



The FCHS NEWSLETTER

www.frenchcolonial.org

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September 2002 Newsletter

As usual, I want to welcome you all back from the summer holidays and repeat my standing request for names and contact information for those of you who would like to be included in the online directory of FCHS members posted on our webpage (www.frenchcolonial.org). I would also like to announce that, in addition to the version on our webpage, an electronic version of the newsletter is now available as an e-mailed Adobe Acrobat file. If you prefer to receive this in lieu of the usual paper version, please send me your e-mail address at korosz@maine.edu. I'll be passing this information on to our Secretary, Bill Newbigging, so that he can make the appropriate notation on membership list. It is imperative that members also keep their regular (ie snail mail) addresses up to date so that we can send them copies of our new journal, *French Colonial History*, and can contact them as necessary.

In addition to news from our colleagues, this issue of the newsletter also contains the Alf Heggoy Prize announcement, some information on next year's annual meeting in Toulouse, and an early peek at how the 2004 meeting in Washington, DC is shaping up. Other items of interest include several calls for papers and notices of upcoming conferences that might be of interest to members.

President s Message

Before we look ahead to the good things to come in the world of the FCHS - Toulouse in 2003, Washington in 2004, Acadie/Nova Scotia in 2005 - we need to offer our heartfelt thanks to the individuals and organizations who made the annual meeting in New Haven such a success. As we knew they would, Fred Quinn and Dale Miquelon handled the academic program with aplomb. Grâce à Dale, Fred and all the presenters and commentators, we enjoyed innumerable excellent panels. The sessions are the heart of every FCHS conference and the gathering at New Haven was as good as any.

Our overall host, Yale University, specifically the Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders and the Beinecke Rare Book Library, treated us wonderfully. We were the beneficiaries of the affable and efficient Jay Gitlin and Eliza Sherrod. Their planning and problem-solving resulted in a memorable conference. Among the highlights were the fabulous evening reception and dinner within the Beinecke Rare Book Library and the outing to Mystic Seaport. Completing the evening at the Beinecke was the presentation on Cajun history, culture and music by Carl Brasseaux and his son.

The gathering at Yale marked the launch of the inaugural issue of our new journal, *French Colonial History*, published by Michigan State University Press. Dale Standen handled the editorial chores on the first volume; Robert DuPlessis will be overseeing the next three, all of which should be out between now and the meeting in Toulouse. Patricia Galloway will be Bob s successor, starting with volume five. Thanks are due on an ongoing basis to not just our editors, but also to our distinguished editorial board, the referees to whom the papers are sent for assessments, and Margot Kielhorn and her staff at MSU Press. Many hands make not just for lighter work, but also a first-rate academic journal. Make sure your institutions have placed their subscriptions.

For those of you who were not at the meeting at New Haven, or missed a brief presentation by Sylvie DePatie of UQAM, the *Revue d Histoire de l Amérique française* wants FCHS members to know that the journal encourages submissions from those of us who do research on relevant topic areas. I add my voice to Sylvie s in encouraging scholars to consider the RHAF as an excellent place to publish your work.

Through the newsletter and the web site both handled by Ken Orosz, for which we all thank him you will see that most details are already finalized for Toulouse 2003; and a capable team is in place for Washington 2004.

Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, 2002-2003

Each year the French Colonial Historical Society presents a book in honor of one of its founding members, Alf Andrew Heggoy. Book prize recognition includes an award of US \$350 for the best book published during the previous year dealing with the French colonial experience from the 16th to the 20th century. Books from any academic discipline will be considered but they must approach the consideration of the French colonial experience from an historical perspective. The deadline for this year is March 1, 2003.

Applicants or their publishers should send three copies of books published in 2002 to the chairperson of the book prize committee: William I. Shorrock, Office of Academic Affairs, Cleveland State University, Cleveland OH, 44115, USA.

The award will be announced at the annual conference of the French Colonial Historical Society in Toulouse, France in May 2003. Continuing members of the Book Prize Committee are Gregory Waselkov (University of South Alabama), William Shorrock, Chair (Cleveland State University) and Sue Peabody (Washington State University - Vancouver).

Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, 2002

**French Colonial Historical Society
Société d'histoire coloniale française
Yale University
May 18, 2002**

Citation

Eric T. Jennings, *Vichy in the Tropics: Pétain's National Revolution in Madagascar, Guadeloupe, and Indochina, 1940-1944* (Stanford University Press).

