with her future husband, also her neighbor. It is apparent that John James was immediately enamored with the "tall and willowy," warm and intelligent woman that would become his wife (15).

The couple married against their parents' wishes. This was a union for love, a rarity for the time and something that DeLatte could not have done more to emphasize. She also stresses that Lucy is a paradox. Through her marriage to Audubon, Lucy became both a frontierswoman and genteel lady. She was independent, even in marriage, which she and John James viewed as a partnership. DeLatte warns, however, that although Lucy projects the life of a liberated woman this is an "inaccurate" description (154).

The Audubon's ascent to wealth was short-lived when John James' businesses failed and the family tumbled into poverty. While John James worked to get his *Birds of America* published, Lucy was faced with the problem of supporting her family, financially and psychologically. Her husband frequently disappeared in the woods for work or took lengthy trips to collect specimens, leaving Lucy to deal with life as a single mother. This is another important element of DeLatte's work. Learning to cope with pity and poverty was very difficult for the very prideful Lucy, who worked as a teacher to support her family. Lucy was very uncomfortable as the financial base for her family and only reluctantly took on the role so that her husband could continue his work and their family survive. Her continual reliance on John James to succeed and redeem himself as the patriarch was crucial to their relationship.

In a compelling forward to the biography Christoph Irmischer offers a balanced critique of DeLatte's biography, including details that are excluded from the study as well as those that enhance its importance as a scholarly work. For instance, Irmischer criticizes the biography for its failure to illustrate the extent to which Lucy facilitated her husband's literary achievements—the countless hours she spent editing his written word (xvii). More importantly, Irmischer critiques the explanation of Lucy's life only in relation to her husband's. Yet, as DeLatte conveys, this is how Lucy defined her own life.

Perhaps the most intriguing portion of DeLatte's work is her illustration of frontier life in Kentucky, Western Florida, and Louisiana. For instance, for almost a year Lucy lived in an inn above



a rambunctious saloon that was home to gamblers, rugged and often inebriated frontiersmen, and weary travelers of all classes, genders and ethnicities. This is where DeLatte is most resourceful, filling the gaps in Lucy's writing with those of other women and men experience similar traveling and living conditions. It is also where the reader gets a sense of how apprehensive settlers were about their futures. The uncertainties newcomers faced are also portrayed in the difficulty Lucy had in collecting tuition fees while she taught for Jane Percy at Beech Woods in Saint Francisville, Florida.

John James' life work on *Birds of America* was not his own, but also very much his wife's. Lucy did not find economic stability again until she was employed at Beech Woods then Beech Grove, when John James went to England to find a publisher for his collection. Over the course of his time overseas, their relationship deteriorated. Both became depressed and despondent. John James's decision to go to his wife after years of hardship and eventual success, however, led to a reconciliation and happy reunion. The two left Louisiana together and traveled back to England, the land of her birth, in 1830.

This is not just a biography of Lucy, but the story of her love for her husband and the trials they faced as a family. Indeed, his work was the culmination of their lives' work, even though it is he who gets the credit. Sadly, Lucy outlived her husband, children and family fortune. As a final testament of her devotion to the love of her life, she is the one who encouraged George Bird Grinnell to found the organization that bears her husband's name to this day. As a result, DeLatte's work contributes to the history of gender relations and life on the frontier in the nineteenth century, but most importantly, a historically neglected woman.

Brittany Bayless

Purdue University

***Florida's First Law School: A History of Stetson University College of Law.*** By Michael I. Swygert and W. Gary Vause. (Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2006. Foreword, acknowledgements, prologue, photographs, addendum, bibliography, index. Pp. xix, 746. \$85.00 cloth.)

In this hefty volume Michael I. Swygert and the late W. Gary Vause assembled a rich collection of source materials to build a chronicle of Stetson University's law school from its founding in

1900 to the present. The authors have also attempted to place the institution within a general context of Florida and U.S. history by supplying summary descriptions of such events as the development of the state in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Great Depression and World War II and the social changes of the 1960s.

After an opening survey of Florida's past from the first settlement by Europeans to the post-Reconstruction period, Swygert and Vause begin the heart of their study with the establishment of Stetson University in 1885. They emphasize the multiple burdens of maintaining the fledgling school in the midst of what was largely a frontier. One longstanding problem involved its creation as a Baptist institution. Educators inevitably faced a hostile group of sponsors by seeking to preserve a basic measure of academic self-governance. Thanks to a persuasive argument made by the university's then-president, Lincoln Hulley, in 1907, the Florida Senate rejected a proposal that would have legally confirmed the Florida Baptist Convention's permanent control over the school.

