

**Electronic News Update from the
Michigan Council for History Education
June 1, 2009, Vol. VI, No. 11**

Dear Colleagues,

I hope the school year is coming to a successful close as you begin to think about summer plans. For example, Memorial Day weekend might be a great time to visit the DIA to see the Norman Rockwell Exhibit before it leaves. And, if the weather holds up, what about a stop at a Michigan Historic Site? And, on Saturday, May 30th, we have a few seats left for the Historical Society of Michigan "Patriots & Presidents" Tour. Details at www.hsmichigan.org

We do encourage you to consider making a presentation at the 16th Annual Conference of the Michigan Council for History education. attached is the two page Presenter Form. For more info, email MCH Executive Director Jim cameron at cameronj@saline.k12.mi.us (FOrms attached to this E Notes.)

Also attached, for those of you who are dues-paying MCH members, of the 2009 Election Ballot. Prepared by MCH Elections Chair Tim Evans, it may be emailed back at tevans@sc4.edu (When I created this email group, I included both members and non-members.)

Dr. Jim McConnell (jam1776@sbcglobal.net)
Editor, MCH 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. Presenters South for Wednesday, Nov. 4th, 16th Annual Conference of the Michigan Council for History education

With Dale Van Eck, an education leader from Colonial Williamsburg as key note speaker, MCHE is seeking proposal for sessions on "Lessons and Assessment: Making the Connection. A presenter proposal form is attached. Please consider making a presentation and be certain to mark your calendar NOW for the Wednesday, November 4th, professional development conference.

2. Still a few seats for PATRIOTS & PRESIDENTS - Historic Sites Tour, Sat., May 30

Join the Historical Society of Michigan and Dr. Jim McConnell for an educational day highlighting historic sites in southern Michigan and northern Ohio. Learn about the "Sixty Years war for the Great Lakes", Presidential site visits, and much trivia. Registration is \$99 for members and \$125 for non-member, including one-year HSM membership. Includes charter bus transportation, buffet lunch, all admissions and full tour narration. Info and registration form at www.hsmichigan.org/workshops.php · Call HSM directly at (517) 342-1828 to register by phone and pay with a credit card.

3. Nominate an Outstanding Michigan History Teacher for Odyssey Award

The Michigan History Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Odyssey Award, given annually to up to three exceptional teachers of Michigan history. Award recipients will receive a \$500 cash prize and an engraved plaque at special recognition ceremonies. Nomination forms are available online at www.michigan.gov/odysseyawards or by calling the foundation office at (517) 373-2565. Deadline is Aug. 3.

4. 2009 Upper Peninsula History Conference in Newberry MI - June 26-28

The Historical Society of Michigan's 60th annual Upper Peninsula History Conference will be held June 26-28 in Newberry, MI . The conference features a pre-conference workshop and tours, Friday evening outdoor BBQ with entertainment, three keynotes, Saturday breakout sessions, the annual Upper Peninsula History Awards, exhibitors, a training track for local museums and historical societies, a closing downtown history tour and more. For complete program info, download a conference flier as a pdf or register securely online please visit us at www.hsmichigan.org .

5. Plan Now for National Geographic Bee

www.nationalgeographic.com/geographybee/ is a competition in geography knowledge held each year for students in grades 4 through 8. Check their website for more info.

6. EXHIBITS WORTH VISITING THIS SUMMER

If you live in the Detroit area, be certain to visit your library for the FREE Museum Passes! Details at <http://www.detroitadventurepass.org/> Also, among the many outstanding exhibits to put on your summer travel tps list are:

(A) Michigan's Roadside Tourist Attractions Featured in Special Exhibit Now Open at Michigan Historical Museum The Michigan Historical Museum invites you to relive your special Michigan travel memories - and learn about some unique tourist spots along roadways you may not have traveled - with a visit to its latest special exhibit, *Michigan's Roadside Attractions*. *Michigan's Roadside Attractions*, set to run through Sept. 14, 2009, features more than 50 roadside attractions that grew up as Michigan expanded its highway system from the 1930s through the 1970s. Many of these attractions still provide fun and excitement for millions of tourists each year. The Michigan Historical Museum is located inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center at 702 West Kalamazoo St., two blocks west of the State Capitol in downtown Lansing. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/museum or call (517) 373-3559, (A visit to the State Capitol for their free one-hour tour is another wonderful experience.

(B) In the Presence of Lincoln, Open through November 4, Plymouth Historical Museum Just in time to celebrate Lincoln's 200th birthday, the Plymouth Historical Museum will be showcasing original furniture from Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois, home in its upcoming exhibit. Along with its own collection, items are on loan from The Henry Ford and the William L. Clements Library in Ann Arbor. The Museum's own voluminous Weldon Petz Lincoln Collection will enhance displays throughout the exhibits, as well as in the permanent Petz Collection area. Museum hours, location, admission and full details at www.plymouthhistory.org.