Eric T. Jennings' book examines the role of the Vichy regime in bringing about profound changes in the French Colonial Empire after World War II. Not satisfied with the traditional view that France's loss of empire resulted directly from her loss of prestige in World War II, Jennings argues that Pétain's Vichy regime contributed to decolonization in a very substantial way by ushering in an ideology based on a new, harsher brand of colonialism that served to fuel indigenous nationalism. The author also rejects the view that Vichy colonial policies were shaped under Nazi pressure. On the contrary, Vichy leaders vigorously promoted the ideology of "Travail, Famille, Patrie" throughout the empire--an ultra-conservative approach that awakened long dormant nationalist feeling among indigenous peoples.

The Book Prize Committee considers *Vichy in the Tropics* to be an ambitious and original comparative analysis of the impact of the Vichy regime on three very different colonial areas. Thoroughly grounded in primary sources and archival research, the book is well written and the argument elegantly presented. It contributes not only to our understanding of the individual colonial histories of Madagascar, Guadeloupe, and Indochina but more especially to the dynamics of empire for greater France at a critical moment in the history of World War II and of decolonization. Eric Jennings' book is certain to be consulted by all historians of decolonization for its comparative insights on imperialism throughout the globe.

Books Nominated for the Annual Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, 2002

Alice Bullard, *Exile to Paradise: Savagery and Civilization in Paris and the South Pacific, 1790-1900* (Stanford University Press, 2000)

This book deals fundamentally with the aftermath of the Paris Commune of 1870-71 and the decision of the new Third Republic to punish some 4,500 revolutionary Communards

by exiling them to the South Pacific colony of New Caledonia. The parallels and interactions between the Melanesians and the Parisians in their confrontation with the forces of French civilization form the substance of this book.

Madeleine Dobie, *Foreign Bodies: Gender, Language, and Culture in French Orientalism* (Stanford University Press, 2001).

Building on the critical foundations established by Edward Said in *Orientalism*, Dobie's book examines the relationship between the Orientalist tradition in French art and literature and France's colonial history. It focuses on a central dimension of this exchange--the prevalent figure of the "oriental women," and the interplay of race and gender in both domestic and colonial history. It also offers a genealogy of contemporary French attitudes to Islamic culture, in which beliefs about sexuality and gender relations continue to occupy a privileged place.

Arthur Dommen, *The Indochinese Experience of the French and the Americans: Nationalism and Communism in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam* (Indiana University Press, 2001).

This lengthy and authoritative study sets the Indochina wars--French and American--in perspective so that comparative analyses can be made. The author provides meticulous and detailed considerations of the crucial episodes in the colonization of Indochina by the French and the indigenous reaction to it; the struggle for national sovereignty among Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian peoples; the impact of the Cold War and the tragic involvement of the United States after 1954; and the ultimate outcome following American withdrawal in 1973.

Jonathan Hart, *Representing the New World: The English and French Uses of the Example of Spain* (Palgrave Publishers, 2000).

This book focuses on the contradictory and ambivalent uses that French and English writers employed in representing the examples of Spain in the New World from 1492-1713. The author also shows the rhetorical complexity of texts of travel as well as the importance of their depictions for Spain, France, and England and demonstrates the importance of translations in both disseminating and shaping knowledge surrounding the colonizing of the New World.

Phyllis Whitman Hunter, *Purchasing Identity in the Atlantic World: Massachusetts Merchants, 1670-1780* (Cornell University Press, 2001)

In eighteenth century New England harbor towns, the commercial gentry led their communities into full participation in a flourishing Anglo-American consumer culture. This book demonstrates how elite Americans not only became infatuated with their belongings, but also avidly pursued consumption to shape their world and proclaim their success.

Eric T. Jennings, *Vichy in the Tropics: Pétain's National Revolution in Madagascar, Guadeloupe, and Indochina, 1940-1944* (Stanford University Press, 2001).

This book examines the role of the Vichy regime in bringing about profound changes in the French colonial empire after World War II. The author, employing a comparative perspective of three very different colonial areas, argues that Pétain's Vichy regime unintentionally contributed to decolonization in a very substantial way by ushering in an

ultra-conservative ideology based on a new, harsher brand of colonialism that served to fuel indigenous nationalism.

