

**Electronic News Update from the  
Michigan Council for History Education,  
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Happy New Year!

Best wishes to you as we begin 2009. I hope you continue to find information of value to you in MCHE E Notes. As always, new items and suggestions are appreciated. I had other items to include, but ran out of time and know you will 'appreciate' fewer items for this month. More in February issue.

Dr. Jim McConnell (jam1776@sbcglobal.net)  
Editor, MCHE E Notes

NOTE: The pdf attachment contains the same content as the message below. It is sent for those of you whose machines mess up the text of the E Notes. I hope this is helpful.

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**1. Jan. 6 & Jan. 20 key dates in Obama Election**

Be certain to watch the official count of the Electoral College ballots on C-Span (Check both 1 & 2 for specific time/channel) on Tuesday, Jan. 6th. The ceremony is presided over by Vice President Dick Cheney (still hiding in an undisclosed location). Tape it to share with your students.

Then, On Tuesday, Jan. 20th, President Elect Obama will take the oath of office and watch the Wyandotte Roosevelt High School Band march down Pennsylvania Avenue, the only Michigan band in the parade (and the alma mater for both Annette and me, from a few years ago).

U.S. law dictates that the electors in each state meet on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December after an election. The results are then sent to the office of the vice president and the National Archives. Congress will meet in joint session Jan. 6 to count the electoral votes. Vice President Dick Cheney, as president of the U.S. Senate, will announce the result and declare the winners. Obama is expected to receive more than the required 270 electoral votes. For a thorough review of the Electoral College system, visit [www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/)

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## 2. Question of the Month:

What is the complete title of David Hackett Fischer's newest book (200) I loved Albion's Seed, Paul Revere's Ride, and Washington's Crossing and am now reading this new book. Prize to first correct answer emailed to jam1776@sbcglobal.net

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## 3. Library of Congress "American Memory" U.S. History Lessons Now Available

The MCHE/Wayne RESA Summer 2008 workshop participants created 18 outstanding lessons using the primary sources from the Library of Congress website. Start the New Year using creative ideas for elementary, middle and high school U.S. History courses. Our thanks to Swartz Creek educator J'aime Holderbaum for creating this site. Visit <http://educationextras.com/LibraryofCongressLessons.html>

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## 4. MEET MICHIGAN now available for new 3rd Grade Michigan Studies

Hillsdale Educational Publishers new 3rd grade Michigan studies textbook is off the press. The title is MEET MICHIGAN and the school price is \$39.95, They will soon have a teachers edition and assessments to accompany it. It entirely focuses on the social studies GLCEs. the reading level is 3.48 and I commend the author for his hard work to help meet the need for appropriate new Michigan materials. For more info, visit [www.hillsdalepublishers.com](http://www.hillsdalepublishers.com) or contact Dave McConnell Hillsdale Educational Publishers, 39 North street, hillsdale MI 49242 or call 517-437-3179. (Although David and I are not related although I have been known to introduce him as my father)

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## 5. Check out the blog, "Michigan and the Civil War"

Jack Dempsey, a member of the Michigan Historical Commission, has created a blog filled with interesting items. Check it out at <http://micwc.typepad.com/blog/>

Jack is heading up Michigan planning for the observance of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. More about that in future issues of MCHE E Notes, the source of all things historical.

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## 6. Michigan Geography & History Workshops

June 15-19, Ingham ISD, Mason OR June 22-26, Kent ISD, Grand Rapids; **COST:** FREE to 6-12 teachers in Grand Rapids or Lansing Public Schools; \$100 for other teachers Participants will receive resources, e.g., maps, timelines, reference materials, CDs, etc. SB-CEUs are available. Central Michigan University is offering these workshops for Graduate Credit (2). For more info, email Marty Mater at [mater1ml@cmich.edu](mailto:mater1ml@cmich.edu)

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## 7. MGA Basic Summer Geography Institute

Michigan Geographic Alliance will be offering a Basic Summer Geography Institute at Central Michigan University from July 6 through July 17, 2009. Graduates of Basic Summer Alliance Institutes become teacher consultants and are supported by MGA to provide professional development workshops for Michigan teachers. There is no charge for this residential institute, and most expenses are covered (housing, most meals). There will be a small honorarium for completing the two-week institute. For more info, email Marty Mater at [mater1ml@cmich.edu](mailto:mater1ml@cmich.edu)

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## 8. Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World

This new book by [Ken Beller](#) & [Heather Chase](#) is a great collection of biographies of world famous leaders, highly recommended for middle and high school students. The World History GLCE/HSCE are well served by students learning about the personalities in this award-winning collection of biographies. *Great Peacemakers* tells the inspiring true life stories of twenty great peacemakers from around the world and offers insights for creating peace in your own life. "We must be the change we wish to see in the world." —Mahatma Gandhi  
For more info and ordering details, visit [www.greatpeacemakers.com/](http://www.greatpeacemakers.com/)

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## 9. December Quiz Answers:

(For Dec. 15-Bill of Rights Day- I asked how many amendments were proposed by Congress: Correct answers came

from several, with info below.)

