



Member Newsletter, March 2026

Message from the President	1
A Tribute to Sallie Bingham	3
Call for Membership Renewals	4
Have You Posted to H-SAWH?	5
SAWH Social Media	5
Join in the Leadership of SAWH – Will You Volunteer?	6
Member News	6
News of the Profession	8
Pay It Forward	12
Thank You to Our Volunteers!	13

Message from the President

Dear SAWH Colleagues and Friends,

It is a profound honor to write to you for the first time as President of the Southern Association of Women’s Historians. I step into this role with pride, humility, and a deep sense of responsibility to the generations of scholars who built this organization and to those who will inherit it.

I am especially grateful to our outgoing President, Michelle Haberland, whose leadership carried us with clarity and care. Michelle shepherded this organization with intellectual

seriousness and steady hands, tending both to the visible work of public programming and to the quiet labor that sustains community. We owe her a tremendous debt.

I am equally thankful to our extraordinary leadership team: First Vice President Anne Marshall, Second Vice President Joan Johnson, Executive Secretary Erin N. Bush, and Treasurer Sheri Huerta. Each brings a historian's rigor and a community builder's sensibility to this work. I look forward to partnering with them as we continue to cultivate a scholarly home that is both intellectually vibrant and deeply humane.

Our presence at the recent Southern Historical Association Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida, reminded me why SAWH matters so much. We showed up—in panels that challenged easy narratives, in conversations that stretched across subfields and generations, in mentoring moments in hallways and hotel lobbies. Thank you to everyone who made that presence felt. And special thanks to Crystal Sanders for her luminous keynote address. Her remarks modeled what we do at our best: rigorous scholarship anchored in moral clarity, attentive to power, and alive to possibility.

We gather at a moment when the work of historians is under scrutiny and, in many places, under attack. Across the country, universities face political pressure, curricula are contested, and histories of race, gender, and power are caricatured or curtailed. In such a climate, our collective labor takes on added weight. The study of women's history, of Black history, of southern history in all its contradictions is not ancillary. It is essential. Historical consciousness—the disciplined practice of remembering with evidence, empathy, and accountability—is itself a form of civic engagement.

SAWH has long been a space where scholarship and solidarity meet. We are a community that takes ideas seriously and one another seriously. That matters now more than ever.

As we move forward, I encourage you to renew your membership and invite colleagues and students into our fold. Organizations like ours thrive because of participation, not abstraction. If you are able, please consider volunteering for one of our committees. Committee service is not simply administrative work; it is the scaffolding that supports mentorship, prizes, conferences, and the intellectual networks that sustain emerging scholars.

And please share your professional news with us. New books, articles, digital projects, exhibitions, awards, promotions—we want to celebrate your work. In a moment when the value of what we do is questioned in some quarters, it is all the more important that we affirm the breadth and brilliance of our field.

I am grateful to serve alongside you. The South we study is complicated, contested, and unfinished. So too is the work of writing its histories. Together, we will continue to do that work with rigor, courage, and care.

With appreciation and resolve,

Crystal N. Feimster

President, Southern Association for Women Historians

A Tribute to Sallie Bingham

from Dr. Judith Jennings, 1988 SAWH president

As a SAWH member living in Louisville, I write to offer this tribute to Sallie Bingham. feminist, author, philanthropist, and Kentucky shero, who passed away since the Triennial Conference.

Sallie Bingham was born in January 1937, the oldest daughter of the well-respected family owners of *The Louisville Courier-Journal*. A mother, lover of books and prodigious writer, in 1985 Sallie established The Kentucky Foundation for Women (KFW) as a private philanthropy second only to the Ms. Foundation, created by her friend, Gloria Steinem. Like Steinem, Sallie had a radical vision for change.

In an April 2024 blog post on the [KFW website](#), Sallie wrote, “having long learned through my personal experience as a writer and my observation of women artists—both as activists and as individuals with passion and talent—the effect of art created by women on the lives of other women, I decided to design a foundation that would support, with bi-annual grants, women artists in Kentucky working as feminists for social change.”