A. J. B. Johnston, *Control and Order in French Colonial Louisbourg, 1713-1758* (Michigan State University Press, 2001).

This book focuses on the seaport and stronghold of Louisbourg, located on Cape Breton Island (Ile Royale) and its economy based on fishing and trade. The society that developed there had little or nothing to do with the fur trade or the seigneurial regime that characterized the Canadian interior. The author traces the evolution of a broad range of controlling measures that were introduced and adapted to achieve an ordered civil and military society at Louisbourg. He focuses on such controlling mechanisms as town planning, civil and religious celebration, public punishment, and criminal justice.

Timothy J. Kent, *Ft. Pontchartrain at Detroit: A Guide to the Daily Lives of Fur Trade and Military Personnel, Settlers, and Missionaries at French Posts* (Silver Fox Enterprises, 2001).

This two-volume set is a unique and entertaining reference work for vocational and professional historians, archeologists, curators, re-enactors, and enthusiasts of the fur trade era, early military life, and native life ways. Containing 1,154 pages in a large 8.5x11 inch format, the two hardcover volumes are profusely illustrated with over 600 drawings and photographs, revealing the complete anatomy of an interior post and settlement during the French era.

Jacques Mathieu, *La Nouvelle-France: Les Français en Amérique du Nord, XVI - XVIII Siècle* (Les Presses de l'Université Laval, 2001).

This completely revised and updated text surveys the history of New France from the explorations of Jacques Cartier in 1534 to the Treaty of Paris in 1763. It considers relations between the French and the Americans, the military and political careers of key figures, social structures and the rhythms of religious and family life. The volume is profusely illustrated and contains, in the margins, capsule summaries of key events, biographical details, definitions, and chronologies.

Bernard Moitt, *Women and Slavery in the French Antilles, 1635-1848* (Indiana University Press, 2001).

Bernard Moitt argues that gender had a profound effect on the slave population system in the French Antilles. The book analyzes the social condition of enslaved black women in the plantation societies of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Saint-Domingue, and French Guiana from 1635 to the abolition of slavery in the colonial empire in 1848. The author examines the lives of black women in bondage, evaluates the impact of the slave experience on them, and assesses the ways in which women reacted to and coped with slavery in the French Caribbean for over two centuries.

David Henry Slavin, *Colonial Cinema and Imperial France, 1919-1939: White Blind Spots, Male Fantasies, Settler Myths* (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001).

The book focuses on Algeria and Morocco between the First and Second World Wars. Whereas the films of the 1920's expressed a cautious optimism about the prospect of cooperation between Europeans and Muslims, those of the 1930's reflected a hardened

attitude toward North Africans. The author uses key films (especially those made originally as silent films in the 1920's and then reissued as "talkies" in the 1930's) to document how the French cinema reflected the changing policies and values of French colonialism in the inter-war period.

Robert S. Weddle, *The Wreck of The Belle, the Ruin of LaSalle* (Texas A & M University Press, 2001).

This book has its genesis in the Texas Historical Commission's 1995 discovery in Matagorda Bay, along the Texas Coast, of the wreck of La Belle, the last of the four vessels that LaSalle brought to America on his final mission. Articles salvaged from the ship shed new light on the efforts of LaSalle and his two hundred colonists to establish the first European settlement between Florida and Mexico in the 1680's. Weddle tells this story against the backdrop of LaSalle's activities throughout his travels in North America; the book is intended as historical background for others that are to follow on the archeological excavations of La Belle and the Fort St. Louis colony.

Colleagues at Work

Robert Barnes is a doctoral student at Arizona State University studying the impact of French colonialism on the thinking of Adolphe Ciémioux, 19th century lawyer, politician and Jewish activist, and how colonial culture impacted the operations of the Alliance Israélite Universelle.

Colin Coates co-authored a book with Cecilia Morgan entitled *Heroines and History: Representations of Madeleine de Verchère and Laura Secord* that was recently published by the University of Toronto Press. His section of the book deals with the commemoration of the young heroine of New France, Madeleine de Verchère.

David Gardinier published chapters on Gabon and Niger in *African Contemporary Record* v. 25 (1994-1996) (NY: 2001) and is currently preparing the third edition of his *Historical Dictionary of Gabon*.

Eric Jennings book entitled *Vichy in the Tropics: Pétain's National Revolution in Madagascar, Guadeloupe and Indochina*, was published by Stanford University Press in 2001. His article on resistance to Vichy rule in the French Caribbean appeared in *Vingtième Siècle, Revue d'Histoire* in December 2000. He is currently working on a new project on French colonial spas and hill stations.

