



# The FCHS NEWSLETTER

[www.frenchcolonial.org](http://www.frenchcolonial.org)

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## September 2012 Newsletter

This edition of the newsletter finds the Society in a strong position. A very successful conference in New Orleans behind us, at which the Boucher book prize and the Shorrock award to support graduate student travel were given for the first time, along the longer-standing recognition of the great scholarship produced among our membership. The minutes of the business meeting are included for those of you who were unable to attend.

Our new president, Ken Orosz, details other exciting developments in his president's message, including the link for the annual meeting in Louisbourg, Nova Scotia this coming June. *Please note that the deadline for proposal is 15 October.* As usual, the form to renew your membership is attached on the last page, support without which the Society would not be able to prosper.

Finally, one of the most important elements of the newsletter is the Colleagues at Work section through which we learned about and celebrate the projects and accomplishments of our colleagues. Please send in items - such as ongoing or new research, publications, awards - so we can share them with the whole membership.

Best wishes for a productive fall!

## President's Message

In 1997, after several years of archival research in preparation for my dissertation, I took the plunge and began sharing my work at scholarly conferences. As luck would have it my very first professional presentation took place at the society's 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Midland, Ontario where a veritable who's who of FCHS leaders - Dale Standen, Dale Miquelon, Bob DuPlessis, John Johnston, and Bill Shorrock - quickly put me at ease and provided lots of thoughtful commentary on my work. My experience was hardly unique; over the years I have heard similar stories from a great many of our members, all of whom have remarked on what a warm, collegial and intellectually stimulating home they found in the FCHS. That's a tradition I hope to honor and continue during my term as president.

Before introducing our current slate of officers, I would like to thank all those just ending their service to the FCHS. We all owe a special debt of gratitude to Ruth Ginio for her smooth handling of the society's business over the past two years, for initiating efforts to overhaul the society's website (more on that later), and for successfully shepherding us through a nerve wracking bout of negotiations with the IRS when changes in US tax law threatened our non-profit status. Much as Ruth has earned a bit of rest, I am greatly reassured that she plans to continue playing a prominent role in the society and intend to shamelessly capitalize on her wisdom and experience. Thanks are also due to Elizabeth Demers for her tenure as webmaster and to Todd Shephard who just ended his three year term on the book prize committee. Finally, I would like to thank Nathalie Dessens for her years of service as editor of *French Colonial History*. Nathalie is handing over the reins to longtime H-FrenchColonial moderator Jeremy Rich so that she can take up the role of our new Vice President. Other familiar faces continuing to serve the society include Jennifer Palmer and Judy DeGroat who have graciously agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Newsletter editor respectively. Judy asks members to send news items regarding their achievements and on-going projects for inclusion in the newsletter to [jdegroat@stlawu.edu](mailto:jdegroat@stlawu.edu). Lastly, Katie Edwards will be coming on board as our webmaster once the new and improved version of [www.frenchcolonial.org](http://www.frenchcolonial.org) goes live.

The new version of the website, which we hope will be up and running by month's end, features a total redesign that has rendered it much more professional looking and easier to navigate. Other notable changes that will be incorporated into the site include the ability to send automatic renewal notices via e-mail and the introduction of a new pedagogy section where we hope to post syllabi, links to primary sources, and brief essays regarding methods for teaching French colonial history. Credit for this much needed overhaul belongs to Ruth who hired a professional web designer in the final months of her presidency after first soliciting input from Sue Peabody, Judy DeGroat, Nathalie Dessens, and members of the Executive.

Our recent annual meeting in New Orleans was a resounding success thanks to the organization and hard work of Ginger Gould and her team. Those in attendance were treated to a fascinating keynote address by Larry Powell on the history of New Orleans, a reception in the Cabildo, guided tours of the old Ursulines Convent, and a fabulous banquet complete with jazz band at the Acme Oyster House. The New Orleans meeting was also noteworthy as the site where the William Shorrock Travel Award and the Mary Alice and Philip Boucher Book Prize were both awarded for the first time. This year's Shorrock Award, which helps graduate students presenting at the annual meeting cover their travel expenses, went to New York University's Michelle Pinto and Claire Edington of Columbia University. Jennifer Sessions' *By Sword and Plow: France and the Conquest of Algeria* received the inaugural Boucher Book Prize, which honors the best work published in the preceding year on French colonial history covering the period from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to 1848. The Heggoy Book Prize for works covering the period 1848 to the present was awarded to Daniel Sherman for his work *French Primitivism and the Ends of Empire, 1945-1975*. Lastly, the 2011 Eccles Prize for the best article by a graduate student or recent post-graduate published in *French Colonial History* went to Christine Mussard for her article "Une décolonisation par défaut."

