

# SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN HISTORIANS NEWSLETTER

**Executive Council Candidates  
and Ballot Information Inside!**

Spring 2011

Volume 42, No. 2

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## Message from the President

### President's Message

Happy spring to everyone—well, at least we have spring in full bloom here in North Carolina. I look forward to seeing all of you in Baltimore at the end of October.

The SAWH Membership Committee, headed by Molly McGehee at Presbyterian College, is working hard to reach out to new members, so we hope we can welcome many new faces at our annual meeting. But as I wrote in my last message, we encourage all of you to contact women and men whom you think would enjoy being a part of our organization.

Rebecca Sharpless and Lorri Glover report that plans for the Ninth Annual SAWH Conference in Fort Worth are moving ahead, and both are excited about speakers and events. Lorri adds that Juliana Barr will speak at the first plenary session on women in the early Southwest, and Susan Cahn, John Howard, and Pippa Holloway will be part of a second plenary session on LGBT/history of sexualities. Rebecca and Lorri urge all of you to begin thinking about papers you can present and sessions you might organize. This promises to be another stimulating SAWH conference.

Shannon Frystak, our Secretary, alerted me to an issue that we need to address in the next few months. For years, the SAWH has been collecting books. We have copies of several collections of essays under the editorship of the SAWH and published by the University of Missouri Press. Those volumes include papers presented at SAWH conferences. In far greater number are copies of books that publishers sent us to consider for our annual book prizes. What has been happening is the number of books has been increasing, and our SAWH secretaries have had to house this growing collection. The books are not being used—merely transferred from institution to institution as secretaries fulfill their terms. We would like to donate the books, more than 200 of them, to an institution or organization. UNC Chapel Hill is the official home for the SAWH archives, but we are certain the UNC library owns all these books and does not want duplicates. We considered sending them overseas to a college or university in Africa or Asia, but shipping costs have become prohibitive. Our SAWH budget simply cannot afford the hundreds of dollars it would take to send them overseas. We are now looking for a home for these books—a local institution or organization—and seek your ideas. If you have thoughts on where we might donate these books, please send ideas to Shannon or to me.

Have a wonderful spring and summer!

Sally McMillen, President

### ***Message from the Secretary***

Hi everyone! I apologize for getting the spring newsletter out a bit later than usual, but there were certain circumstances that could not be overcome and I hope that you will see that all of the information included in it was worth the wait. I would simply like to reiterate that my project for the summer, among other things, is to find a good home for the SAWH library that, I believe, could be a wonderful resource for a university or college that is in need of a good collection of books on southern women's history. Sally McMillen and myself, along with the executive board will be fielding requests and we hope to come to a decision about where to place the library by summer's end so I can begin the process of mailing all of these wonderful books out to their new home. Remember that every year we will be adding to the collection as we get submissions for our organization's prizes. I hope that this newsletter finds you all well and getting through your end of semester, spring cleaning, grading, thesis reading, what-have-you. Remember to go on to Survey Monkey and vote or write in your candidates for the new nominees for the Executive Council. I think that our former president, Jane Dailey, did a fine job of selecting women who will serve us well. As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the summer months.

All best,  
Shannon

**Have you renewed your 2011 membership yet? If not, please send in the membership form as soon as possible!**

### **New Members:**

Beatrice Burton – University of Georgia  
Katherine Butterfield – St. Anne's – Belfield School  
Brent Tarter – Library of Virginia  
Kristen R. Dearmin - Appalachian State University  
Laura A. Perry - The University of Memphis (check on her membership)  
Emily Margolis - Duke University

**The following are Life Members that were inadvertently left off of the list printed in the Winter 2011 Newsletter. We thank them for their continued commitment to the SAWH.**

Ronald E. Butchart  
Cindy Kierner  
Louise Anderson Allen  
Joan Johnson  
Kay Blalock  
Sarah Silkey  
Anne Rubin  
Rosemary Carroll

### **Announcements:**

**Ninth Southern Association for Women  
Historians Conference  
Women at the Borders of Southern  
History  
June 6-9, 2012  
Texas Christian University  
Call for Papers**

The Southern Association for Women Historians invites proposals for the Ninth Southern Conference of Women's History, to be held June 6-9, 2012, at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. The conference provides a stimulating and congenial forum for discussing all aspects of women's history. Its program seeks to reflect the diversity of our profession and the best in recent scholarship, including by young scholars, graduate students, museum curators, and public historians. We invite sessions on any dimension of southern women's and gender history and particularly

## Announcements – continued –

welcome panels that test traditional boundaries, for example geographic, thematic, sexual, and conceptual. Plenary sessions will explore the geographic borders of southern history, LGBT history in the South, and the Native Southwest.