Nicolas Landry published "Portrait des activités de course à Plaisance, Terre Neuve, 1700-1715" in *Les Cahiers de la Société historique acadienne*, vol 33 Nos 1-2 pp. 68-87.

Gilles-Antoine Langlois prépare un site internet consacré à la Louisiane pour le Ministère de la Culture français. Il peut être contacté à gilles.a.langlois@wanadoo.fr.

Jyoti Mohan is conducting research on the kinds of images which emerged from the French colonial encounter with India in order to investigate how they were shaped by the complex and shifting equation of power between metropole and periphery in the 19th century.

Sue Peabody's article "A Dangerous Zeal: Catholic Missions to Slaves in the French Antilles, 1635-1800" appeared in *French Historical Studies* in January 2002. Her book *There are no Slaves in France : The Political culture of Race and Slavery in the Ancien Regime* will be offered in paperback for the first time by Oxford University Press beginning in August 2002.

Brett Rushforth is a PhD student working on a dissertation about Indian slavery in New France.

Helen Tanner took part in a panel discussion of French maps and French interests in colonial Texas, 17th and 18th centuries, at the 44th Annual Caddo Conference held at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas on March 14-16, 2002.

Lizabeth Zack's article "Who fought the Algerian War? Political Identity and Conflict in French Ruled Algeria" will appear in the Fall 2002 edition of the *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*.

Notices

Timothy J. Kent has published several books relating to the French fur trade in the Americas with Silver Fox Enterprises. These titles include: *Birchbark Canoes of the Fur Trade* (ISBN 0 965 72300 3), *Tahquamenon Tales: Experiences of an Early French Trader and his Native Family* (ISBN 0 965 72301 1) and *Ft. Pontchartrain at Detroit: A Guide to the Daily Lives of Fur Trade and Military Personnel, Settlers, and Missionaries at French Posts* (ISBN 0 965 72302 X). These titles can be ordered from Silver Fox Enterprises, PO Box 176, 11504 US 23 South, Ossineke MI 49766.

The Société Internationale d'Étude des Littératures de l'Ère Coloniale is dedicated to the study of all forms of 19th and 20th century colonial literature, including but not limited to travel journals, novels, memoirs, cinema, paintings, the reports of missionaries, colonial administrators and soldiers. The SIELEC organizes an annual colloquium whose proceedings are published by Éditions Kailash Pondichéry. For more information contact Jean-François Durand (Président) via e-mail at roj.durand@wanadoo.fr or at Département de français, UFR I, Univ. Paul-Valéry, Route de Mende, 34199 Montpellier Cedex 5. Members may also contact Jean Sévry (Vice-président responsable anglophonie) at sevry@wanadoo.fr.

The Center for French Colonial Studies is devoted to the study of the French presence in the upper Mississippi Valley during the 17th - 19th centuries. The Center serves as a clearinghouse for information on current research on the Illinois country, publishes original documents and articles related to the French presence in upper Mississippi Valley in *Le Journal*, and hosts an annual conference in the fall. This year's conference will be held October 25-27 in St Charles, Missouri. Details on the Center and its conference can be found at www.noctrl.edu/cfcs or by writing to Center for French Colonial Studies, Inc., History Department CM 321, North Central College, 30 North Brainard St, Naperville IL 60566-4690.

The editor of *Outre-Mers, Revue d'histoire* (journal of Société Française d'Histoire d'Outre-mer) wishes to announce that their most recent issue concerns electrification outre-mer and is now available.

Calls for Papers

The South Eastern Regional Seminar of African Studies (SERSAS) has issued a call for papers for its annual Fall meeting to be held November 8-9 at Clemson University in Clemson, south Carolina. For more information or to submit a proposal please contact Dr. Aran S. MacKinnon, Department of History, State University of West Georgia, 1600 Maple St,

Carrollton, GA 30118 or Dr. Nonso Okereafoezeke, Department of Criminal Justice, Western Carolina University. Dr MacKinnon can be reached via e-mail at amackinn@westga.edu; Dr Okereafoezeke can be reached at nonso@wcu.edu. Conference details can also be found at www.ecu.edu/african/sersas/homepage.htm.