Anne Marie Jonah of Parks Canada is organizing next year's meeting which will take place June 13-16 in Louisbourg, Nova Scotia. The call for papers has been posted online at <http://www.frenchcolonial.org/Louisbourg%202013%20Conference/Louisbourg%20CFP.htm>. Members are reminded that the submission deadline is October 15. Please make a point of checking the website for important logistical information after it is posted in November.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the locations of our next two annual meetings. The Executive is close to signing a memorandum of understanding with Paññāsāstra University to host our fortieth anniversary meeting in 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Thanks go to Mike Vann for drafting the initial proposal and especially to Caroline Herbelin who took time out of her research trip this summer to do crucial legwork for us in Siem Reap. This will mark our first meeting in Asia and like our 2006 meeting in Dakar promises to open up new scholarly exchanges with local scholars who are often unable to attend our meetings. I am also pleased to announce that the 2015 meeting will be held in Binghamton, New York. The Executive would like to encourage members to submit proposals for meetings in 2016 and beyond.

Kenneth J. Orosz  
Buffalo State College

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

### Mary Alice and Philip Boucher Book Prize, 2012

The Boucher book prize is awarded annually by the French Colonial Historical Society in honor of long time members and active supporters Mary Alice and Philip Boucher. The prize recognizes the best book published in the preceding year dealing with the French colonial experience from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to 1848. Books from any academic discipline will be considered, providing that they approach the French colonial experience from an historical perspective. The deadline for this year's submissions is March 1, 2013. Questions about the submission process should be addressed to Dr. Alice Conklin, Chair of the FCHS Book Prize Committee, at [Conklin.44@osu.edu](mailto:Conklin.44@osu.edu).

Applicants or their publishers should submit three copies of books published in 2012 (date of publication is determined by the copyright page of the book), one to each of the book prize committee members.

### Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, 2012-2013

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 \$400 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, 2013. Questions about how to submit entries should be addressed to Dr. Alice Conklin, Prize Committee Chair at [Conklin.44@osu.edu](mailto:Conklin.44@osu.edu).

Applicants or their publishers should submit three copies of books published in 2009 (date of publication is determined by the copyright page of the book), one to each of the book prize committee members.

#### Book Prize Committee for 2012-2013 Awards

Chair: Dr. Alice Conklin Department of History The Ohio State University 230 west 17 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Columbus, OH 43210-1367 USA	Dr. Richard S. Fogarty Department of History University at Albany, SUNY 1400 Washington Ave Albany, NY 12222 USA	Dr. Sue Peabody Department of History Washington State University- Vancouver 14204 NE Salmon Creek Ave Vancouver, WA 98686 USA
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The awards will be announced at the annual conference of the French Colonial Historical Society

in Louisbourg, Nova Scotia, 13-16 June 2013.

### **Mary Alice and Philip Boucher Prize, 2011**

Jennifer E. Sessions, *By Sword and Plow. France and the Conquest of Algeria* (Cornell University Press, 2011)

This deeply researched and multi-layered book innovatively explores the ways in which Charles X and Louis Philippe used the conquest of Algeria to define new notions of male citizenship in post-revolutionary France. Jennifer Sessions draws on a rich vein of royal iconography, popular culture, and official propaganda to establish the centrality of the military campaign and the violent settlement of Algeria to the reconstruction of sovereignty between 1815 and 1848. She also deftly demonstrates how the nascent Algerian empire renounced the mercantilist and slave labor policies of the old regime, in order to articulate a new colonial ideal that would endure until decolonization: that of economic liberalism, embodied in the notion of the white self-reliant male colonist. These attempts to legitimize the conquest nevertheless unleashed an imperialist dynamic that the monarchy never fully controlled; popular representations of the war, for example, revived Bonapartist associations between military service, masculinity, and the democratic valorization of ordinary soldiers. One of the book's many achievements is the way Sessions expertly tacks between "high" and "low" culture in France, while at the same time accounting for policies of "ethnic cleansing" and specific patterns of expropriation in Algeria. Sessions has written an exemplary cultural history of empire that impresses by her range of sources, subtle analysis, and the unity of the argument from beginning to end. It is a pleasure to award her the 2011-2012 Mary Alice and Philip Boucher Prize.