The founding of the law school and the beginning of classes give the authors a dependable structure for the rest of the book. Like a number of other historical treatments of individual law schools, including Arthur Sutherland's study, *The Law at Harvard: A History of Ideas and Men, 1817-1967*, their work relies upon a chronology determined by the tenures of deans who held the job long enough to influence the institution's operation. The struggles of a succession of deans to achieve financial stability, recruit students and maintain national accreditation for the institution through the early 1960s form the primary theme.

A combination of such difficulties finally persuaded the trustees and administrators to move the law school from the original university campus in Deland to a separate location in the Pinellas County town of Gulfport in 1953. This momentous change created opportunities to achieve substantial financial support, enlist a more distinguished faculty and attract a larger, more capable student body.

The chronology of deanships provides a background for the many accomplishments of the faculty and students beginning in the last third of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. One of the hallmarks of the school has been its focus upon trial advocacy. Students have received intensive instruction in the practical challenges confronted by lawyers in their professional careers since early in the last century. This educational commitment has paid off well in recent decades. The school's trial advocacy program has been repeatedly



ranked as one of the best in the nation; Stetson students have proven the matter by excelling in international competitions. In 1999 the school's administrators established a Center for Excellence in Advocacy to enhance the fine training already available. Another indication of the commitment appeared in 2003 when administrators concluded agreements with the City of Tampa and Florida's Second District Court of Appeal. Under the terms of these agreements, the school will maintain a satellite campus near downtown Tampa to offer part-time legal instruction and house a branch of the court.

The authors have obviously combed both the university and law school archives to put together their story. They have sought to convey more than a bare litany of meetings, building construction, finances and class sizes by incorporating oral histories related by faculty members, staff employees and other individuals who have been involved in the life of the school. Future scholars interested in the subject will likely rely upon the large number of materials identified in the work.

But Swygert and Vause allowed their research to stand above the final product, creating a text that, at times, resembles less of a narrative and more of a report. In the words of the great 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S. historian Allan Nevins, a "complete smelting of the ore" would have led them toward an improved narrative, perhaps suggesting other matters worthy of pursuit. For example, a detailed examination of changing pedagogical techniques over time seems to be accessible through the extant evidence. An evaluation of how the school has influenced legal practice in Florida is an important topic that also appears to be within reach using the same source materials. Some of the text is burdened by repetitive passages and rough juxtapositions of events.

A major part of the authors' challenge can be attributed to the act of writing for a special audience—Stetson law school's family of faculty members, school administrators and alumni. Multiple listings of faculty members and their academic records occupy much precious space in the latter sections of the book. This method of composition, however desirable from an internal institutional perspective, detracts from the readily apparent, overall scholarship. One indication of the approach is the index, which contains only proper names, not subjects.

*Florida's First Law School* is hardly unique in its limitations. Most histories of U.S. law schools reveal signs of the mixed purposes of

fashioning an institutional history, situating it within a broader sequence of external events and addressing a particular school community. If Swygert and Vause have not transcended this shared feature, they have produced an original explanation of how a small, private institution survived decades of instability and emerged to become an outstanding law school. In doing so they have made a contribution to the steadily increasing volume of scholarship on the history of legal education in the United States.

George B. Crawford

*University of Florida*

*War's Relentless Hand: Twelve Tales of Civil War Soldiers.* By Mark H. Dunkelman. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2006. Illustrations, notes, index. Pp. xii, 288. \$34.95 cloth.)

The last traces of many soldiers, North and South, are old worn gravestones in a few small peaceful cemeteries across the nation. Sometimes letters, diaries, or other family heirlooms in the possession of relatives, historical societies, and collectors survive to show that these men lived. To most of us, these soldiers are strangers, remembered, if at all, by the immediate family. Mark Dunkelman is no stranger to the soldiers of the 154<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteers, this being the third book he has authored on the regiment. The book focuses on a few unknown soldiers of the regiment, each with a unique story to tell, representative of many of the untold horror stories of the war. These unknown soldiers did not receive the same "national media splash" as their comrade Amos Humiston did, when his unidentifiable body was found after the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, clutching a picture of his children, sparking a massive campaign to find the dead soldier's family and inform them of the tragedy (xi). The author's desire to show how soldiers dealt with the traumas of war, to give these forgotten soldiers the full recognition and justice they deserve, while trying to hint at the true human cost of the war, is at the heart of this work.