On September 25, 1789, the First Federal Congress of the United States proposed to the state legislatures **twelve amendments** to the Constitution. Frank Hamet Fourth grade, Bates Elementary, Woodhaven-Brownstown School District

Hello! To answer your quiz, there were originally twelve amendments proposed for ratification... although the first two ( concerning the number of constituents for each Representative and the compensation of Congressmen) were not ratified. However, the compensation of Congressmen was finally ratified in 1992 (the 27th amendment).

"Julie Harner"

Correct answers also came swiftly from Wendy Miller, Comstock Schools & Wendy Greve , Lansing.

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### **10. Best-selling author Phillips visits Grand Rapids to discuss Abraham Lincoln's diverse leadership**

Barack Obama has been compared to Abraham Lincoln; some say much of Obama's political philosophy is influenced by the wisdom of Lincoln. Even before Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office in 1861, seven states seceded from the Union. After the inauguration, four additional states seceded, taking all federal agencies, forts, and arsenals within their territory. To make matters worse, Lincoln, who was elected by a mere plurality of the popular vote, was viewed by his own advisers as nothing more than a gawky, second-rate country lawyer with no leadership experience. Grand Valley State University President Thomas J. Haas and the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will host Donald T. Phillips, author of 20 books, including *Lincoln On Leadership: Executive Strategies for Tough Times*. The event, *Lincoln on Leadership: Contemporary Lessons from a Legendary Leader*, will be held Thursday, January 29, at 7 p.m., at the Gerald R. Ford Museum Auditorium in downtown Grand Rapids. The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. For more info or to RSVP, visit [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org)

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### **11. "Stealing Lincoln's Body"**

What a great book (Thomas J. Craughwell, 2007) to read while the rest of you are researching scholarly tome on the meaning of Lincoln's leadership! A Christmas gift, the book tells a fascinating story in a lively style. and it even includes such important trivia as the name of the last living person to view Lincoln's face. (The person died in 1963, with the full story of this incident available at <http://home.att.net/~rjnorton/Lincoln13.html> or google "Who was last person to view face of Abraham Lincoln?")

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### **12. Provisions Related to Filling a Vacancy in the Office of Lieutenant Governor**

The 1963 Michigan Constitution makes clear the line of succession to the office of the governor when a vacancy occurs. Under Article V, Section 26, the first person to fill a gubernatorial vacancy is the constitutionally-established lieutenant governor. However, the Constitution is silent with respect to filling a void in the office of lieutenant governor. The lack of specific constitutional provisions for filling a vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor was a change from the prior 1908 Constitution.

To read the full article, visit <http://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2000s/2008/note200804.html>

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### **13. 21st Century Partnership Skills & GLCEs/HSCEs**

A document that is getting some "air play" in my region is the framework of the "Partnership for 21st Century Skills" located at <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/> There is a skills map for social studies at [www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/ss\\_map\\_11\\_12\\_08.pdf](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/ss_map_11_12_08.pdf) What is the relationship between this work and the 21st Century Skills identified in our social studies GLCE/HSCEs documents (p.5 GLCE; p.9 HSCE)?

*from Stan Masters*, Coordinator - Instructional Data Services. Lenawee ISD, Adrian

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### **14. Welcome to Education Extras!! <http://educationextras.com>**

This webpage contains teaching ideas for teachers including: Technology in the Classroom; Free Printables; PowerPoint Presentations, Lesson Plans; and More.

I currently teach: Third Grade at Elms Road Elementary in [Swartz Creek Community Schools](#) and am currently taking classes at Michigan State University in the Master of Educational Technology Program

"As an example, the Social Studies page features a United States Regions activity:

Take Your Students on a Train Tour of the USA Regions, Including the Northeast, South, West, and Midwest . A printable notebook is included to have students record information and create a scrapbook about each stop along the way. (J'aime was very helpful in creating the Library of Congress webpage that features many United states history lessons and is available through her website.

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**15. Celebrate 50 years of the Motown Sound on Monday, Jan. 12th**

Borrowing \$800 from his family savings club, Berry Gordy, jr., founded Tamla Record Company in Detroit. Amazingly, the their first national release was "Money (That's What I Want)." Did they know something? \ In 1960, the name was changed to Motown Record Corporation.

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**16. February 12, 2009 marks the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.**

Join C-SPAN at 8 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month for special programming about President Abraham Lincoln. Programming begins on Sat.,Jan. 3.

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**17. River Raisin Battlefield Annual Commemoration Ceremony, Sat., Jan. 24**

This event is held at the River Raisin Battlefield Visitor Center, Monroe, on the Saturday in January that is closest to the date of the Battle. The noon memorial includes Raising of the Flag, Reading the Names of the Fallen, Laying the Wreath and Firing a Salute. A speaker is scheduled for the afternoon. For more info, call (734) 243-7136 or (734) 240-7780.