#### **Other books nominated for the prize:**

Andrew S. Curran, *The Anatomy of Blackness: Science & Slavery in an Age of Enlightenment* (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011).

This subtly-argued work investigates how *philosophes* and anatomists understood the Black person through the anatomical investigation of the Black body. Anatomical investigation was thought by its practitioners to verify the racial inferiority of blacks. As a result, the anti-slavery movement, significant especially after 1770, owed not a whit to science, but much to natural law theory.

James E. McClellan III and François Regourd, *The Colonial Machine: French Science and Overseas Expansion in the Old Régime*. (Turnhout, Belgium, Brepols Publishers, 2011).

This remarkable book conceives of the large number of French scientific institutions, the Ministère de la Marine, the Compagnie des Indes, and the overseas missions, all of which contributed in some way to and benefitted from the colonial enterprise, as a vast "Colonial Machine," the cogs, wheels, and gearing moving (mostly) in harmony.

Takao Abé, *The Jesuit Mission to New France: A New Interpretation in the Light of the Earlier Jesuit Experience in Japan* (Leiden and Boston, Brill, 2011).

Historians of New France have long pointed to the Jesuit missions in Paraguay as the inspiration and precedent for the Canadian missions. But, Takao Abé tells us, they have overlooked Japan. He makes a convincing case that the experience of the Japanese missions of the sixteenth century were the fundamental Jesuit experience with non-western societies, including Canada.

J. Frederick Fausz, *Founding St. Louis: the First City of the New West* (Charleston and London: The History Press, 2011).

St. Louis was built upon the alliance of French traders, especially the Laclède-Chouteau family connection, and Indian nations, especially the Osages, from its foundation in 1764 until after the arrival of Lewis and Clark at the end of 1803. Fausz sees the French-Indian network of trade supporting an inland "metropolis" as a viable alternative to building the West on the Anglo-American model of conquest and dispossession.

### **Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize, 2011**

Daniel J. Sherman, *French Primitivism and the Ends of Empire, 1945-1975* (University of Chicago Press, 2011)

This is a beautifully argued, deeply evidenced, and important book, which concerns France but speaks to how understandings and relationships anchored in empire shaped late-twentieth-century modernity writ large. With research in archives that stretch from Tahiti to St.-Germain-des-Près and the Massif central, and an approach to analyzing visual sources that is deeply interdisciplinary in inspiration while profoundly historical in its claims and presumptions, Sherman's study breaks new ground in multiple domains. Among its signal contributions are the complex and meaningful links the author draws between the age of French empire and the France of the "thirty glorious years." It is a move certain to shift current discussions about state structures and "colonial imaginaries" outward, forcing historians of the era to take the productive and causal role of culture into account. Sherman brilliantly demonstrates how the emergence of the widely-deployed idea of Primitivism was inextricable from colonialism yet became, in the writings and claims of artists, scholars, and interior designers, detached from this history, so as to appear simply evocative. It remained, he shows, sourced in and driven by imperial forms

of power and domination. Whether through discussions of French peasants or in the pages of fashion magazines elaborating “primitive chic,” feel-good versions of the primitive actively erased still pulsing connections between French empire—with its violence and its racism—and post-decolonization French culture. As he tacks between the French art scene and the new museums that the Fifth Republic created, which drew from and obfuscated the symbolic and actual capital that previous generations had pillaged from colonial holdings, and the tourist resorts and nuclear-testing grounds of French Polynesia, Sherman makes incisive use of cultural theory to drive a rigorous and masterfully executed argument. It is a real pleasure to award him the Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize.

### **Other books Nominated for the Prize**

Bruce S. Hall, *A History of Race in Muslim West Africa, 1600-1960* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)

This sophisticated intellectual and interdisciplinary history of racial categories on the southern edge of the Sahara argues that African notions of blackness and non-blackness predated the colonial period. Bruce Hall defines “race” in the Sahel as a system that consolidated hierarchy on the basis of real or supposed descent from either “superior” “white” Arab forebears, or “inferior” “black” ones. His impressive exploration of the language of race and its manipulation before and during French rule in West Africa, make this work indispensable reading for colonial historians.