Dunkelman has an impressive command of the secondary literature on the volunteers from Cattaraugus County and New York, as well as the literature concerning realities of camp life which affected the soldier's lives, like disease, army bureaucracy, and the precursors of mental health facilities. In addition to this, the author consults many letters, diaries, and other personal correspondence to illustrate, in their own words, the hardships and tragedies that these



soldiers dealt with everyday. Wherever possible the author uses other primary sources, including muster rolls, census data, pension records, mental hospital registries and other local or governmental sources, to illuminate the often dark and forgotten antebellum and postbellum (if the soldier survived) experiences of these soldiers. Admittedly, this is one of the toughest endeavors for historians and Dunkelman very capably sheds light on the quiet or transient life styles of these New Yorkers prior to their enlistment in 1862 and where possible, after their mustering out in late June of 1865.

Though the author attempts to focus on the common trooper, not all the soldiers are of common or humble origins. A few officers fill the pages, though the rank of any of the soldiers examined was no higher than a captain. All of these soldiers were organized in the spring of 1862 across Cattaraugus County, New York, from very different backgrounds. Each soldier's story had to convey a different aspect of the war, previously neglected in studies of the 154<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteers: inglorious death in a hospital, admittance to a mental institute, death of family on the home front, capture and imprisonment, and occasionally a long trip home after the war. This work is similar in its scope and nature to that of Bell I. Wiley's *The Common Soldier in the Civil War*, 1975, James M. McPherson's *For Cause & Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*, 1997, and James I. Robertson, Jr.'s *Soldiers Blue and Gray*, 1998. These and other authors sought a deeper understanding of the common soldier's myriad experiences and beliefs. The author does not specifically target issues of why these soldiers enlisted and fought or what their religious or political convictions were. Rather, Dunkelman wants to see how these soldiers saw the war, how they wrote home about it, how the home front wrote to them, what happened to these soldiers, and finally the privations and hardships inflicted upon them by the enemy and the Union Army's own bureaucratic red tape.

The organization of the book is logical, alphabetical by surname. The prose is vivid and well written, able to take the reader from sadness at the tragic loss of a promising young man, to joy when it is learned that the soldier returned home and lived out his life in relative peace. The author achieves his goals of bringing home to the reader; the tragic cost of a war so often portrayed as triumphant and bloodless, and utilizes his primary sources superbly, often succeeding in tracing a soldier's life from birth to death. The book does not attempt to analyze questions of motives, methods, or outcomes of these soldiers' experiences, nor does the author attempt to portray



the North or South as right or wrong in that great contest. Rather, Dunkelman expertly lays out these soldier's stories to show the real men behind the uniforms and to give these brave souls who sacrificed so much for their country well-deserved recognition.

Eric P. Totten

*University of Central Florida*

*Southern Women at the Seven Sister Colleges: Feminist Values and Social Activism, 1875-1915.* By Joan Marie Johnson. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2008. Acknowledgements, illustrations, notes, map, index. Pp. ix, 229. \$39.95 cloth.)

In astonishing numbers during the Progressive Era, southern women, similar to northern women, became public advocates for numerous reforms including the settlement house movement, public education, and suffrage. Most historians tend to see southern women reformers acting independently with little interaction with northern reformers. From this perspective, divisions between northerners and southerners persisted in reform organizations. Joan Marie Johnson challenges this interpretation in her thoroughly researched book. She details the relationship between white women's education at the Seven Sisters Colleges and the ways in which that education challenged women to assert their independence as New Southern Women in the twentieth century. Johnson describes how these women created a southern model for activism, and in doing so, she offers a provocative means to define the New Southern Woman, a woman who represented the relationship between regions and agendas for reform.