It was my honor to serve as the Executive Director of the Kentucky Foundation for Women from 1998 until my retirement in 2014. During that time, I had the joy to see hundreds of grants awarded to feminist artists and activists blossoming across our Commonwealth. I believe that KFW abundantly fulfilled Sallie’s vision by calling in artists and activists in every part of Kentucky and every form of art individually and collectively. And even more importantly all these artists, those funded and not, now consider themselves as a community of support for each other.

But that’s not all. In 1999 the [Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture](#) was

named at Duke University in her honor. The Center includes the Sallie Bingham Papers 1930-2023, the Records and Papers of KFW, and manuscripts relating to all of her books, and more.

Plus, there are two travel grants for up to \$1,500 each year to support research visits:

- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick Grant
<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/bingham/EKS>
- Mary Lily Grant
<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/bingham/grants#ML>

The best tribute we can give Sallie is to continue to support feminist artists and researchers!

Call for Membership Renewals

There's never been a more important time to renew your membership in the SAWH—or to encourage colleagues and graduate students to become members! Join us in supporting the study of women's and gender history of the U.S. South and the work of women historians.

Membership is an opportunity to become a part of a valuable and supportive network. As always, SAWH members will receive a thrice-yearly newsletter with announcements of conferences, calls for papers, and news about the organization and the activities of its members. We do our best to keep the cost of membership low. If you are in a position to do so, please consider buying memberships for graduate students or junior colleagues. New and renewed memberships submitted before the end of the year will take effect immediately and apply through 2025.

The SAWH especially welcomes as members anyone who is interested in southern and/or women's history, as well as all women historians in any field who live in the South. The organization welcomes as members all who are interested in these fields, and we value individuals and their differences, including race, economic status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and ability status. The SAWH appreciates the work of public historians, archivists, independent scholars, and those in alt-academic positions, in addition to those teaching in colleges and universities. Please visit <http://thesawh.org/join/> to join or renew. Annual and gift memberships are \$45. Student memberships are \$20. Life memberships are \$500.

Have You Posted to H-SAWH?

H-SAWH editors regularly post selected posts from [H-Net Academic Announcements](#), jobs from the [H-Net Jobs Guide](#), and, with your contributions as a member, they moderate discussions. If you do not already have an H-Net account, be sure to create one and to subscribe to H-SAWH (go to <https://networks.h-net.org/>, click on “Register” first and then “Join a Network”). Once you subscribe, notifications will be sent to you via e-mail. [H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online](#) is a free, open platform that is moderated. It provides us with an opportunity to engage with each other in a digital format that is free from trolling and other issues that have made popular social media sites less welcoming in recent years.

SAWH Social Media

SAWH SOCIALS! Click on the links below to make sure you are following SAWH’s social media accounts.

- **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Southern-Association-for-Women-Historians-SAWH/100057304846575/>



If you are not on Facebook, you can still see the SAWH page feed - just click on the X on the pop-up screen begging you to create an account or to log in.

- **Instagram** [@sawh1970](#)

<https://www.instagram.com/sawh1970/>



No Instagram account but you love to share photos and videos?

See <https://www.wikihow.com/Create-an-Instagram-Account>

- **X (formerly Twitter)** [@SAWH1970](#)

<https://twitter.com/SAWH1970>



Send your post ideas today or any day to the SAWH Socials [Google form](#) or send content to sawh1970socialmedia@gmail.com.

Join in the Leadership of SAWH - Will You Volunteer?

Volunteers are the backbone of the Southern Association for Women Historians. Will you join us in this important work? We are looking for helping hands in some of our key committees - take a look at the many different committees below. You can find out more about each of them on our website at <https://thesawh.org/about/guidelines/>. Please consider how you might contribute this year. To self-nominate or to get more information, please contact SAWH President at crystal.feimster@yale.edu.