Veronique Hélénon, *French Caribbeans in Africa: Diasporic Connections and Colonial Administration, 1880-1939* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)

This book uses a social history lens to explore the role of (black) Caribbeans in the French colonial service in Africa. Through careful examination of an overlapping set of archival and published sources, Hélénon has identified a large number of black, or presumably black French colonial officials with genealogical ties to the French Antilles and Guiana. This opens up new perspectives on the possibilities and limitations that these French citizens, whose parents or grandparents had been slaves, confronted in a society that was at once colonial and republican; ideologically anti-racist yet committed to policies defined by a deep suspicion of the capacities of black people (and non-whites more generally) for self-governance, rationality, and civilization.

Eric T. Jennings, *Imperial Heights: Dalat and the Making and Undoing of French Indochina* (University of California Press, 2010).

In this engagingly written study, Eric Jennings provides a wonderful window into the many lives and afterlives of a colonial city, the hill station of Dalat in southern Vietnam.

His wide-ranging research provides new insights into how colonial and postcolonial legacies remain entangled in unpredictable ways in Southeast Asia.

Brian J. Peterson, *Islamization from Below: The Making of Muslim Communities in Rural French Sudan, 1880-1960* (Yale University Press, 2011).

Brian Peterson's elegant microhistory offers the first study from the "bottom up" of the conversion of rural peoples to Islam in West Africa under French rule. On the basis of extensive fieldwork in Mali and a careful reading of the colonial archive, he brings to life the unexpected ways in which French policies interacted with the strategies of individual villagers to foster the very Islamicization that the colonizers so feared.

### **W. J. Eccles Prize, 2012-2013**

The W.J. Eccles Prize is to be awarded annually to the graduate student or recent post-graduate student judged to have presented the best paper at the annual meeting of the French Colonial Historical Society and subsequently published in the society's journal *French Colonial History*. The prize is meant to encourage beginning academics in the field of French Colonial History and to honour the career of one of French Colonial History's greatest historians. Bill Eccles was an outstanding supporter of graduate students and this prize is meant to continue his work by encouraging those at the beginning of their careers in our field.

#### **Application Procedure**

Graduate student presenters at the meeting in Louisbourg, 13-16 June 2013, should submit an electronic copy of their paper to the editor of *French Colonial History*, Dr. Jeremy Rich at [roiadende@yahoo.fr](mailto:roiadende@yahoo.fr) immediately following the meeting. Session chairs are urged to encourage graduate student members of their panels to submit their papers.

### **2011 W. J. Eccles Prize Winner**

Christine Mussard, Université de Provence, "Une décolonisation par défaut : les mouvements migratoires des colons de l'Algérie vers la Tunisie – cas de Lacroix, centre de colonisation de la commune mixte de La Calle (1920 - 1950)."

## William Shorrock Travel Award

The William Shorrock Travel Award is presented annually to help defray travel costs for graduate students presenting papers at the French Colonial Historical Society's annual meeting. In addition to being a long time member and past President of the society, Bill Shorrock was a passionate supporter of graduate students. This award honors his memory and continues his work as a mentor by providing travel assistance to those just beginning their careers in the field of French colonial history.

### Application Procedures

When submitting their completed paper or panel proposals for the annual meeting, graduate students wishing to be considered for the Shorrock Travel Award must also furnish the program committee with an estimated budget of travel expenses (including other anticipated sources of funding) and a brief statement formally applying for the award. Please note that all participants in the annual meeting must be members in good standing of the Society.

### 2011 Shorrock Travel Award Winners

Claire Edington, Columbia University and Michelle Pinto, New York University

### Colleagues at Work

Alyssa Sepinwall has just published *Haitian History: New Perspectives* with Routledge in their *Rewriting Histories* series.

Michael G. Vann, past president of the Society, gave an interview on his research in Vietnam:

<http://7thavenueproject.com/post/31761023474/mike-vann-colonialism>

J. B. Johnston's first novel, *Thomas, A Secret Life*, has just been published by the Cape Breton University Press. Set entirely in 18th-c France, it follows the imagined early life of Thomas Pichon.