During the late nineteenth century, upwardly mobile families in small cities and towns, those headed by fathers in professions or business, searched for ways to give their daughters a liberal education, one that combined character formation and scholastic training rather than one given by southern seminaries that trained "ladies first and scholars second" (18). Shored up by parental support, over one thousand women between 1875 and 1915 headed for the seven sisters colleges in the North: Wellesley, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Radcliffe, Barnard, and Smith. Most hailed from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Maryland and attended Smith, Wellesley, and Vassar. Few women students came from the Deep South because of the distance "they would have had to travel . . . both literally and figuratively" (10).

Johnson presents new ways to consider who the New Southern Woman was and how she understood southern womanhood after she left college. While the daughters' families hoped that a liberal arts education would help their daughters become better wives and mothers, the daughters often did more than that by shaping white southern women's activism and frequently advocating women's suffrage. Traveling to the North cultivated self-confidence and independence among the students, even as they longed for home and complained of Yankee customs. They learned critical leadership skills on campuses, something that southern female seminaries rarely encouraged. Some like Sophonisba Breckenridge and Virginia Durr reconsidered Jim Crow laws and beliefs. For them, their northern education provided a wedge into future work on behalf of the poor and African American rights. As much as many women students like Breckenridge, Durr, or Margaret Preston enjoyed their college years, the time they spent away from the South and their families often underscored their southern identity. Eating with African American women students or learning political theory forced southern women to confront regional differences. Many explained the South to their classmates, occasionally defending its racist practices.

Facing the same dilemma after college graduation as northern women, southern women struggled with their decision to marry or pursue a career. Those who married chose volunteer work or public advocacy in women's organizations. Others chose careers in teaching or other professions. Both decisions recreated a role for southern women that reconciled public work and independence with their family role. From these women came leaders for various organizations such as the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the suffrage movement, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and settlement houses in the Appalachians. That they borrowed from models of the northern New Woman is unmistakable. But they did so with a southern accent as they continued to claim duty to their families and communities.

*Southern Women at the Seven Sisters Colleges* helps historians understand the ties between northern and southern women reformers and how they came to share reform agendas. Johnson's evidence challenges facile assumptions about southern women reformers as parochial anachronisms who somehow managed to absorb portions of northern maternalists' agenda yet lacked the sophistication to implement it. Here Johnson's contribution to



understanding Progressive Era reform is essential and dovetails works by Elna Green, Glenda Gilmore, and Marjorie Spruill regarding the vital role of southern women's activism. Using Johnson's work, historians may discover additional links between Upper and Lower South activists who met at conferences of their various organizations. The influence northern-educated women had within these organizations by planning strategies and agendas no doubt shaped other women.

Johnson obviously compiled an impressive database of southern white women educated at the Seven Sisters, yet the narrative tends to rely on stories about Breckenridge, Preston, or the Poppenheim sisters. These women wrote extensively about their experiences and provide noteworthy evidence of southern women's experiences. Yet they account for a fraction of over one thousand women who made the journey. Providing additional information about other women in an appendix would give readers valuable information about the background of these women and what they did after they returned to the South. In the end, Johnson's work also informs us about the possibilities and limitations of southern activism. Frequently the persistence of southern values like white supremacy trumped programs to expand public education or promote regulations against children's labor. Jim Crow continued to rule. But to categorize southern women's activism as minimal not only gives short shrift to southern activism. It also fails to comprehend the remarkable transformation in southern women within a few decades as they rejected the role of the southern lady in preference to that of the women activist or the New Southern Woman, a longer journey than that taken by northern women reformers.

Ann Short Chirhart

*Indiana State University*

***Florida's Working-Class Past: Current Perspectives on Labor, Race, and Gender from Spanish Florida to the New Immigration.*** Edited by Robert Cassanello and Melanie Shell-Weiss. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2009. Foreword, acknowledgments, introduction, index. Pp. x, 286. \$69.95 cloth.)

At a time when American workers are taking the worst battering that they have in decades, and when union membership has begun to register modest growth after decades of steady decline,

the past struggles of American workers may suddenly seem less distant and more relevant than they did in more prosperous times. While *Florida's Working-Class History* obviously confines itself to the stories of working-class people in one state, it nevertheless provides a very informative and thought-provoking collection of scholarship for those who are interested in the challenges faced by American workers from the colonial era to the present and how those workers have fought not only for their survival but also for dignity and equitable treatment. Although this diverse anthology is, by the editors' own admission, not intended "to provide a comprehensive overview of Florida labor history," it does cast a wide net in its coverage of race, gender, and skill level, and as such it certainly provides, as the editors suggest, "a bird's-eye view of the state of the field" of Florida labor history (11).