Member News

Edited by Mary Carroll Johansen

Kathryn Beasley gave a book talk at the Alabama Department of Archives and History in January 2026: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=it91VZZuCxg>. She was also interviewed by Auburn University's The History Club for their weekly radio program:

https://open.spotify.com/episode/1TEma9QW1fnuxrjJz8rk74?go=1&sp_cid=2514b65f90eca2f106963c6cf3bf8e9d&utm_source=embed_player_p&utm_medium=desktop&nd=1&dlsi=cc6d29752eca4028. She was also interviewed for The Food Section website: <https://thefoodsection.com/pull-the-pin-money/>

Allison Belzer's (Georgia Southern) new book has been published by Palgrave Macmillan. [The Ashurst Sisters: Nurturing Rebellion Across the Nineteenth Century](#) tells the sweeping history of four extraordinary sisters whose cross-border alliances reshaped nineteenth-century activism in abolition, Italian independence, and women's rights in Britain.

Emily Bingham (Bellarmine University) wrote to say she, "revamped my history of childhood (Not Just Kids) course to address AI abuse and students are loving the throwback course packs and handwritten reading responses! My publisher neglected to submit my last book for a number of awards, so it was especially sweet to have the paperback (University Press of Kentucky) edition of [My Old Kentucky Home: The Astonishing Life and Reckoning of an Iconic American Song](#) qualify for and win the 2025 Music in American Culture Award of the American Musicological Society. I was honored with the Tower Award for Education by Presentation Academy for my teaching work and I have been all over the archives last summer and fall and a bit this winter, completing the requisite eight weeks in the archives for the New England Regional Consortium Research Fellowship, which awarded a project on Study Abroad. A

recent highlight in that realm was a 2-hour Zoom interview with historian Ruth Rosen about her year in Italy in the 1960s.”

Catherine Clinton (University of Texas San Antonio) spent the fall at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaures teaching in the School of Anglophone Studies on a faculty exchange. She will be at the Organization of American Historians meeting in Philadelphia in April on a program (4/18) with her co-editor Jim Downs featuring the newest volume in their History in the Headlines series (University of Georgia Press): US History at the 250th: From the Revolution to the History Wars. For those looking for a great summer conference she recommends the Society for the History of Women in the Americas Conference, to be held June 26 in Toulouse (FR) <https://shawsociety.net/2026-conference/>

Karen Cox (Professor Emerita, University of North Carolina-Charlotte) wrote to say the second edition of her book No Common Ground: Confederate Monuments and the Ongoing Fight for Racial Justice was published, with a new preface, in February 2026. She gave a public presentation at The Brick in Los Angeles, as part of the educational programming that accompanies the exhibit MONUMENTS, on exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art through May 3, 2026.

Alexandra Garrett (Saint Michael's College) has been appointed by Vermont Gov. Phil Scott to be the Revolutionary War Historian for Vermont's 250th Anniversary Commission for 2025-2027.

Susan O'Donovan (University of Memphis) is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of her latest book: Moving Toward Freedom: The Political Education of Enslaved Americans (Penguin Press, 2026).

Cynthia Patterson (University of South Florida) has received a third residential research fellowship in support of her new book project on the Black Chautauqua movement -- the Alyce Hunley Whayne Visiting Researcher's Travel Award from the University of Kansas Kenneth Spencer Research Library. She will be in Lawrence, KS in July 2026.

Mary Ellen Pethel (Belmont University)l, with co-author Don Cusic, recently published Howdy! The Minnie Pearl Story about the life and career of Sarah Colley Cannon, better known as Grand Ole Opry star and comedian Minnie Pearl. Published by the University of Tennessee Press, the book has received rave reviews and was named the 2025 Tennessee History Book Award as well as the Ella Dickey Literacy Award.

Environmental historian **Ellen Griffith Spears** (Professor Emerita, University of Alabama) has just published “The Nature of Rights,” a review/essay in the online journal *Southern Spaces* on

the resonance in the U.S. South of British writer Robert Macfarlane's most recent book, [Is a River Alive?](#) Spears also appears in the new documentary about the work in Alabama of the Coosa Riverkeeper, "The Voice of the Coosa River" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jr4zUi-a_yU).