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**18. Granholm Announces Retirement of HAL Director Bill Anderson, Extends Appreciation for his Outstanding Leadership**

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm announced that Dr. Bill Anderson will retire as director of the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) at the end of the year. Anderson has served as director of the department since it was established in August 2001. "Bill Anderson is an outstanding public servant who has been tireless in his support of the state of Michigan and our history," Granholm said. "His tenure has spanned two administrations during which he has been a champion for history, the arts and our libraries. He has been a great advisor, and I wish him only the best." "This has been a tremendous experience and privilege to serve as founding director of the Department of History, Art and Libraries and as a member of Governor Granholm's Cabinet," Anderson said. Prior to joining HAL, Anderson served as community college president of Carl Sandberg College in Illinois and West Shore Community College in Michigan. Current HAL Deputy Director Mark H. Hoffman will serve as interim director of the department. Hoffman has been deputy since the department was formed in 2001. Prior to that, Mr. Hoffman worked for the Bureau of State Lottery and the Michigan House of Representatives.

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**19. Michigan Statehood Day, Sat. Jan. 24, Michigan Historical Center, Lansing**

Statehood Day honors the 172nd birthday of the Great Lakes State. On January 26, 1837, Michigan joined the Union as the nation's 26th state. Tour the museum galleries to learn more about Michigan, its citizens and their accomplishments. You will enjoy presenters, costumed interpreters, musical performances and hands-on activities highlighting Michigan milestones. For details, visit [www.michigan.gov/hal](http://www.michigan.gov/hal)

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**20. Tour the historic Smiley-Hecker 19th Century Detroit mansion**

Sat., Jan. 10, 11 am. Visit this beautiful mansion designed by Louis Kamper and completed in 1892. Once an extravagant home, later a piano store, and now the Law Offices of Charfoos and Christensen, this is a tour you won't want to miss. Includes light refreshments. Admission is \$20 for Detroit Historical Society members; \$30 for nonmembers. (Annette and I are looking forward to this home tour.) For more info, see: [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org)

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**21. DIA offers Educator Workshop on Diego Rivera's Detroit Industry and Art of the Spanish-Speaking World, Sat., Feb. 28, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**

Learn about the new Art of the Spanish-Speaking World tour and classroom talk, based on the DIA's rich collection from diverse cultures •Tour Diego Rivera's murals with Nancy Jones, DIA director of education •Supports Social Studies, Visual Arts, and World Languages Standards and More! Recommended for Spanish, social studies, and art teachers Registration details available at: [www.dia.org/education/classes/item.asp?webitemid=1639](http://www.dia.org/education/classes/item.asp?webitemid=1639)

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**22. African History Instruction focus of Proposed Legislation**

House Bill 4902 (Nofs, R-Battle Creek) "encourages" a school district or public school academy that teaches world

history in middle school or high school to focus the content of instruction regarding Africa on at least one or more of the following kingdoms: Ghana, Mali, Songhay, Benin, Bornu, Nubia, Axum, Meroe, Monomotapa, medieval Ethiopia, or on the Swahili coast prior to 1750. The bill states, "This section is not intended to prohibit or limit teaching about other areas of African history." House Bill 4902 has passed the House and Senate and has been presented to the Governor for her signature. from December 2008 AFT Michigan Capitol Report  
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### **23. Calendar of Upcoming Events**

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#### **With Liberty and Justice For All Annual Public Symposium**

Monday, January 19, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 8.30 am – 1.00 pm, Anderson Theater in Henry Ford Museum; All activities are free of charge; Dorothy Ebersole, Curator of Education, The Henry Ford. Details and registration at [www.TheHenryFord.org](http://www.TheHenryFord.org)

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#### **2009 MCSS State Conference**

Mon.-Wed., Feb. 9-11. Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids; Info from. Erecenia Friday, Business Manager, [efriday@ucia2.com](mailto:efriday@ucia2.com) or (734) 975-2811 Details at [www.mcssmi.org](http://www.mcssmi.org)

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#### **Lincoln vs. Douglas: Sesquicentennial Debate by Jim Getty and Tim Connors**

Thurs., Feb. 12, 7:00 PM - Gerald R. Ford Museum Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Celebrate the Abraham Lincoln bicentennial and the Lincoln-Douglas sesquicentennial! Details and RSVP at [www.allpresidents.org](http://www.allpresidents.org)

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#### **Mulling Over Michigan**

Tues., Feb. 24, Lansing Community College West Campus, 3:00pm-6:30pm. After school conference will feature sessions and exhibitors focusing on teaching Michigan history, Info: [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org)

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#### **\*\*\*\*\*National Council for History Education 2009 Conference\*\*\*\*\***

Thurs.-Sat., March 12-14, 2009, Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, MA Theme-Revolutions in History Featuring David McCullough Visit [www.nche.net/conference](http://www.nche.net/conference) for more details.

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#### **Michigan in Perspective: 51st Annual Local History Conference**

Fri.-Sat., April 17-18, 2009, McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University in Detroit. Program details and registration materials will be available at [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org) by early February '09.

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