2008 ANNUAL MEETING

With special thanks to our hosts, Samford University and the Samford Department of History, we report that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of Historians (AAH) was a success.

Attendees enjoyed strong paper sessions throughout the weekend, a delicious Friday evening reception at Southern Progress Corporation’s headquarters adjacent to the Samford campus, and an opening plenary session that was entertaining and reflective of innovation in the presenters’ collaborative approach to teaching and learning.

Friday night’s reception and plenary session were held at Southern Progress Corporation’s headquarters, home to Time Warner publications such as Southern Living, Cooking Light and Cottage Living magazines, among others.

Keynote speakers for the meeting were scholars Steve Noll (University of Florida) and Dave Tegeder (Santa Fe Community College.) The team shared their popular inter-disciplinary approach to teaching Florida history, Ditch of Dreams: The Cross-Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida’s Future.
The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) will soon host *Face the Future*, a Leadership Summit on Humanities and Technology in the 21st Century. The Summit will take place September 14-15, 2008 at the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover. Registration for the Summit is $50. For more information, contact the AHF offices at (205) 558-3993 or visit the Web site: [www.ahf.net](http://www.ahf.net).

The Alabama Historical Association (AHA) will hold its next Annual Meeting in Tuscaloosa on April 23—25, 2009. Proposals are now being accepted and must include a one-page abstract of a 20-minute presentation on an Alabama history topic, plus a CV or resume that includes author's e-mail address, telephone number, postal address, and academic affiliation (if any). Electronic submissions are preferred. Presenters will be required to register for the conference and be members of the AHA by the time of the meeting. The committee gives preference to authors who have not presented papers at the annual meeting within the last three years. Send your submissions and questions to the program committee chair: Dr. Lonnie A. Burnett, University of Mobile, 5735 College Parkway, Mobile, AL 36613, lburnett@mail.umobile.edu. Proposals will be accepted until October 1, 2008. For more on the AHA, go to this site: [http://www.archives.state.al.us/aha/aha.html](http://www.archives.state.al.us/aha/aha.html)

### Alabama Historical Commission (AHC)

The AHC welcomed Frank W. White as its new executive director on January 2. White previously served as the endangered properties revolving fund director at the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. In his 11 years at the Georgia Trust, White built the revolving fund into a self-sustaining program. As program director he provided alternatives to demolition and neglect of architecturally or historically significant sites by promoting their rehabilitation. White received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Auburn University and completed the Advanced Management Development Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. His other past work experience includes John Portman & Associates Inc. where he coordinated architecture and construction for the 1.5 million-square-foot Brussels International Trade Mart in Brussels, Belgium. White also served as the architect’s on-site representative for 3D/International during construction of the Hyatt Hotel in Karachi, Pakistan.

### Birmingham Civil Rights Institute (BCRI)

The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute hosted a successful two-day conference, *A Single Struggle?: The Global Convergence of Civil and Human Rights* on May 1—2, 2008. Scholars representing twenty different institutions made presentations on a variety of topics related to civil and human rights in the United States and abroad, connecting global struggles to local Civil Rights Movement struggles, both historic and contemporary. In addition, keynote addresses by Dr. Lewis Baldwin of Vanderbilt University and Douglas Shipman of the Center for Civil and Human Rights Partnership in Atlanta underscored the questions and theme of the conference. Baldwin offered a history of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s deep involvement in anti-apartheid activities in South Africa at the time of the Birmingham movement of the early 1960s, while Shipman offered a look at the plans of the Center, currently under development as a museum and research institution. To view a Web cast of the conference, go to [http://www.MyFoxAL.com](http://www.MyFoxAL.com).
Jacksonville State University

Llew Cook presented a paper at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, which JSU cosponsored with the University of Alabama at Huntsville. Jason Gurner has been accepted for graduate study at the University of Edinburgh. Jennifer Gross published an essay in Women on Their Own: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Being Single (Rutgers University Press). She has been invited to write an essay for a book on Georgia and the Civil War to be published by the University of Georgia Press. Harvey H. Jackson continues to serve on the editorial board of The Anniston Star. He is also a regular contributor to the magazine Longleaf Style. Since January he has presented a paper at “Cultural Crossroads: A New Country” sponsored by the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, and he has spoken at Comer Memorial Library in Sylacauga, at a staff meeting of the Wildlife Section of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and at a meeting of the Cheaha Chapter of the Alabama Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Phillip Koerper also spoke this winter to the Comer Memorial Library and to the JSU History Club, and he was appointed by the Calhoun County Commission to serve on the Janney Furnace Restoration Committee. George M. Lauderbaugh completed his second year as president of the Alabama Historical Association and presided at the annual meeting. He has signed a contract with Greenwood Press to write The History of Ecuador. Russel Lemmons presented a paper at the European Social Science History Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, in February and recently received word that he has been selected to attend the Brandeis University Summer Institute for Israel Studies, which will include a trip to Israel, paid for by the Institute. Tamara Levi spoke to the JSU History Club on “Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee” and to the JSU Archeology Club on the “Sand Creek Massacre of 1864.” Donald Prudlo recently published a book, The Martyred Inquisitor: The Life and Cult of Peter of Verona (d. 1252) (Aldershot: Ashgate Press) as well as an article in Catholic Historical Review. He presented a paper at the Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, and organized a panel for the Alabama Association of Historians meeting. He was conference director for “Liberty, Community, and Prosperity in the Medieval City.” And he has written a book review for The Medieval Review.