Peter Wallenstein's (Virginia Tech) newest book is out, with an immediate audience of his students this semester in a US Survey course, but it might well be of interest to anyone on this list, even aside from a significant theme being US women's history. Check it out! [In Search of America: A New History of the United States, 1860–2025.](#)

News of the Profession

Edited by Jessica Brabble

Calls for Papers/Panels

- [Ecofeminist Drama from the U.S. South](#): Seeking chapters on theatre and plays from the U.S. South for the edited volume *Ecofeminist Drama: Theatre, Performance, and Ecological Futures*, currently under review with the University of Illinois Press. They especially welcome chapters focused on drama and theatre from the U.S. South. **Deadline: March 30.**
- [North American Labor History Conference](#): The North American Labor History Conference is a nationally-recognized conference exploring the past, present, and future of the labor movement in the Americas. Hosted by Labor@Wayne and the Reuther Archives at Wayne State University, this year the NALHC three-day conference centers on the theme of Workers, Unions, and the Role of Government. **Deadline: March 31.**
- [SECAC Conference](#): Rooted in a rich history of craft and reinvention, the 2026 SECAC conference will be guided by the theme *Interwoven: Threads, Patterns & Disruptions*. SECAC invites submissions for 105-minute sessions to be presented in-person during the conference in Winston-Salem, NC. **Deadline: April 1.**
- [Southern Conference on British Studies](#): The Southern Conference on British Studies solicits proposals for its 2026 meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on November 6–7 2026. The

SCBS will meet in conjunction with the Southern Historical Association. **Deadline: May 15.**

- [Digitization in the South: The Southern Quarterly](#): Editors are excited to invite submissions for a forthcoming special issue of The Southern Quarterly, which will explore how digitization is reshaping the histories, imagination, and storytelling experiences of the South. **Deadline: May 31.**
- [Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in the South](#): PCAS/ACAS will hold its conference this year in New Orleans and seeks submissions of papers, panels, posters, and creative sessions. **Deadline: June 15.**

Awards/Grants

- [Decorative Arts Trust Publishing Grant](#): The Decorative Arts Trust Publishing Grant is open to first-time authors of book-length publications and to nonprofit organizations and independent scholars producing book-length publications tied to collections, exhibitions, and conferences. **Deadline: March 31.**
- [Dr. Stephen F. Lintner Field Research Travel Award](#): The Dr. Stephen F. Lintner Field Research Travel Award supports graduate students whose scholarship on the history of geographic discoveries requires direct engagement with the landscapes, environmental settings, and cultural contexts in which exploration occurred. Two awards may be granted annually. **Deadline: April 15.**
- [African American Episcopal Historical Collection \(AAEHC\) Travel Grant](#): AAEHC is now accepting applications for its 2026–2027 research travel grants, supporting scholars and researchers working with its unique archival collections. **Deadline: May 1.**
- [Historical Society of the Episcopal Church Grants](#): The Historical Society of the Episcopal Church invites applications for grants to be awarded in July 2026. These grants support projects that advance the Society's mission, particularly the preservation and dissemination of the history of the Episcopal Church, its Anglican heritage, and the churches of the worldwide Anglican Communion. **Deadline: May 1.**

Conferences

- [TCU 2026 Schmidt Symposium](#): The 2026 LCpl. Benjamin W. Schmidt Symposium will feature distinguished panelists and filmmaker Sarah Botstein of Florentine Films to discuss the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. Join them for the feature

presentation April 10 at 7pm and the panels April 11 beginning at 8:30am at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center on the TCU campus.