In an eleven-page introductory essay, Robert Cassanello and Melanie Shell-Weiss provide a succinct and insightful overview of both United States and Florida labor historiography, noting in particular issues of Floridian exceptionalism in the field—for example, the different patterns of labor relations that developed in Florida as compared to the rest of the South due to its early development under Spanish rule, and ongoing questions about "just where the state fit[s] in relation to other southern or northern places" (10). Yet, as Cassanello and Shell-Weiss also note, Florida's exceptionalism makes the state particularly fertile ground for studies in labor history, given scholars' "increasing interest in transnationalism, internally comparative history, frontiers, and borderlands" (11).

Three essays in this book focus on the colonial or antebellum periods. In "St. Augustine's Stomach: Corn and Indian Tribute Labor in Spanish Florida," Tamara Spike sheds light on an overlooked aspect of Florida labor history, although her somber conclusion is not surprising: "Spanish Florida . . . eked out an existence largely through Indian labor, sweat, tears, and lives" (27). Edward E. Baptist examines African and African American slavery in the period from 1821 to 1861, particularly in the slave labor camps in the counties around Tallahassee. Baptist presents a grim picture of the "overwork, violent torture, and . . . underfeeding" (51) that characterized the "pushing system" that enslavers implemented in an effort to extract as much production from their slaves as possible. The devastating effects of this system, as Baptist clearly explains, extended beyond the fields into slaves' families and homes as well. Brent R. Weisman looks at the unique



situation of a unique group, the Black Seminoles, who labored under a "curious mix of native and colonial forms of slavery and tributary vassalage" (81) until the conclusion of the Second Seminole War in 1842, by which time most of them had been killed or deported to Indian Territory.

The next three essays focus on the late nineteenth through early twentieth centuries. Mark Howard Long's "A Decidedly Mutinous Spirit: The Labor Problem in the Postbellum South as an Exercise of Free Labor" examines the use of indentured Swedish laborers as an attempted solution to land developers' dissatisfaction with native white and black workers. While this experiment ultimately collapsed, Long notes that the labor of these Swedish immigrants, performed under difficult circumstances, "must be understood as a necessary link in creating the political economy of the [south Florida] area" (106). In an essay on racialized gender and the labor movement in Florida from 1900 to 1920, Robert Cassanello argues that "workers used a variety of strategies to improve their own socioeconomic conditions, both exploiting and bridging ethnic, racial, and gender differences" (112). Thomas A. Castillo shows how African Americans—aided by public opinion on a number of levels—forced their way into the chauffeuring business in Miami beginning in 1917 despite opposition from the city's unionized white chauffeurs.

The book's final three essays deal primarily with the period from the 1930s to the 1960s. In an essay that examines the relationship between the Communist Party and unions during the 1930s and '40s, Alex Lichtenstein tells the Florida version of the familiar national story of how Communist organizers helped build Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) unions only to be pushed aside by the labor movement during the post-World War II Red Scare. In a reprinted essay that remains quite timely, Cindy Hahamovitch examines the federal government's guest worker program for Jamaican farmworkers, instituted in 1943, and its troubling long-term consequences. "Had the INS insisted that Jamaicans could not be deported simply for protesting violations of their contracts," Hahamovitch suggests, "the last fifty years of agricultural history might have turned out quite differently" (221). In another timely essay, Melanie Shell-Weiss examines the efforts of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (and, in particular, an eastern-European born, English- and Spanish-speaking organizer named Robert Gladnick) to build a joint organizing

campaign among lingerie workers in Florida and Puerto Rico during the 1950s and '60s. While those efforts met with some success, all too often the unfortunate end result was that lingerie companies left Florida or the United States altogether.

*Florida's Working-Class Past* ends with an insightful epilogue by the editors in which they examine the contemporary labor movement in the state and suggest that as "scholars begin to uncover the experiences of Florida's working classes, both past and present, . . . [they] may help to shape its future" (270). Of course, only time will tell if such optimism is well-founded. Clearly, however, this book has something relevant to say to virtually anybody who studies or cares about the experiences of Floridian or American workers, past or present.