## Notices

**\*INAUGURAL PRIZES\*** The Forum on European Expansion and Global Interaction is pleased to announce inaugural prizes to promote research and to recognize exceptional scholarship on the subject of global interactions from the fourteenth through the nineteenth centuries. FEEGI is a membership organization that fosters scholarly inquiry into the world-wide consequences of maritime and overland expansion in a period of significant transformation. FEEGI encourage scholarship and collaboration across the boundaries of national histories and disciplinary frameworks.

FEEGI prizes recognize both exemplary and path-breaking work in the area of cross-cultural or trans-regional investigations of the early-modern past, broadly construed. Only members of FEEGI are eligible for these prizes. To join FEEGI, go to <http://feegi.org/membership.htm>

**\*Research Travel Award\***

Recognizing the significant material and financial challenges inherent in multi-sited studies, FEEGI will award an annual research grant of \$1000 to support travel to archival or other field sites. This award is open to all FEEGI members but is intended especially for graduate students, independent scholars, and scholars at the beginning of their careers.

To apply for the 2013 research grant please submit the following materials by February 1, 2013:

- 1) A short cv
- 2) A 500-750 word page project description. Your proposal should include a justification of the importance of the project, a plan of work with a timetable for research and a plan of work, including a timetable, nature of research to be conducted, and mention of venues to be visited. Applicants should also explain the intended results of the research
- 3) A budget which includes an explanation of how you will spend the grant funds.

Materials should be gathered into a single file and sent electronically to:

David Hancock, University of Michigan (Chair) ([hancockd@umich.edu](mailto:hancockd@umich.edu)) Marjoleine Kars, University of Maryland, Baltimore County ([kars@umbc.edu](mailto:kars@umbc.edu)) Carla Rahn Phillips, University of Minnesota ([phill002@umn.edu](mailto:phill002@umn.edu))

Please arrange to have one letter of recommendation (signed and on institutional letterhead) emailed separately to David Hancock ( [hancockd@umich.edu](mailto:hancockd@umich.edu)).

The award will be announced by late March.

## Call for Papers

For information on the annual meeting of the Society, please see:

<http://www.frenchcolonial.org/Louisbourg%202013%20Conference/Louisbourg%20CFP.htm>

Proposal deadline is 15 October, 2012

**FCHS Business Meeting Minutes**  
**New Orleans, LA**  
**June 2, 2012**

As forty five members in good standing attended, we reached a quorum.

**I. New Orleans Meeting**

Ruth Ginio (FCHS President) formally thanked Ginger Gould and the other members of the local arrangements committee (Randy Sparks, Greg Lambousy, and Jim Mokhiber) for all their work and congratulated them on hosting such a successful meeting. Thanks were also extended to all members of the program committee: Nathalie Dessens, Caroline Herbelin, Jeremy Rich and Ginger Gould.

Ginger Gould thanked our many sponsors, including Tulane University's New Orleans Gulf South Center and its French and Italian department, its history department, and its Latin American Studies Department. Other sponsors included the University of New Orleans which donated funding and audiovisual equipment, Louisiana State University, the Historic New Orleans Collection for lending us their staff and facility for our keynote session, the University of Southern Mississippi, and Loyola University. Special thanks were also extended to Larry Powell for his keynote talk; Jim Mokhiber and his graduate student Maher Judeh for their technical assistance with the A/V equipment; Jean Claude Brunet, the French Consul General, for donating the wine for our reception; Randy Sparks for his work on getting the program printed; Greg Lambusy for organizing all tours and getting permission to hold one of our receptions in the Cabildo; Charles Nolan and Emily Clark for their lecture and tours of the Ursuline Convent.

**II. Bylaws**

Ken Orosz (FCHS Vice President) reviewed the proposed changes in the bylaws listed in the last issue of the newsletter. Said changes were necessitated to remove internal inconsistencies created by previous changes to the bylaws, reflect our current state registration status, and take into account our current membership size. Copies of the proposed changes (listed below) were distributed to those in attendance. Ken Orosz moved that they be accepted. Mike Vann seconded the motion. There was a unanimous vote to approve the changes with no abstentions.