Auburn University

Greg Markley will complete his six-month archives internship at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta in late July. Greg expects to graduate from Auburn in August with a Masters degree in History with an Archives Concentration. While at the Carter Library, he did everything from transcribe oral histories of Cabinet members to describe and process official papers from the Carter administration (1977-1981). He sought the internship because he has a bachelor's in political science and a background as a political reporter. Also, he was glad to obtain experience at a National Archives facility.

The University of South Alabama

The University of South Alabama (USA) has hired Mollie Lewis, who is receiving her Ph.D. from Emory University, to fill its position in Latin American history. Lewis is a specialist in the recent history of Argentina and will join USA in August. Richmond Brown previously taught Latin American history at USA before leaving to become associate director of the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida.
AAH President George Lauderbaugh called the meeting to order at 12:53 in Robinson Hall at Samford University.

Minutes from the February 3, 2007 business meeting and the Treasurer’s Report were approved. Jim Day noted that interim treasurer’s report did not reflect any transactions relating to the annual conference, however approximately $3200 in membership dues and conference fees have been deposited. Day also reminded the membership that annual membership dues are tax-deductible due to the organization’s tax-exempt status.

Lauderbaugh praised the efforts of the following—
- Samford Team: John Mayfield, Jason Wallace, Barry Robinson
- AAH Officers, particularly Jim Day and Amanda Fox, recipients of the Executive Service Award
- Larry McQuiston: Incoming President
- Marty Olliff: Eight years on AAH Executive Council
- Departing members of the Executive Council: Sam Covington, Mary Hubbard, and Gwen Patton
- George Jennings: Former newsletter editor

Lauderbaugh also noted that the organization continues to grow and that this year’s conference represented a considerable improvement due to the quantity and quality of presentations and programs. He encouraged members to continue to spread the word among their colleagues.

Lauderbaugh presented the following slate of nominees—
- President: Larry McQuiston (2008-2010)
- Vice-President/President-Elect: Paul Beezley (2008-2010)
- K-12 Rep.: Sam Booker (2008-2010)

The slate was approved by unanimous vote.

Lauderbaugh announced that AAH would again award complimentary memberships to students presenting in today’s Phi Alpha Theta conference. He then relinquished the floor to incoming President Larry McQuiston.

McQuiston expressed appreciation to Lauderbaugh for his two years of service, and John Mayfield thanked Steve Noll and Dave Tegeder for their keynote address and workshop.

The meeting adjourned at 1:13.
Dear Colleagues:

I would like to thank again the fine people that helped to make our 2008 meeting in Birmingham a great success.

Special recognition goes to John Mayfield, Jason Wallace, Barry Robinson, and other members of the Samford University History Department who were wonderful meeting hosts. The facilities were perfect and the program was one of the best we have had in recent years. I also want to express appreciation to our following executive council members for their invaluable service during their terms of office: George Lauderbaugh, Marty Olliff, Sam Covington, Mary Hubbard, Gwen Patton, and George Jennings. We also welcome new executive council members: Paul Beezley, Jim Baggett, Bob England, and Sam Booker.

Plans are already underway for our February 6-7, 2009 meeting at the University of West Alabama. The executive council recently traveled to Livingston to meet with Jeff Gentsch and other UWA staff. We were very impressed that UWA President Dr. Richard Holland took the time to show us the wonderful meeting facilities that are available for our use during the upcoming meeting. Some tentative plans for the 2009 gathering include: a keynote session on Alabama history, joint sessions with Phi Alpha Theta state chapters, a field trip to Fort Tom Bicbee (Tombigee for most of us), a Black Belt Museum display, book display booths by The University of Alabama and Livingston Presses, paper presentations, and workshops on topics including the teaching of history. More details are forthcoming in future issues of this newsletter.

At our spring meeting, the executive council also discussed plans to maintain and increase membership and to develop an outreach program to K-12 history teachers in the state. As always, I welcome your ideas and thoughts to make our organization even better at promoting history at the K-12, collegiate, private, and public levels.

With kindest regards I am,
Larry D. McQuiston
Educational Testing Service (ETS) is developing a new Praxis SeriesTM licensure assessment for entry-level World & US History teachers. A licensure assessment is intended to provide information regarding the knowledge and skills that are important for entry-level teachers to engage in independent practice.

The assessment development process involves two major phases: construct definition and test design. In order to complete these two phases, we recruit a National Advisory Committee (NAC) of teachers and teacher-educators to provide their professional judgment regarding which knowledge and/or skills are important for safe and effective entry-level practice (construct definition phase), and how that content should be measured (test design phase). Committee selections will be made so that multiple professional perspectives are represented.

During the first meeting, NAC members will work collaboratively to determine which knowledge and skills are important for safe and effective entry-level practice.

Subject: World & US History
Dates: July 11-13, 2008
Times: 9:00 am - 5:00 July 11 & 12
         9:00 am - 1:00 July 13
Place: Princeton, NJ
Honorarium: $250/day & $125 ½ day
Travel: All expenses paid by ETS
Certificate: 20 Professional Development hours
Reimbursement for Substitutes: Upon request.

The goal of the second meeting is to develop test content specifications for the new licensure assessment. Additional responsibilities may include pre- and post-meeting web-based assignments. This meeting will be held in early 2008 on mutually-agreed upon dates.

To apply, go to: http://www.ets.org/praxiscomm.html
When applying, be sure to select the National Advisory Committee button and NOT the Standing Committee button.

Please submit items for
Historic News
(including images if you have them!)
to Newsletter Editor Laura Anderson
any time you’d like.
Email address: landerson@bcri.org.

THANK YOU!