The International Congress of Americanists and Vanderbilt University are seeking papers for two conferences entitled "Nationalism in the New World: The Americas and the Atlantic World, c. 1776-1919." The first meeting will be held July 13-18 in Santiago, Chile and will be part of the 51st International Congress of Americanists. The second meeting will be smaller and will take place October 9-11 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. The conference organizers are seeking participants from across disciplinary and national boundaries to discuss the role of nationalism and the experience of nation building in the Atlantic world. Send one page proposals for either or both conferences and a brief c.v. by e-mail to Don Doyle at don.h.doyle@vanderbilt.edu. For more information on the conference go to www.uchile.cl/vaa/americanista or contact Don Doyle, Department of History, Vanderbilt University, POB 1738 B, Nashville TN 37235 or Marco Pamplona, Professor of History, Catholic University and Universidade Federal Fluminense, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The journal *Gender and History* is seeking submissions for an upcoming special issue on African Diasporas to be published in November 2003. The editors are seeking essays that theorize the concept of diaspora and/or examine ways in which the term has been employed in Western scholarship. They are also interested in papers that analyze sexuality, masculinity and investigations of regions beyond the Atlantic world. Send 3 copies of an abstract by October 1, 2002 to *Gender and History*, Institute for Research on women and Gender, Lane Hall, 204 S. State St, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1290. Abstracts can also be submitted by fax (734-647-4881) or via e-mail at mmitch@umich.edu.

2003 FCHS Conference, Toulouse, France

The organizers of the Toulouse meeting have nearly completed their work on the conference program and will post details on the Society's website (www.frenchcolonial.org) as they become available.

Known as la ville rose for its architectural beauty, Toulouse is a thriving artistic, educational, and economic center located half-way between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. L'Université de Toulouse, which will host the meeting, dates back to medieval times, yet is a thoroughly modern institution. It has a large student body (over 25,000 students for the School of Arts), which regularly organizes academic and artistic events of international scope.

Toulouse-Blagnac international airport is served by all major European airlines (Air France, British Airways, Lufthansa, KLM, Swissair). With La Navette, Air France also has frequent connections between Paris and Toulouse (an average of one every half hour between 6 am and 10 pm).

The organizers of FCHS 2003 are planning a visit to architectural sites in downtown Toulouse, a sampling of the best gastronomical specialties of Southwestern France, as well as an excursion to a coastal city of the Bay of Biscaye, from which much of France's colonial history started.

2004 FCHS Conference, Washington, DC

The 30th Anniversary meeting of the FCHS will be held Wednesday, May 5 through Saturday, May 8 2004 in Washington, D.C., and will be cosponsored by the Georgetown University History Department. Most sessions will be held on the Georgetown campus, which has excellent conference facilities. The conference hotel will be the Rosslyn Holiday Inn at Key Bridge, just across the Potomac River from Georgetown. Room rates are \$119, plus 9.75% sales tax, as opposed to a much higher rate in the District of Columbia. The hotel is located near a Metro stop and shuttle busses will transport us to and from Georgetown. The closing banquet of specially selected French colonial specialties will be held at the Cosmos Club, 2121 Mass. Ave., possibly with a french colonial era cabaret musician for entertainment. Additional details, including a formal call for papers, will be announced here in the Newsletter and on www.frenchcolonial.org as they become available.

The program co-chairs have decided to split the task of organizing the conference program. Sylvie Depatie (depatie.sylvie@uqam.ca) will be in charge of papers dealing with the pre-1831 empire. Mike Vann (mikevann@cats.ucsc.edu) will deal with papers and panels relating to the post 1831 empire. He is especially interested in papers and/or panels that investigate the role of race in the Empire, the the tension between France's republican ideals and the authoritarian nature of the empire, and the culture of the colonial world. Also of interest are works that deal with anti-colonialism and those that explore ways of integrating colonial history into the fabric of French national history.

**French Colonial Historical Society
Société d Histoire Coloniale Française**

2002-2003 Membership Dues*

Please complete the form below and mail to:

William Newbigging
Department of History
Algoma University College
1520 Queen Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
Canada P6A 2G4

_____ Regular FCHS/SHCF membership (\$30 US funds or \$40 Canadian funds) as determined at the 1995 meeting, Sidney, N.S. Members receive copies of the Newsletter and the annual issue of our journal French Colonial History. Make checks payable to the French Colonial Historical Society.

_____ Student membership (US \$15 or CDN \$20)

_____ Contribution to W.J, Eccles Memorial Prize Fund (any currency accepted).

_____ Contribution to Alf Heggoy Memorial Book Prize Fund (any currency accepted).

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

***Membership runs from annual conference to annual conference.**

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Please indicate below any information you wish to share with members of FCHS/SHCF about your research, publications, activities, etc. Items indicated here will appear in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter.