The program committee seeks proposals for traditional panels as well as workshops and roundtable discussions. We prefer to receive proposals for complete sessions, but will consider individual papers as well. Panel proposals should be submitted in a single Microsoft Word document and include: a cover sheet with the session title as well as the names, affiliations, email addresses, and mailing addresses of all participants, including the chair and commentator; a 300-word summary of the session as a whole; a 300-word description for each paper or presentation; a 500-word vita from each participant. Individual paper proposals should include: a cover sheet with the paper title, name, affiliation, email address, and mailing address of the panelist; a 300-word description of the paper; and a 500-word vita. Scholars interested in chairing or commenting on a session are invited to submit a 500-word vita.

All materials should be emailed to the program committee at [SAWH2012@gmail.com](mailto:SAWH2012@gmail.com). Please include your name, affiliation, and email address in the body of your message. Inquires may be directed to Lorri Glover, program committee chair, at [lglover1@slu.edu](mailto:lglover1@slu.edu). The submissions deadline is **August 1, 2011**.

Fort Valley professors planning an edited volume (in English) on the engagement of African-American women with foreign affairs. If you believe that you will want to contribute an essay, e-mail Chrissy Lutz at [lutzc@fvsu.edu](mailto:lutzc@fvsu.edu) about the history essay you could contribute. Volume will be multi-disciplinary; feel free to notify colleagues in other disciplines.

## Journal of Women's History Prize

We have instituted a new prize and will host a reception at the Berks to present it to the winner. The editors of the \*Journal of Women's History\* are pleased to announce an annual prize of \$5,000 for the best article published in the \*Journal\*. The first award will go to an article published either in volume twenty-one or twenty-two (2009 or 2010) that makes a significant contribution to the international field of women's history by incorporating a comparative dimension, considering

contexts beyond its main geographical and temporal focus, employing methodologies that demonstrate historical interconnections across time and space, and/or advancing feminist theories in women's history. We have appointed a committee of three editorial board members to select the winner for 2009-2010. The first prize will be announced at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women on Saturday, June 11, 2011 at a reception jointly hosted by the JWH and the Women and Social Movements websites from 5:15-6:45 at the Student Union Ballroom on the University of Massachusetts-Amherst campus.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Jean Quataert and Leigh Ann Wheeler, co-editors,  
\*Journal of Women's History

## ACIS 2012 International Meeting New Orleans, Louisiana March 14~17

I wanted to mention to the members on this list that I will be co-chairing the 2012 American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) in New Orleans, Louisiana. Below is the call for papers as well as a link to our conference website which has much more information. We are especially keen on encouraging women (academics and graduate students alike) engaged in research on Ireland as well as Irish America to consider submitting a paper proposal for we feel that their work is often under-represented, especially that of female historians. For plenary speakers we have Christine Kinnealy and Cormac O Grada as well as Dan Barry. We are currently working out the details for our literary speaker. The conference itself will be held at the Historic Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter March 14th to the 17th.

Please feel free to contact me at the conference gmail account if you have any further questions- thanks!

Best,

Laura D. Kelley, Ph.D.

<http://acisnola2012.org/index.html>

The theme for this conference is *Erin at Home, Erin Abroad: Capturing the Irish Experience*  
<<https://ent.tulane.edu/exchweb/bin/redirect.asp?URL=https://ent.tulane.edu/exchange/Laura.Kelley/Drafts/RE:%2520UCD%2520Women%2527s%2520Studies%2520CFP%2527s.EML/schedule.html>> .

## **Announcements – continued –**

The Irish diaspora to all corners of the globe over many centuries continues to engage scholars in diverse fields from history to literature to art and anthropology. This conference proposes to examine the varied experiences of the Irish and how they manifested themselves. More attention has been paid in recent years to the stories the Irish tell to themselves and to “others” and how outsiders have viewed the Irish. We would like scholars to consider how these expressions vary over time and place. We encourage graduate students and emerging scholars to consider submitting paper proposals to this conference. All organizations benefit from new approaches of up and coming scholars. This conference will provide those just entering the field with the possibility to share their ideas with more seasoned academics.