Matthew Hild

Rhodes College

*Embry-Riddle at War: Aviation Training during World War II.* By Stephen G. Craft (University Press of Florida: Gainesville and Tallahassee, 2009. Foreword by Raymond Arseneault and Gary Mormino, acknowledgements, maps, foreword, preface, illustrations, epilogue, notes, bibliography, index, series list. Pp.265. \$34.95, hardback.)

Despite the host of books and articles examining military aviation during World War II within a larger social context, virtually no book has documented any one of the sixty-four civilian aviation schools that played an important role in the European and Pacific air wars. Stephen Craft's *Embry-Riddle at War: Aviation Training during World War II* makes the first step to fill this historiographical void. This work serves as a complete history of the Embry-Riddle Company from its modest Ohioan beginnings in the 1920s, its 1939 re-emergence in Miami, Florida, after merging with the Aviation Corporation of America (AVCO) in 1929, to its expansion in Tennessee and Brazil, respectively. Accordingly, Craft argues that even though John Paul Riddle and John McKay possessed leadership and business acumen, U.S. government programs and wartime exigencies allowed Embry-Riddle to emerge as a "great training enterprise" (xii) during the war.

Divided into eight chapters, Craft contextualizes Embry-Riddle's expansion within the domestic and international arenas. The first and second chapters detail Paul Riddle and John G. McKay's backgrounds, the advantages Florida's geographic location



played in attracting federal programs and dollars, and American prewar aviation development. The latter established the Civilian Pilot Training Program Act of 1939, responsible for training many American pilots before the War Training Service (WTS) replaced it on December 7, 1942. The subsequent four chapters discuss American and British cadet training, women instructors, students, technicians trained and employed at Embry-Riddle's fields, and the interplay between local residents and the company's cadets. Chapter eight details the company's establishment of a technical school in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1943. This development extended the Good Neighbor Act of 1938 that allowed Latin American pilots to receive aviation training in the United States. Not only did this contract emerge as a "bright spot" during the company's "contraction" that began in 1943, but it also provided a military, ideological, and financial bulwark against Nazi incursion in South America.

Within this framework, Craft highlights how increased wartime training at Embry-Riddle fields benefitted but also posed numerous problems for local communities. After the United States Army Air Force (USAAF) set its yearly objective from sixty thousand to ninety thousand trained pilots in 1942, this war demand produced a logistical hurdle for local authorities. Expansion at Carlstrom and Dorr Fields at Arcadia, Florida, in 1943 for instance exacerbated housing infrastructure despite Embry-Riddle's attempts to remedy the problem by constructing employee housing. The housing crisis and labor shortages emerged as the main problems related to increased pilot training during the war, an issue that remained unresolved until the company began downsizing in 1943. Also, demand for unskilled labor that comprised the majority of the workforce in Desoto County, Florida, drained the company's labor pool. Such shortages swayed the company to employ women and African American labor at all of its fields; the former became technicians, instructors, and cadets alike, while the latter was refrained to mess hall duties and segregated from aviation training all together. In response, some Royal Air Force (RAF) trainees criticized such unequal treatment towards South Florida's African Americans and Seminole Indians. Despite these contradictions and the stern discipline of many male and female instructors, the majority of British cadets, like Winston Churchill's nephew Desmond Leslie who trained at Riddle Field in Clewiston, Florida, recalled an overwhelmingly cordial experience with instructors and local civilians. Craft's discussion of the reciprocal and adverse experiences at Embry-Riddle fields highlights his

ability to incorporate many overlapping themes into a comprehensive study. This book effectively tells the story of a civilian company responsible for training foreign and domestic cadets, and their civilian relations within the larger context of World War II aviation history. As part of the University of Florida's History and Culture Series, it adds impetus to Craft's assessment that "Embry-Riddle's war in many respects was Florida's war" (xii).

Based on thoroughly researched secondary and primary sources, Craft persuasively argues that federal programs and the war formed Embry-Riddle into a premier wartime training enterprise. By incorporating the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Archives, local newspapers, the company's *Embry-Riddle Fly Paper*, letters, diaries, oral interviews, and government documents, this work adds to the virtually nonexistent body of literature about aviation training by civilian companies during World War II. Another one of Craft's many strengths is his analysis that Embry-Riddle's reliance on federal programs, and the government's reciprocal need to meet wartime demands for trained pilots, formed a "marriage of necessity" (182) between military service branches and the civilian company. However advantageous this "symbiotic relationship" (258) was for both parties during the war, Embry-Riddle's dependence on federal stimuli and the war limited its ability to compose a coherent postwar strategy for training civilian pilots. Although the book's central thesis is convincing and well supported, stylistic issues detract from an otherwise highly researched and readable study. Craft's tendency to constantly begin sentences with "And, But, and So" emerge as one weakness or moreover stylistic critique. Nevertheless, this social history proves valuable for those interested in how a civilian company provided thousands of trained pilots and technicians for the war.