(C) Hero or Villain? Metro Detroit's Legacy of Leadership, Detroit Historical Museum. This exhibit focuses on the lives of a wide range of community leaders who provoked passionate opinions throughout metro Detroit. The personalities selected in this exhibit represent all periods of Detroit's history and included a cross-section from politics, sports, commerce and religion. (This is truly an outstanding, thought-provoking exhibit. For more info, visit www.detroithistorical.org

7. New Free US Regions Resource Available

The Lenawee ISD is please to announce a new Grade 4 SS Regions resource. <http://www.lisd.us/curriculum/Content/SS/soc.aspx> Maggie Patterson from Nystrom and Stan Masters, the Social Studies Consultant at LISD, have teamed up to provide a free teacher resource on the concept of region, focusing on United States regions. All of the instructional resources needed for classroom use are free and located at the site. As an aside, don't forget to go to Wayne RESA's David Hales' blackboard page for additional social studies resources at socialstudies.resa.net (no www needed.)
from David Hales, Social Studies Consultant, Wayne County RESA

8. The Henry Ford Needs Your Help

At the Henry Ford, we are currently in the process of developing grade specific field trip program options utilizing our resources on the Industrial Revolution. In order to make these programs most effective for teachers, we are interested in determining *when* we should offer them. In order to establish the time window during the school year in which these programs should be offered, we would like to know when you normally teach the Industrial Revolution unit throughout the course of the school year. Please let me know when the Industrial Revolution is generally taught in your class and district. If you would like to share any lesson plans, timelines, student work sheets/project ideas or resources that you currently use, and if you are lacking resources in certain other areas of content, I would appreciate that information as well. You may simply respond via e-mail (christopherh@thehenryford.org), or if you would like to talk to me directly, reach me at (313)982-6100 Ext. 2271. Thank you so much and have a wonderful day! Sincerely,
Christopher Hemler, Simmons Intern, The Henry Ford, America's Greatest History Attraction!
christopherh@thehenryford.org

9. Shoes & dramatic life of Joe VanRooyen in St. Johns

This vivid first-person account in the Netherlands before and during WW II is pretty amazing. I knew him as the shoe-store cobbler in my town who had a foreign accent. They took the journal he made and typed it up for everyone to read online:

<http://miserybay.usanethosting.com/sjindy/journal.pdf>

--Guven Witteveen, The University of Michigan

10. Eastpointe fire chief wins award for Model T restoration

Fire Chief Dan Hagen says he's always had a special place in his heart for the department's 1921 Model T fire truck, "Lizzie." So when he found out he was getting an award from the state for leading the charge to restore the engine to the shape she was in during her glory days, he was surprised. "I was stunned; it was much unexpected," said Hagen, who said he learned he was in line for the prize last week. "I didn't think what I did was that big of a deal." The Michigan Historical Commission will present Hagen with its John Swainson Award in the state Capitol rotunda about 1 p.m. May 19. The commission gives the annual award to state, county or municipal employees who contribute to the preservation of Michigan history.

Hagen is the only recipient of the award this year, said Sandra Clark, director of the Michigan Historical Center and secretary of the Michigan Historical Commission. The body has served as the public arm of state history programs since 1913, and each member is appointed by the governor. The award is named for John B. Swainson, Michigan's 40th governor.

The Model T fire truck was purchased the same year the city established its Fire Department, and retired in 1949, said Hagen, a 30-year veteran of the department. It was likely the first motorized fire truck in Macomb County, he said. Six years ago, the East Detroit Historical Society approached Hagen about launching an effort to restore the truck, and Hagen ran with the idea. "We're so excited about the award," said Sue Young, the historical society's secretary. "It's something to see Danny and all the firefighters with the truck. They turn into little boys when they're driving it and ringing the bell." By May 2008, the truck had been refurbished to pristine condition through more than \$10,000 in donations and the hard work of volunteers. Since then, the truck has been displayed at the 100th anniversary celebration of the Model T, won an award at the Autorama car show and the Thanksgiving Day parade. It also continues to make appearances at the city parades for Memorial Day and the Gratiot Cruise.

from Charles E. Ramirez / The Detroit News

11. Weekly eCalendar of Detroit History and Cultural Traditions Events

Please sign up for this outstanding Detroit are weekly calendar prepared by Kathleen Marcaccio. It is very comprehensive and absolutely FREE. Just email her at dkosh@msn.com, asking to be included in her email group. DO IT NOW! (Don't procrastinate like I do.) She lists more events than I have found anywhere else and features some great ideas. For example, now is the time to visit the Belle Isle Conservatory for an outstanding flower show. (Make a day on Belle Isle and include a visit to the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.)