Fellowships

- [Post-doctoral fellow in Environmental Humanities, Drexel University](#): The Academy of Natural Sciences invites applications for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship (Sept. 2026 – Aug. 2028) in the environmental humanities, drawn from any humanistic discipline. We interpret the environmental humanities in the broadest terms, including all parts of the world and historical eras. **Closing Date: March 20.**
- [Postdoctoral Fellowship, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy](#): The Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy at the University of Missouri invites applications for two Postdoctoral Fellowships to begin Fall 2026, one in History and one in Political Science. **Deadline: March 23.**
- [Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy](#): The Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy and Honors College at the University of Missouri invites applications for up to two interdisciplinary postdoctoral fellowships in either History or Political Science/Theory. The successful candidate will be part of an ongoing partnership between the Kinder Institute and the Honors College to deliver a two-semester, team-taught sequence entitled “Revolutions” and “Constitutions.” **Deadline: March 23.**
- [Vining Hacker Fellow in Women’s Military History, National Museum of American History](#): The Division of Military & Society at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History (NMAH) is pleased to accept applications for the 2026-27 Margaret S. Vining and Barton C. Hacker Fellowship in Women’s Military History. The Vining Hacker Fellowship supports researchers exploring women’s contributions to and experiences of service related to national defense. **Deadline: April 13.**
- [Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Tennessee – Knoxville](#): The Postdoctoral Researcher will spend the 2026-2027 academic year in residence on the UT Knoxville campus working with the regular Papers of Andrew Jackson staff on all aspects of historical documentary editing. **Deadline: April 15.**
- [Summer Residency Program, Black Memory and the Afterlives of Slavery, The Ohio State University](#): The Department of African American and African Studies (AAAS) at The Ohio State University invites applications for its 2026 Summer Residency Program. From July 20 to 27, 2026, the department will host eight Ph.D. students whose research

examines plantation logics, epistemologies, and geographies of slavery and its afterlives. **Deadline: April 19.**

- [Davidson Family Fellowship in American Art](#): The Amon Carter Museum of American Art invites applications for the 2026–2027 Davidson Family Fellowship. The Fellowship provides support for scholars holding a PhD (or equivalent) or PhD candidates to work on research projects in American art that advance scholarship by connecting with objects in the Carter's permanent collection. **Deadline: June 30.**
- [Dole Archives Research Fellowship](#): The Dole Archives is the official repository for the personal papers of former U.S. Senators Bob and Elizabeth Dole. In addition to significant national and international events, the collections provide a window into the inner workings of congressional leadership, the U.S. government, and policy development in wide-ranging areas like disability rights, agriculture, nutrition, veterans, U.S. foreign policy, transportation safety, and US labor policy. **Deadline: July 1.**

Jobs

- [Director/Leon Levine Distinguished Professor, Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, Appalachian State University](#): The Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies at Appalachian State University invites applications for the Leon Levine Distinguished Professor of Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, The Center seeks to strengthen tolerance, understanding, and remembrance by increasing the knowledge of Jewish culture and history, teaching the history and meaning of the Holocaust and other genocides, and using these experiences to explore peaceful avenues for humanity and the prevention of further genocides. **Closing Date: March 17.**
- [Visiting Assistant Professor, US Legal History, University of Florida](#): The Department of History at the University of Florida, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, invites applications for a full-time, time-limited, nine-month, non-tenure-accruing position at the rank of Visiting Assistant Professor, beginning August 16, 2026, in United States legal history. **Review of applications begins March 24.**
- [Lecturer in Jewish History, University of Georgia](#): The Department of History and Department of Religion at the University of Georgia invites applications for a one-year limited-term lecturer in Jewish History, renewable for up to two additional years. The anticipated start date is August 1, 2026. **Review of applications begins March 27.**
- [Assistant Professor in Vast Early American History, Truman State University](#): The School of Arts and Humanities at Truman State University seeks applicants for a non-

tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Vast Early American History to begin August 2026. **Closing Date: April 3.**