Along with papers specific to the conference theme, we are interested in using this conference to highlight the most recent work in the field. Therefore, we welcome submissions addressing any and all topics or themes relevant to Irish studies. Both individual paper and panel submissions (3-4 participants) are welcomed, as are proposals for presentations in non-traditional formats (posters, performances, exhibits). Proposals should be 250-500 words in length, and include a brief (~50 word) bio of the submitter or—in the case of panels—each participant. Please send any questions to Laura D. Kelley, Ph.D. Tulane University at the conference email address. Submissions are due **September 30, 2011 to [acis2012@gmail.com](mailto:acis2012@gmail.com)**. <<mailto:acis2012@gmail.com>>

## **The Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in Women's History for 2011**

The American Historical Association Announces  
The Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in Women's History for 2011

Established in 1984, this prize, named in memory of Joan Kelly (1928-82), is awarded annually for the book in women's history and/or feminist theory that best reflects the high intellectual and scholarly ideals exemplified by the life and work of Joan Kelly. The prize was established by the Coordinating Committee on Women in the Historical Profession and the Conference Group on Women's History (now the Coordinating Council for Women in History), and is administered by the American Historical Association.

To be eligible for consideration, submissions shall be books in any chronological period, any geographical location, or in an area of feminist theory that incorporates an historical perspective. Books should demonstrate originality of research, creativity of insight, graceful stylistic presentation, analytical skills, and a recognition of the important role of sex and gender in the historical process. The inter-relationship between women and the historical process should be addressed.

Books published between May 1, 2010, and April 30, 2011, are eligible for the 2011 award. One copy of each entry must be received by each of the following committee members. To be considered for the prize, entries must be postmarked by or on MAY 16, 2011. Late entries will not be considered.

KARIN ROSEMBLATT  
3901 Connecticut Ave. NW apt 303  
Washington, DC 20008

SHERYL KROEN  
716 NE 7<sup>th</sup> St,  
Gainesville, FL 32601

JUNE BENOWITZ  
University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee  
8350 N. Tamiami Trail #C263  
Sarasota, FL 34243

KATHERINE FRENCH  
918 JFT  
Dept. of History  
SUNY-New Paltz  
New Paltz, NY 12561

MICHELE MITCHELL  
Department of History  
New York University  
53 Washington Square South, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
NY, NY 10012-1098

Please Note: The deadline for submission of entries is Monday, May 16, 2011. Entries will not be returned. Recipients will be announced at the January 5-8, 2012 AHA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

**IMPORTANT! EACH ENTRY MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED "Kelly AWARD ENTRY."**

## **Announcements – continued –**

For questions, please contact the Book Prize Administrator

<http://www.historians.org/info/contact.cfm?u=aha&Subject=Book%20Prize%20Administrator>>, or write to the AHA at the following address (please note that prize entries are not mailed to the AHA; rather, to committee members): American Historical Association, 400 A St., SE Washington, D.C. 20003-3889

### **The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of**

**Memphis:** is soliciting nominations for its Book Award, which will recognize the book published in 2011 that best furthers understanding of the American Civil Rights Movement and its legacy. The recipient of the award will receive \$1,000 and an invitation to deliver an address in the Hooks Institute Lecture Series during the 2012-2013 academic year.

For consideration, one copy of the book should be submitted, postmarked by December 1, 2011, to Book Award Nomination, The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, 107 Scates Hall, The University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee, 38152-3530. Only non-fiction books originally published in 2011 will be eligible for submission. Finalists will be asked to submit additional copies to a panel of judges representing various disciplines and academic institutions in Memphis. For questions or comments, please contact Book Award Committee Chair Aram Goudsouzian, Associate Professor in the University of Memphis Department of History by phone at 901-678-2520 or via email at [agoudszo@memphis.edu](mailto:agoudszo@memphis.edu).

### **The Coordinating Council for Women in History Nupur Chaudhuri Article Prize**

The CCWH Nupur Chaudhuri Article Prize is an annual \$1000 prize that recognizes the best first article published in the field of history by a CCWH member. Named to honor long-time CCWH board member and former executive director and co-president from 1995-1998 Nupur Chaudhuri, the article must be published in a refereed journal in one of the two years preceding the prize year. An article may only be submitted once. All fields of history will be considered, and articles must be submitted with full scholarly apparatus.