<b>Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws</b>
I:3 (a) Members in good standing shall have the right to attend all meetings of the Society and shall be eligible to hold office and to vote in the Society's meetings and in its elections by <b>electronic mail ballot</b> . Membership includes one copy of

the published *French Colonial History* for the year of paid membership, and one copy of each issue of the *Newsletter* during the same year.

(b) Membership in good standing is defined as paid membership certified by the Treasurer. In order to participate in elections, good standing must be established at least thirty days before the **election mailing notification of ballots**. In order to

participate in and vote at the annual business meeting, good standing must be established prior to the opening of the meeting. II:1 The Executive Committee of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, and a ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer**.

II:2 The President, Vice-President, and ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer** shall be elected for terms of two years each, beginning on July 1. The President and Vice-President normally will not be eligible for re-election to the particular office they then hold, but the ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer** will be eligible for re-election.

II:4 The Vice-President shall be responsible **for keeping the minutes of the Executive Committee and annual business meeting; for the general correspondence of the Society; and** for organizing all elections within the Society, including preparing the list of candidates and informing the membership of the voting procedures and deadlines. The Vice-President will assist with other business of the Society that may be delegated by the President and Executive Committee.

II:5 The ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer** shall be responsible for collecting the annual dues and other receipts; for making authorized disbursements; for maintaining up-to-date membership lists; **and** for providing mailing lists for ~~the Proceedings~~ ***French Colonial History***, mail ballots and the *Newsletter*; ~~for keeping the minutes of the Executive Committee and annual business meeting; and for the general correspondence of the Society.~~ The ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer** will present a financial report to the annual meeting, and will file this report together with **any necessary paperwork with the relevant state and federal authorities** ~~the Indiana Annual Report of Nonprofit Corporation with the Secretary of State of Indiana.~~

II:6 The editor of the ~~Proceedings~~ ***French Colonial History*** and any other non-elective officers shall be appointed by the Executive Committee normally for two-year terms, with eligibility for re-appointment.

II:7 In the event of the resignation, death or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall succeed to the presidency until the end of the biennial term. The vacant office of

Vice-President will, if more than twelve months remain in the term, be filled through a ~~mail~~ **an electronic** ballot or, if practical, with the approval of a majority of members present at the annual business meeting.

II:8 (a) Biennial elections and interim by-elections, subject to Article II:7, shall be held by ~~mail~~ **electronic** ballot. The candidate for each office who receives the largest number of votes cast shall be elected.

(b) The Vice-President will chair a Nominating Committee to solicit, propose and receive nominations. A call for nominations will be made in timely manner in the Newsletter. Candidates and instructions for electronic balloting will be announced in the ~~April~~ **January** newsletter, with the deadline for cast ballots to be received not later than ten days before the annual business meeting.

III:5 The agenda of the annual business meeting shall be set by the President and approved by the Executive Committee, and will include in any case reports by the President for the Executive Committee, by the ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Treasurer**, by the editor of the ~~Proceedings~~ **French Colonial History**, and by committee chairpersons as required. Decisions of the annual business meeting will be carried by a majority vote of members present. The quorum, except in the case of IV:4, is 25 members.

IV:4 Approval of amendments requires a majority vote of members. The quorum required for ~~constitutional~~ amendments **to the bylaws** is ~~40~~ **30** members. Failing a quorum, proposed amendments may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be submitted to the membership via electronic balloting for approval or rejection.

### **III. Financial Report**

Jennifer Palmer (FCHS Treasurer) reported that our membership numbers have dipped since 2008 but we are holding steady at 125 members. Our non-profit status has been approved by the US federal and the Illinois state governments. Donations are therefore tax deductible. She reports that our prize funds are healthy and announced that the Boucher and Shorrock prizes are being awarded for the first time this year adding an appeal for continued donations since neither fund is self sustaining.

### **IV. French Colonial History Report**

Nathalie Dessens reports that she is handing over the editorship to Jeremy Rich after three years. Nathalie thanked all the authors for not complaining about the editorial process or its pace and also thanked the reviewers for all they have done. Finally she thanked Margot Gilhorn and the journal division of Michigan State University Press. Nathalie also reported that volume 14 is on its way and that we have enough submissions that some will have to wait for subsequent issues to appear. Jeremy Rich will take over with volume 14.