12. Apply Now for The Henry Ford Teacher Fellow

The Henry Ford is delighted to announce a new Teacher Fellow program that will allow us to work together in partnership, with educators, for the benefit of our students. **Apply now!** Applications must be received by Thursday, May 26, 2009 You (and others!) can find information about our Teacher Fellow program at <http://www.thehenryford.org/education/development.aspx> from *Dorothy Ebersole*, Curator of Education The Henry Ford America's Greatest History Attraction!

13. History Educators Earn Awards, Recognition

E Notes and the printed newsletter of the Michigan Council for history Education, "Ends & Beginnings," (Ask me about the origins of this unique title) often promotes programs that require applications and are competitive. We urge you to consider applying for future awards and programs, including being a presenter at the Wed., Nov. 4, MCHE Conference. (See Item #1 in this issue of E Notes.)

(A) Kelly Awarded James Madison Fellowship

Kelly J. Eddy, a social studies teacher at Winston Churchill High School in Livonia, was awarded a a James Madison Fellowship in its 18th annual fellowship competition. There were 55 awards nationwide. The fellowship covers up to \$24,000 of Eddy's course of study toward a master's degree. Eddy also has been selected to participate in the August 2009 MCHE/Genesee ISD Library of Congress "American memory" Institute.

(B) Tim Evans selected for NEH 2009 Summer Institute for Teachers

Timothy J. Evans, a Marysville Middle School history teacher, has been selected from a national applicant pool to attend one of 31 summer study opportunities supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Tim will participate in an Institute entitled "Maritime America in the Age of Winslow Homer" which will be held at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Co-Directed by Dr. Arlene Black Mollo of UMass Dartmouth and Dr. Mary Mallory of SEA Education Association, Woods Hole, MA. The 25 teachers selected to participate in this program each receive a stipend of \$3,200 to cover their travel, study, and living expenses. Tim serves MCHE as Election Chair and has provided volunteer service to MCHE since its earliest days.

14. Experience "Mysteries of the Deep" at Dossin Great Lakes Museum lecture

Hear stories about the world of Great Lakes shipwrecks during two multi-media presentations at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on beautiful Belle Isle. Expert diver Tony Gramer will feature his award-winning photography and video to present "Straits of Mackinac Shipwrecks" and "Thirty-Six Hours Adrift on Lake Huron : The Loss of the Schooner Corsair" at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. respectively on Saturday, June 6. These two multi-media presentations are held in conjunction with the new exhibit *Committed to the Deep: Exploring Underwater Treasures* at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum . *Committed to the Deep* dives into a subterranean world of shipwreck tragedies and historical discoveries, featuring diving equipment from the past and present. The two presentations are free for Society members. The cost for other visitors is \$5 per lecture or \$8 for both. To make reservations, call (313) 833-1801 or visit www.detroithistorical.org. For more info, call (313) 833-5538 or visit www.detroithistorical.org.
from Bob Sadler, Director of Public & External Relations, Detroit Historical Society

15. *Stealing Buddha's Dinner* selected for Great Michigan Read

The Michigan Humanities Council and Meijer announce the selection of *Stealing Buddha's Dinner* by Grand Rapids native Bich Minh Nguyen (pronounced bit-min-win) for the Council's 2009-2010 *Great Michigan Read*. At the event, an Executive Declaration from Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm was read, proclaiming May 19th as "The Great Michigan Read Day." The public announcement was held at the Meijer store on 5533 28th Street SE in Grand Rapids and broadcast over the Internet (archived at www.michiganhumanities.org).

"The book is a perfect springboard for exploring these issues," said Janice Fedewa, executive director of the Council. "It's a great read featuring an honest, youthful voice."

Stealing Buddha's Dinner is a memoir chronicling author Bich Minh Nguyen's migration from Vietnam in 1975 and her coming of age in Grand Rapids, Michigan in the 1980s. Along the way, she struggles to construct her own cultural identity from a menagerie of uniquely American influences. The book is appropriate for adult and high school readers. For more info, visit www.michiganhumanities.org

16. June Trivia Question

Win a valued PRIZE! Be the first to answer this month's Trivia Question. Email answer to jam1776@sbcglobal.net Who is the Key note speaker at MCHÉ's 16th Annual Conference, wed., November 4th, at the Lansing Center?

17. Awards offered by Historical Society of Michigan

Each year the Historical Society of Michigan presents a State History Award to those individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the appreciation and understanding of Michigan history. Awards are offered in many different categories.

Full details at www.hsmichigan.org Nominations due in HSM offices by 5pm on July 31, 2009.

Postmarks are not accepted.

To be added to MCHÉ E NOtes (The monthly electronic newsletter of the Michigan council for History education, send an email to Dr. Jim McConnell at jam1776@sbcglobal.net. You may leave the list at any time by sending a "SIGNOFF MCHÉ-ENOTES" command to LISTSERV@H-NET.MSU.EDU.