## **2011 Application Form Word or PDF**

Submission deadline: September 15, 2011

### **The Coordinating Council for Women in History Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship**

is a \$1000 award to an A.B.D. female graduate student working on a historical dissertation, not necessarily in a history department. Applicants working on issues of race are particularly welcome. The deadline for the award is 15 September 2011. Applications can be found at [www.theccwh.org](http://www.theccwh.org)

### **The Coordinating Council for Women in History Catherine Prelinger Award**

The CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award is a scholarship of \$20,000 which will be awarded to a scholar of excellence. This award, named for Catherine Prelinger, a former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar, is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar whose academic path has not followed the traditional path of uninterrupted study, moving from completed secondary, to undergraduate, then graduate degrees, followed by a tenure-track faculty position. These funds were granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work this organization has devoted to exploring women's history, encouraging opportunities for women in the historical profession, and in educating young women to pursue careers in the historical profession. This award is intended to enhance the ability of the recipient to carry on these CCWH traditions through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly or professional activity. Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH and must hold either A.B.D. status or the Ph.D. at the time of application. They shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional professional career and describe a project that will further enhance women's roles in history. The Prelinger Committee encourages applications from independent and non-academic scholars. Applications can be found at [www.theccwh.org](http://www.theccwh.org)

## **Member News**

**Theda Perdue** (Atlanta Distinguished Professor of Southern Culture at the University of North Carolina) is President of the Southern Historical Association. In 2010 she published *Race and the Atlanta Cotton States Exposition of 1895* (University of Georgia Press) and co-

authored *North American Indians: A Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press).

**Ruth Crocker** (Auburn University) is completing work on a website, "Splendid Donation," accompanying her biography of philanthropist, Olivia (Mrs. Russell) Sage (Indiana University Press, 2006). The site comprises digitized letters and photographs from over thirty archival collections in NYC and State. "Splendid Donation" documents Sage's life and her multi-million dollar philanthropy, which included massive donations to women's and girls' education, woman suffrage, and women's organizations, as well as to social science research (The Russell Sage Foundation). For more information contact Ruth Crocker at [ruth.crocker@auburn.edu](mailto:ruth.crocker@auburn.edu)

**Randolph Hollingsworth** (University of Kentucky) latest project focuses on Kentucky women's history in the Civil rights era. This is an online blogging and group forum environment for community engagement and service learning using digital media and oral history to support local history research in an open content initiative. [www.kywcrh.org](http://www.kywcrh.org) Randolph encourages all of us to use the SAWH Teaching Wiki and comment and expand on it.

**Barbara Brandon Schnorrenberg** (Independent scholar) recently participated on a panel about getting articles published at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Society for Eighteenth Century Studies (SEASECS). The members of the panel were members of the Editorial Board of the SEASECS annual journal, *New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century*. We need more submissions from scholars whose field is not literature. Anyone who wishes to publish an article which deals with the long 18th century (1660-1820) should check the SEASECS website for more information.

**Janet Coryell** (Western Michigan University) with a mix of real pleasure and sadness announces that McGraw-Hill has finally brought out a survey-level textbook in U.S. women's history, *A History of American Women*, co-authored with Nora Faires. Nora, alas, did not live to see the printed copy, as she passed away from a 15-year journey with breast cancer on February 6. She was as committed as I to producing a work that incorporated the years of scholarship on Southern women and I think that our book meets our goal of integrating the lives and history of Southern women into American women's history. The book benefited from considerable support and advice from member of the SAWH over the years, and we worked very hard to

include Southern women in every single chapter (instead of just the Pocahontas/Eliza Lucas/antebellum/Civil War/Civil Rights version that usually shows up in women's history textbooks!). She deeply appreciated all the advice and support they received over the years on this very time-consuming project.

**Karen L. Cox** (University of North Carolina - Charlotte) Her book, *Dreaming of Dixie: How the South Was Created in American Popular Culture* (UNC Press) has been published this May 2011. She also invites you to read her blog "Beyond the Kudzu: Reflections on the South in Pop Culture," available through the UNC Press website.

**Jean B. Lee** (University of Wisconsin – Madison) recently retired from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has returned to Charlottesville, Virginia, where she attended graduate school.

**Jennifer Ross-Nazzari** (NASA Johnson Space Center) has published her first book, *Winning the West for Women: The Life of Suffragist Emma Smith DeVoe* (The University of Washington Press).

**Bettye Collier-Thomas** (Temple University) was selected by the Organization of American Historians to receive the 2011 Darlene Clark Hine Award for her book *Jesus, Jobs, and Justice: African American Women and Religion* (Alfred A. Knopf), which is given annually for the best book in African American women's and gender history. Collier-Thomas has created a history of African American women and religion that crosses denominational, class, and organization lines, from Sojourner Truth, antebellum evangelist, to Barbara Harris, first woman bishop in the worldwide Anglican communion, according to the Darlene Clark Hine Award Committee. This is the third book award for *Jesus, Jobs, and Justice*, having also won the 2010 Letitia Woods Brown Book Award and the National Women's Political Caucus's 2010 EMMA Book Award.