## V Prizes and Awards

Eccles: Nathalie announced that Christine Mussard of the Université de Provence was this year's winner of the Eccles Prize. Her article "Une décolonisation par défaut : les mouvements migratoires des colons de l'Algérie vers la Tunisie – cas de Lacroix, centre de colonisation de la commune mixte de La Calle (1920 - 1950)" shows how the first settlers sold or rented land to Algerians because they were more interested in Tunisia and linked it to decolonization and local politics.

Shorrock: Nathalie also announced that because the program committee received two exceptional applications for the first Shorrock Award they decided to split it between Michelle Pinto and Claire Edington.

Boucher Prize: Ruth Gino thanked the book prize committee members (Todd Shepard, Alice Conklin, and Dale Miquelon) and announced that the inaugural Boucher prize for the best book in French Colonial history to 1848 has been awarded to Jennifer Sessions for her book *By Sword and Plow: France and the Conquest of Algeria* (Cornell University Press).

Heggoy Prize: Ruth also announced that the Heggoy prize for the best book in French colonial history from 1848 to the present has been awarded to Daniel J. Sherman for his book entitled *French Primitivism and the Ends of Empire, 1945-1975* (University of Chicago Press).

## VI. Online Presence

The society has hired a web designer to update the website so as to make it more functional and user friendly. We hope to have the new and improved [www.frenchcolonial.org](http://www.frenchcolonial.org) up and running by the end of the summer. Ruth also announced the need for additional moderators for H-FrenchColonial. Any one interested in serving as moderator or with ideas for new activity is encouraged to contact Jeremy Rich.

## VII Future Conferences

### A. Louisbourg 2013

Anne Marie Jonah explained that we are trying to hold the entire event, including accommodations, in Louisbourg to alleviate the need for daily ground transportation to Sidney. A call for papers and logistical information will be posted on the website as they become available. Discounted airfare from Toronto to Sidney (10% off) has been negotiated with Westjet; if 50 people sign up for the reduced rate, the airline will donate one free ticket to anywhere in Canada which the society can raffle off. Anne Marie anticipates having lots of student help with the conference. She will also try to give participants the chance to use bikes and go sea kayaking.

### B. Siem Reap, Cambodia 2014

Ruth Gino announced that our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting will take place in Siem Reap, Cambodia. She explained that we are still working on some logistical issues and that we

have contingency plans well in hand should we need to relocate the meeting site. In any case, the Executive will keep members in the loop as events unfold.

### **C. Binghamton, NY 2015**

Ruth announced that our 2015 meeting will take place in Binghamton, New York. In addition to hosting the *Journal of Women's History*, Binghamton University also is home to the little known Haggerty Collection which consists of the bulk of the library collection of the Union Coloniale Française.

### **C. 2016 and Beyond**

The Executive has received but not yet had a chance to examine a proposal to hold the 2016 meeting in Natchez, MS. Ruth asked for more proposals for the coming years, especially from members in big cities in the US, Canada, France and the Caribbean likely to attract larger audiences.

## **VIII. New Officers**

Ruth announced the results of our recent election. Ken Orosz is the society's new President. Nathalie Dessens is the new Vice President. Jennifer Palmer continues as Treasurer. Appointed positions include Judy DeGroat as Newsletter editor and Jeremy Rich as the new editor of *French Colonial History*.

## **IX. Closing Remarks**

Ruth thanked Sue Peabody, Mike Vann, Ken Orosz, Nathalie Dessens, Liz Foster, Jennifer Palmer, and Judy DeGroat for their advice and help during her tenure as president of the society.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Orosz

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

**Membership Dues** (Membership Year: January 1-December 31)

*FCHS accepts credit card payments via PayPal at [www.frenchcolonial.org](http://www.frenchcolonial.org).*

\_\_\_ Regular FCHS membership (\$65 US or Canadian). Regular members receive copies of the Newsletter and the annual issue of our journal *French Colonial History*.

\_\_\_ Student FCHS membership (\$35 US or Canadian). Student members receive copies of the Newsletter and the annual issue of our journal *French Colonial History*.

\_\_\_ Life FCHS membership (\$650 US or Canadian).

\_\_\_ Contribution to the Eccles Memorial Prize Fund.

\_\_\_ Contribution to the Heggoy Memorial Book Prize Fund.

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\_\_\_ Contribution to Shorrock Memorial Travel Fund.

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