Lewis W. Metzger V

*University of Central Florida*

***High Stakes: Florida Seminole Gaming and Sovereignty.*** By Jessica R. Cattellino. (Durham, NC: Duke University press, 2008. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, conclusion, notes, references, index. Pp. Xii, 304. \$79.95 cloth, \$22.95 paper.)

Jessica R. Cattellino's *High Stakes: Florida Seminole Gaming and Sovereignty* could not appear at a more opportune time. For the past year, as the Florida tribes have attempted to expand their



gaming opportunities, they have faced political and legal opposition at every turn. (By way of full disclosure, my own work on Indian gaming is cited several times in the Cattelino's book). Indian gaming nationwide had its genesis in the efforts of Florida tribes to offer games of chance beyond what was permitted under Florida law and this book brings it forward.

While acknowledging that "Gaming has dramatically altered and often intensified political relations between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and other governments," (161) the book is more an ethnographic study of the Seminole than a political and of legal investigation of sovereignty, for example an inquisition into Seminole housing pattern developments.

One shortcoming of Cattelino's book is a lack of systematic surveys of public opinion on various aspects of gaming and related issues. While her anecdotal evidence is significant, there is no way to determine its representative nature. At times it appears that the anecdotal accounts are designed to support her already predetermined conclusions. This deficiency also gives the book more the feel of a dissertation. The author provides no data to support the statement that "Some Seminoles avoid working in the casinos because they consider it improper to handle so much money, while others eschew such low-paid and uninteresting jobs" (50). This is an extreme observation that raises fundamental questions about the willingness of Seminole tribal members to work.

Perhaps a more important shortcoming, particularly in Cattelino's discussion of tribal sovereignty, is the absence of mention about how Seminoles came to be involved in high stakes gaming in the first place. This is especially true considering the seminal court battles involving the tribe's attempts to break free of state gaming regulations. This neglect is especially apparent given the importance of the *Butterworth* cases of the 1980s to the development of the regulatory/prohibitory dichotomy in Indian gaming law. This litigation took place prior to *Cabazon Band of Mission Indians v. California* in 1986 and the subsequent passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Another area of concern treated lightly by *High Stakes* is the backlash from the non-Indian community to Seminole attempts to establish and then expand their gaming operations. This is especially true of the current efforts of the tribe to expand into Class III casino gaming. The backlash issue could have easily been included in Cattelino's discussion of money. Cattelino's major

contribution to the gaming literature is her linking of capitalism and tribal sovereignty. Her book suggests "that indigenous sovereignty opens up new ways of understanding the nature of money and the material effects and foundations of sovereignty in indigenous peoples' and others' lives" (200). An especially interesting section of the book is her explanation of the Seminole Tribe's joint venture with the Hard Rock enterprises. Here she reinforces her general thesis of the relationship between the tribe's sovereignty and capitalism. It is a unique relationship and Cattelino's recounting adds to this aspect of tribal gaming enterprises.

One of the major concerns of Indian gaming and other tribal money making enterprises that Cattelino overlooks is that all these ventures, including "cattle, craft productions, alligator wrestling" (58) and cigarette sales (57) in some way implicate sovereignty. While Cattelino expresses concern about the Seminoles "selling out" while engaging in various economic endeavors, she fails to see that from the perspective of the Seminoles, the tribe is exercising sovereignty which in this reviewer's view is the central question. Ultimately it makes no difference whether a given tribe engages in gaming; the threshold issue is the sovereign right of all tribes to make the decision free of interference from other sovereigns.

Despite some shortcomings, *High Stakes* is a valuable addition to the growing body of Indian gaming literature. Notwithstanding the broad parameters of gaming established by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, each state and tribe have to deal with state law and the political and cultural environment to achieve their gaming Class III casino goals. While the Seminole Tribe has had some success to date in establishing gaming operations, they still have a legal/political fight to expand the scope of their gaming. Cattelino persuasively argues her points and in a clear and well written style.