**Jessica Brannon-Wranosky** (Texas A&M University-Commerce) successfully defended her dissertation entitled "Southern Promise and Necessity: Texas, Regional Identity, and the National Woman Suffrage Movement, 1868-1920," and received her doctorate during the summer of 2010. Her dissertation chair is Elizabeth Hayes Turner. Jessica began a new assistant professorship as a member of the Department of History at Texas A&M University-Commerce in fall 2010.

## Calling all Berkshires Conference Participants!

Would you like to get together with other SAWH members? Members present would like to plan a social event—whether that is a dinner, a coffee get-together, or lunch is up to you! If you are interested in meeting up with other SAWH folks, please email Shannon Frystak at [sfrystak@po-box.esu.edu](mailto:sfrystak@po-box.esu.edu) by **MAY 30, 2011**. The number of interested people will help us determine what kind of event to plan!

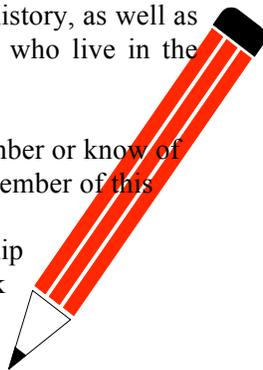
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Membership is \$25 per year for regular members, and \$10 per year for graduate students, retirees, and independent scholars. A lifetime membership is available for \$250, payable in quarterly installments. The SAWH especially welcomes as members women and men who are interested in southern history and/or women's history, as well as all women historians in any field who live in the South.

If you would like to become a member or know of someone who would like to be a member of this dynamic organization, just fill out the enclosed membership form and mail it in with your check made payable to SAWH.



The organization would like to thank the following members for their generous donations to the organization over the past six months.

### **\*\*\*Glenda Gilmore Fund in memory of her mother (over \$1050)**

In early 2011, former graduate students and colleagues of Glenda Gilmore collected money in honor of her mother who passed away this past December. The organization would like to thank all of those individuals who contributed. The funds collected will be added to the Anne Firor Scott Fund.

### **Anne Firor Scott Fund**

Katherine Hilton  
Leah Rawls Atkins  
Frances Pollard  
Kay Blalock  
Elaine Breslaw

### **Elizabeth A. Taylor Fund**

Danielle McGuire

### **Graduate Student Fund**

Michelle Strong  
Joan Browning  
Donald Matthews  
Anne Sarah Rubin  
Cita Cook  
David Goldfield

### **Julia Spruill Fund**

Leah Rawls Atkins  
Elaine Breslaw

### **Willie Lee Rose Fund**

Bertram Wyatt-Brown  
Anne C. Loveland  
Jane Turner Censer

### **Organizational/Contributing Member**

Judy Gentry  
Kay Blalock  
Norma Mitchell  
Kathy Casey

## **Candidate Statements**

**For Second Vice President—Emily Clark,  
Tulane University**

### **Statement:**

The SAWH saved me. As a beginning graduate student just shy of forty, I went to my first annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association and saw a lot of men and a program that seemed to suggest that southern history began in 1860 or so. I nearly ditched my plan to write a dissertation on a bunch of religious women in colonial Louisiana and wondered if I could get my old job back. But the historians I met at my first SAWH reception at the end of that conference said, "Great project! Don't you dare give it up!" And somehow their energy and conviction kept me on course. That's what the SAWH has done for countless other members and nothing makes me happier than the honor the organization does me by asking me to serve it as it continues to make a difference for women historians. The SAWH has a great record of community, diversity and mentorship and I hope that my service can help strengthen these signature features of the organization.

I've had a complicated career, spending my 20s as an archaeologist in Crete with a B.A. in Greek from Newcomb College, parlaying my M.S.W. degree into a vice presidency at Tulane in my 30s, and finally finding home in history in my 40s. After earning my Ph.D. from Tulane, I taught at the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Cambridge, and Lewis & Clark College in Oregon before joyfully beginning my current job as the Clement Chambers Benenson Professor in American Colonial History in Tulane's history department two months before Hurricane Katrina struck. That book on religious women, *Masterless Mistresses: The New Orleans Ursulines and the Development of a New World Society: 1727-1834* (North Carolina), came out in 2007 and won the Julia Cherry Spruill Prize of the SAWH in 2008. I've also published a translation of Ursuline letters and nine articles. These days my scholarship wrestles with how and why the history of Louisiana,

especially the history of its women, has been set apart as exceptional.