- [Visiting Assistant Professor, US History, Belmont Abbey College](#): Belmont Abbey College invites applications for a two-year position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of History, with a start for August 2026. We seek candidates with expertise in U.S. history, with possible subfields in U.S History before 1865, public history, and in global history (particularly regions such as the Middle East, East Asia, and Latin America). **Closing Date: April 5.**
 - [Curatorial Fellow, Initiative for Jewish Art and Culture, North Carolina Museum of Art](#): The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) invites applications for a two-year curatorial research fellowship with the Museum's Initiative for Jewish Art and Culture. The fellow will conduct original research grounded in the NCMA's preeminent collection of Jewish ceremonial art and supported by the extensive library and research resources of the NCMA, UNC–Chapel Hill, and Duke University. **Deadline: April 15.**
 - [Open Rank Tenure-Track Professor in Caribbean History, Florida International University](#): The Department of History within the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs at Florida International University is conducting an open-rank search for a historian of the Caribbean, any period. The successful candidate will be able to teach and guide student research on Cuban history, but applicants with any regional specialization in the circum-Caribbean will be considered. **Review of applications begins May 1.**
-

Pay It Forward

We are grateful for the gifts to Pay It Forward - this generous support allows SAWH to offer free registration for graduate students and contingent faculty with little or no institutional funding. Please visit <https://thesawh.org/give/> to add your name to the list!

Thank You to Our Volunteers!

The SAWH is a 100% volunteer-driven organization, and we love the volunteers who serve on the Executive Council, staff committees, and keep the day-to-day machinery of the organization running. If you'd like to volunteer for the SAWH, [let us know at this link](#). Here's the current roster of amazing SAWH volunteers:

Officers and Executive Council, 2025

President: Crystal Feimster

First Vice President: Anne Marshall

Second Vice President: Joan Johnson

Past President: Michelle Haberland

Executive Secretary: Erin Bush

Treasurer: Sheri Huerta / Bea Burton

Executive Council Members

Kelly Kennington '25

Melissa McEuen '23

La Shonda Mims '24

Graduate Student Representatives

Tracie Grube-Gaurkee '24

Georga-Kay Whyte '25

Prize Committees 2026

A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize

TBA

Julia Cherry Spruill Prize

TBA

Willie Lee Rose Prize

TBA

Anne Firor Scott Mid-Career Fellowship

TBA

Standing Committees 2026

Graduate Committee

TBA, Chair

Megan Brett '24

Diane Mutti-Burke '24

Graduate Student Members:

Morgan Bettin-Coleman '24

TBA

Membership Committee

TBA, Chair

Rachel Gunter '24

Amanda McGee '24

Professional Development Committee

TBA, Chair

Susan Ashmore '24

Alex Colvin '24

Anne Marshall '24

Finance and Investment Committee

TBA, Chair

Social Media Committee

TBA, Chair

Beatrice Burton '24

Mandy Cooper '24

Laura June Davis '24

Nominating Committee

Michelle Haberland, Chair

TBA

Newsletter Editors

Jessica Brabble '22, editor, news of the profession

Randolph Hollingsworth '21, managing editor

Mary Carroll Johansen '23, editor, member news

Website Editors

Hannah Rose Greer LeComte, Chair '25

TBA

H-SAWH Editors

Jessica Brabble '23

Lai Wah Chen '23

Erica Hayden '23

Jesse George-Nichol '23

Megan Jeffreys '23

H-SAWH Advisory Board
Randolph Hollingsworth '23
Shannon Lalor '23
Summer Perritt '23, blogger
Tanya Shlosman '23
Antoinette van Zelm '23



If you have news of the professions (job postings, calls for papers, fellowship or award competitions, etc.) that you'd like to share with SAWH members, please send them to professional news editor Jessica Brabble at jmbrabble@vt.edu.

If you have member news to share, please [click here](#) to submit your news. It will be compiled by member news editor Mary Carroll Johansen.

If you have suggestions for the newsletter, please e-mail newsletter editor Randolph Hollingsworth at newsletter@thesawh.org.

Copyright © 2026 The Southern Association for Women Historians, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Southern Association for Women Historians
Attn: Erin N. Bush, Executive Secretary
University of North Georgia
Department of History, Anthropology & Philosophy
82 College Circle
Dahlonaga, GA 30597
e-mail: secretary@thesawh.org