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*Then Sings My Soul: The Scott Kelly Story.* By Dorothy Weik Smiljanich. (Cocoa, Fla.: The Florida Historical Society Press, 2007. Introduction, addendum, images, bibliography, index. Pp. I, 223. \$17.95 paper.)

The middle of the twentieth century was a time of profound transformation in Florida both demographically and politically. At the conclusion of Reconstruction, North Florida conservative



Democrats had “redeemed” the state from the Republican Party and by the 1950s these politicians, known as the Pork Chop Gang, had dominated the state despite the fact that their constituents made up a small portion of Florida’s population. Florida at mid-century was characterized on the national and state level by numerous colorful political figures such as LeRoy Collins, Charley Johns, Farris Bryant and Claude Pepper. The period was also flush with controversy as the Florida Legislative Investigation Committee (FLIC) or Johns Committee as it was more commonly known, took their cue from Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy to unleash a reign of terror aimed at purging the state of liberal, homosexual and African-American influence. This was also a time that highlighted a key element in Florida’s political history; the power of local politics as highlighted by V.O. Key in his 1949 work *Southern Politics in State and Nation*. Nowhere was this more evident than in the case of state senator Scott Kelly who served as Mayor of Lakeland. In spite of the fact that Kelly called Lakeland home by mid-century, his heart was always in the Florida Panhandle, in the counties of Madison and Gadsden where he was born and raised. Dorothy Weik Smiljanich, in her year work *Then Sings My Soul: The Scott Kelly Story* outlines not only the life of this powerful Florida statesman, but also gives valuable insight into the state’s political climate in the middle of the century.

Kelly, as the author notes, defined the transition Florida was undergoing during this time. He, like much of the state, had one foot in the rural agrarian past, while the other was firmly planted in the state’s progressive and industrial future. Even his adopted hometown of Lakeland embodied this transition as it is located along the Interstate 4 corridor, which many claim separates Old Florida and the Old South from New Florida and the New South. Located in between Orlando and Tampa, but still in a rural setting, Lakeland, like Kelly was caught in between two contradictory cultures, values systems and ways of life. According to author, in spite of originally hailing from Florida’s rural panhandle, the location of the state’s “black belt,” the region most commonly associated with antebellum slavery and post-bellum sharecropping and racial tension and violence, Kelly was a progressive when it came to racial issues, something uncommon, especially in North and Central Florida, among the state’s politicians.

Smiljanich does an admirable job tracing Kelly’s life from humble beginnings in Madison County to his time spent on tobac-

co farms in Gadsden County. One of her strengths is the way in which she uses personal stories to illustrate how Kelly's political and social views were molded. While the book reads as a biography and it follows his life, the author does jump around quite a bit, especially when she moves from recounting Kelly's life to recalling various meetings and travels she took with Kelly himself in the years before he passed away. What makes this work compelling to all readers, not just historians and scholars, is the fact that Smiljanich was so familiar with Kelly and the fact that he is able to help her tell the story of his life and political career. This book does not read like other political biographies since Smiljanich is able to bring Kelly to life for the reader through personal stories told directly to the author.

If there is one problem with this work it is the problem that biographical authors often encounter. This occurs when authors become too emotionally attached with the subject of their research. This was especially the case for Smiljanich since she was a personal acquaintance of Kelly. Furthermore, as the author mentions in her introduction, she was a roommate of Kelly's niece at the University of Florida in the 1960s. And while this allowed Smiljanich to have greater access to Kelly than other scholars might have had, it also did not afford her the opportunity to look at his life in an unbiased manner. While Scott Kelly was a player in Florida politics in the middle of the twentieth century, Smiljanich overstates his importance. Kelly was the Mayor of Lakeland and a state senator, and he did run for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination on two occasions, in 1964 and 1966, but ultimately he was not on the same level as Florida politicians such as LeRoy Collins, Claude Pepper, Charley Johns or Claude Kirk.

Overall, Smiljanich's work, *Then Sings My Soul: The Scott Kelly Story*, which deservedly so won the 2008 Charlton Tebeau Book Award, is a valuable insight not only into the life of the main subject of the work, Scott Kelly, but, also an in-depth study of Florida politics during the middle of the twentieth century.

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