I am a life member of the SAWH and have served as chair of the Julia Cherry Spruill Prize Committee.

**For Executive Council—Jennifer Ritterhouse,  
George Mason University**

### **Statement:**

I am honored to be asked to serve on the SAWH Executive Council. Like so many of us, I attended my first SAWH meeting as a graduate student and immediately felt like I had found the place I wanted to be within the academic world. The intellectual content of the conference (in Houston in 1994) was top-notch and the atmosphere was so supportive, from the social events to John Boles's lunchtime presentation on publishing in the *Journal of Southern History*. I have attended every SAWH meeting since, even when it meant enlisting relatives to tag along and provide child care. I have also served on the Membership Committee, the Willie Lee Rose Prize Committee, and the Mentoring Committee, which I currently chair. I am particularly committed to helping the SAWH find new ways to reach out to graduate students and younger scholars. Knowing how much I valued those SAWH newsletters when they arrived on cold winter days in Utah, I also recognize the SAWH's important role in supporting scholars working outside the South and in public history and other non-university settings.

I grew up outside Houston and became interested in southern history as I tried to understand both my immediate environment and the seemingly very different world of my grandparents' farm in northern Alabama. I got my B.A. in History and Literature at Harvard and my M.A. and Ph.D. at UNC-Chapel Hill. My first job was at Utah State University, and I have recently become an Associate Professor at George Mason University, where I've been busy, happy, and delighted to be

back in the (sort of) South of Northern Virginia. My publications include *Growing Up Jim Crow: How Black and White Southern Children Learned Race* (UNC); several articles; an edited reprint of Sarah Patton Boyle's *The Desegregated Heart* (UVA); and, as one of several co-editors, *Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Segregated South* (New Press). I am currently working on a book retracing Raleigh newspaper editor Jonathan Daniels's 1937 travels around the South in an effort to synthesize elements of New Deal-era political and cultural history in an accessible and engaging narrative. I have also agreed to revisit my work on Sarah Patton Boyle for the two-volume collection, *Virginia Women: Their Lives and Times*, that SAWH stalwarts Cindy Kierner and Sandy Treadway are editing for the University of Georgia Press.

### **For Graduate Student Representative— Laura Foxworth**

#### **Statement:**

I would be honored to serve as the graduate student representative on the Executive Council of the SAWH. I have been a member and loved this organization for five years now, ever since Megan Shockley introduced me to the world of women's history as an undergraduate at Clemson. Now, as a doctoral student at the University of South Carolina studying with Marjorie Spruill, I am continuing to find my place in the field of southern women's history.

I grew up in South Carolina and have always wondered about the origin of local attitudes towards race and gender. I knew enough to gauge that my sensitivity to women's issues was certainly not in the mainstream. As I enter the dissertation phase of my graduate studies, I am commencing a case study of the Equal Rights Amendment in South Carolina, an un-ratified state, from 1972 to 1982. I am especially interested in the way that race, religion, and changing political lines played critical roles in conflating feminist arguments for gender equality. Though I have no personal memory of the Equal Rights Amendment, the ideologies I am learning

about help me better understand my childhood environment.

I presented papers on the Equal Rights Amendment in South Carolina at the Southern Historical Association last fall and also at the "Court House, State House, Her House: Southern Women and Politics" conference sponsored by University of Southern Mississippi this past spring. I am an active member of the Southern Historical Association, as well as the National Council on Public History and Phi Alpha Theta. At the University of South Carolina, I work as a teaching assistant in the History Department, and I enjoy balancing my dissertation research with spending time in the classroom.

This will be my first professional appointment, but I am committed to serving the SAWH with my time and energies and look forward to making connection with other women's historians within the organization. Graduate students are important to the operation of the SAWH because they are the next generation of professionals, and we have much to learn from the historians who have created and shaped the field of southern women's history over the last thirty years. As a graduate student representative, I look forward to acting as a liaison between students and established scholars within the organization for the duration of the two-year term.

You've read the Candidates Statements, now go to this website to cast your vote!  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/63HSRDJ>

**Do you have news? Please send all member news to Shannon Frystak at: [sawh@esu.edu](mailto:sawh@esu.edu)  
Or: Shannon Frystak, Ph.D.  
Executive Secretary, SAWH  
Department of History  
East Stroudsburg University  
409 Stroud Hall  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301**

